Maintenance

Adjusting to End of Treatment

- Discuss treatment timeline and structure from the beginning
- Use PHQ-9 graph to help patients see progress
- Work with patient to find other sources of support
- Encourage the ongoing use of strategies for self-management
- Give specific end date when appropriate, e.g., 2 more session, spread sessions out more and more

Relapse Prevention Planning

The purpose of a relapse prevention plan is to help the patient understand his/her own personal warning signs.

These warning signs are specific to each person and can help the patient identify when depression may be starting to return so they can get help sooner – before the symptoms get bad.

The other purpose of a relapse prevention plan is to help remind the patient what has worked for him/her to feel better.

The relapse prevention plan should be filled out by the care manager and the patient together.

Sample Relapse Prevention Plan

When is a Relapse Prevention Plan Needed?

- Start working on the relapse prevention plan at the beginning of care
- Include it in the way you would record the way the patient most demonstrates
  - when not well
  - What is tried to help and works/doesn't work
  - What barriers there are to recovery
- Documenting and capturing pertinent information along the journey of remission/maximum improvement makes the work of creating the plan at the end less difficult
- For those that drop out of care, it is something then have been hearing

Framing the Discussion

- Introduce the goal of relapse prevention planning and use at the beginning of treatment
- Positive framework: This is progress! Share that depression and anxiety, and other mental health symptoms can come and go over time
- Empowerment: Focus on doing what works well
- Know what to do if things feel worse

- **Elicit patient's ideas for using the plan!**

Relapse Prevention Plan: Example

Relapse Prevention Plan

A Relapse Prevention Plan focuses on stress reduction and self-monitoring and can help you to recognize depression early.

Patient Name: **Today's Date:**

Program activation date:

Contact/Appointment information

Primary Care Provider:_____

Next appointment: Date:_____Time:___

Care Manager:_____ Telephone number:_____

Next Appointment:_____ (circle one-6 mo/12mo follow up call)

**Use the depression-fighting strategies that have worked for you in the past, including taking your antidepressant medication regularly, increasing your pleasurable activities and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Maintenance Antidepressant Medications

Diagnosis:_____

1.

2.

You will need to stay on your medications to avoid relapse of depressive symptoms. If you feel you need to change or stops medications-please call your Primary Care Team. Your Physician can help you decide the safest options for medication changes.

Other Treatments

**Write down the problems that can trigger your depression and strategies that have helped you in the past.

• What are some of my everyday stressors?

• What coping strategies have worked for me in the past?

• Are these skills I can use every day or every week?

• How can I remind myself to use these skills daily?

**Watch for warning signs by regular self monitoring. You can check routinely for personal warning signs or telltale patterns of thought or behavior. You may want to ask a partner or friend to let you know if they notice any warning signs

**Use the PHQ test to check your depression score. If your score goes up over 10, it's time to get help again.

Triggers for my depression:

1.

Personal Warning Signs

1.

Coping strategies:

1.

Goals/Actions: How to minimize Stress from Depression

**Try to identify three or four specific actions that will help you. Be realistic about what you can and will do.

**Prepare yourself for high-risk situations.

• What are some problems or predictable stressors that might affect you in the future?

• Can you do anything to make a particular event less likely or less stressful?

• If you can't avoid a stressful situation: can you avoid negative reactions (like criticizing yourself) or react in a more positive way?

1.

2.

3.

4.

When we've made changes in our behavior, there's always a tendency to drift back towards old habits. How can you stop the backward drift?

****Put drift into perspective. We all make plans, but all of us drift away. The key is catching yourself and getting back on track.**

If symptoms return, contact:_____

Patient Signiture_____**Date**_____

Thank you very much for participating in the CoCM at _____!

Relapse Prevention Tool

Elicit

- **Personal Warning Signs**
- What might you notice about yourself that indicates that your depression/anxiety is returning?
- What behaviors would you notice?
- What might you stop or start doing?
- What thoughts come up for you? What feelings?

- **Things I do to Prevent Depression/Anxiety**
- What has been working for you for managing your mental health?
- What helps you feel better when you’re feeling down/anxious?
- What helps you be the best version of yourself?
- What do you do? Who do you talk to? What do you think about?

Maintenance Monitoring
Managing Referrals

Transition to Community Resources:

1. Patient not getting better
2. Conditions requiring special expertise
3. Conditions requiring longer-term care
4. Need for recovery-based services (people with serious and persistent mental illness)
5. Patient request

Referrals

- Specialist Care
- SUD treatment
- Psychotherapy
- Community Mental Health (CMH)
- Other resources

Referrals

How to make a successful referral:

- Not just a phone number
- Call ahead to help set up connection
- Talk about what your ongoing role will be
- Follow up with referral
- Be realistic about payment / cost / insurance

Coordination with Community Based Services

- If patient is engaged in community-based services (e.g., psychotherapy), BHCM should consider getting patient's permission to obtain a Release of Information (ROI) to coordinate care appropriately. This might include coordination around medication management, sharing outcome measures, as well as diagnostics and treatment planning

QUESTIONS?