

MGH Psychosis Consultation Service: Goals and lessons learned



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Mission Statement

To provide longitudinal support to colleagues in treating psychotic disorders across different stages of illness to help them improve their patients' outcomes

Goals

- Longitudinal support to clinicians in providing timely, stage-based care
- Easy access for patients, families, and providers
- Build the patient's and family's trust in the treatment through reassurance and confirmation
- Foster therapeutic relationships between patients and treating providers
- Optimize treatment plans
- Improve patient outcomes
- Mens sana in corpore sano (healthy mind in a healthy body)

Consultation Workflow

Initial consultation visit with us

- Evaluation
- Psychoeducation for patient and family

Current psychiatric provider completes a referral form online https://redcap.link/referralPCRPconsults

Treatment recommendations are communicated to the referring provider

Patient works with their treating provider to implement our recommendations

Patient may return to us for a follow-up consultation in 6 months to 1 year

Follow-up consultation visit with us

- Evaluation
- Psychoeducation for patient and family

Users of the MGH Consultation Service over the past 5 years (January 2017 to December 2022)

Program Descriptions

Comprehensive **Evaluation**

- Diagnostic clarification
- Symptoms and side effects assessment and management
- Medication optimization strategies

Family education



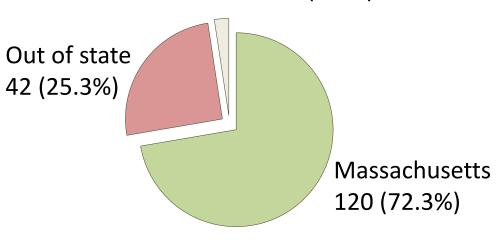
Interdisciplinary Teamwork

- Often involves a psychologist
- Psychosocial assessment and treatment resources
- Illness self-management
- If necessary, referrals are made to:
 - PCP for medical work up
 - Neuropsychological tests
 - Neurology

Patients (N=166)

- Male 111 (67%), Female 55 (33%)
- Age Range 9-77 years
 - Mean = 29 years

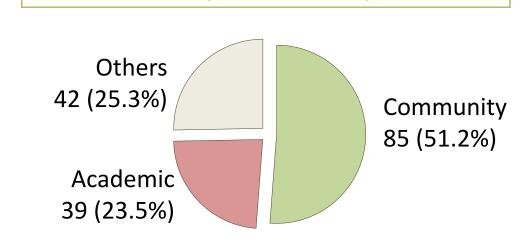
International 4 (2.4%)



[Patient Location]

Referring Providers

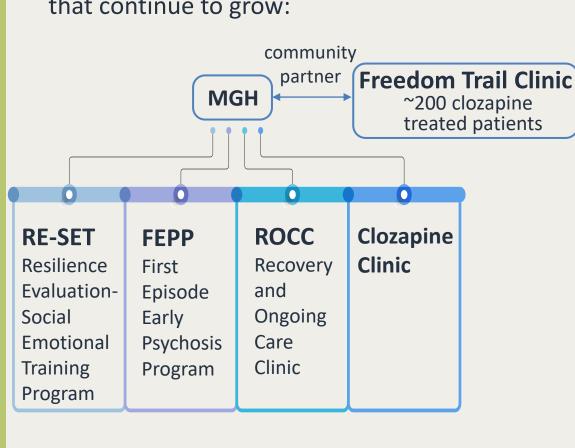
- MD, DO 85 (51.2%)
- Psychiatric NP 31 (18.7%)
- Psychologists 9 (5.4%)
- Others 41 (24.7%)
- Self, family, school, PCP, pediatrician



[Treatment settings of referring provider]

Why seek expert consultation with the MGH Psychosis Program?

- Rich legacy of training pioneers in the field of psychotic disorders over the past two decades
- Wealth of knowledge and experience gained through seeing thousands of patients with psychotic disorders through specialized services that continue to grow:



Conclusions

- The Psychosis Consultation service provides diagnostic clarifications and treatment recommendations to clinicians from a variety of backgrounds, treatment settings, and locations.
- Expert consultations allow clinicians to develop competence in caring for patients with psychosis and educate patients and their families about psychosis.
- MGH psychiatry trainees who participate in consultations also learn from increased exposure to challenging cases.