

Assisted Outpatient Treatment

Tracey Green MD

Chief Medical Officer

Division of Public and Behavioral Health

EXHIBIT R Health Care
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Entire exhibit provided.
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Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT):

Definition: Court-ordered community-based or outpatient services for:

1. individuals diagnosed with *severe and persistent mental illness* and...
2. who have a *recent, repeated history of medication noncompliance and/or incarceration as a condition of their remaining in the community.*

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT):

1. Originated in New York with “Kendra’s Law” (1999)
2. 2013: Nevada Legislation authorizes AOT (AB 287)
3. Nevada: 45th state to implement AOT
4. Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health develops and introduces the State’s first formal AOT program (2013-2014)

Assisted Outpatient Treatment: Does it Work?

- A 2005 study by the New York State Office of Mental Health found that individuals diagnosed with mental illness were 87% *less likely to be incarcerated* during six months after issuance of a Kendra's Law-type court order.

83% less likely to be arrested.

77% less likely to be hospitalized.

74% less likely to be homeless.

AOT and Assembly Bill 287

Criteria for admission into the AOT program as defined in AB 287:

1. The person is 18 years of age or older
2. The person has a history of non-compliance with treatment for mental illness
3. A program of community-based or outpatient services (AOT) is available in the community in which the person resides (or is otherwise made available to the person)
4. The person is capable of *surviving safely* in the community in which he or she resides *with available supervision*

AOT and Assembly Bill 287 (cont.)

5. Based on the person's treatment history, AOT is required to *prevent further disability or deterioration* of the person which is *likely to result in harm to himself or herself or others*
6. The current mental status of the person or the nature of the person's illness limits or negates his or her ability to make an informed decision to seek treatment for mental illness *voluntarily*.
7. The program of community-based or outpatient services is the *least restrictive treatment* which is in the best interest of the person
8. The court has approved a plan of treatment developed for the person .

SNAMHS Current /Other Criteria for Admission:

Several criteria established in AB 287 have been interpreted as follows:

1. *Three or more instances of hospitalization and/or incarceration within the past year specifically due to non-compliance with psychiatric treatment.*
2. Other less-restrictive options have been considered or attempted (e.g. Traditional Case Management) prior to AOT and either the client *has refused* or the program has *been unsuccessful at maintaining stability*.
3. AOT can provide the *most appropriate and least restrictive service* for the individual.

AOT in Southern Nevada

1. SNAMHS' current AOT team was developed using the PACT ("Program for Assertive Community Treatment") model:
 - Emphasis on community outreach
 - Evidence Based
 - Nationally recognized

AOT in Southern Nevada (cont.):

2. The AOT team at SNAMHS currently consists of 10 staff:

- 1 Psychiatrist
- 1 Licensed Psychologist (team lead)
- 1 Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- 1 Registered Nurse
- 5 Psychiatric Caseworkers
- 1 Administrative Assistant

AOT in Southern Nevada (cont.):

3. Admission into AOT begins with a referral:

- Referrals currently originate from within the hospital:
 - The individual meets admission criteria
 - High recidivism/ utilizers of inpatient services
- AOT team completes and submits formal petition for AOT to the Family/District Court
- Hearing is held; order for treatment is either approved or denied.

AOT in Southern Nevada (cont.):

“Petition for Assisted Outpatient Treatment” (Sample):

1. Petition for Assisted Outpatient Treatment

1. Petition for Assisted Outpatient Treatment

Definition of Mental Illness, NRS 433A.113:

As used in NRS 433A.120 to 433A.330, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires, “mentally ill person” means any person whose capacity to exercise self-control, judgment and discretion in the conduct of his/her affairs and social relations or to care for personal needs is diminished as a result of mental illness to the extent that (s)he presents a clear and present danger of harm to self or others, but does not include any person in whom that capacity is diminished by epilepsy, mental retardation, dementia, delirium, brief periods of intoxication caused by alcohol or drugs or dependence upon or addiction to alcohol or drugs unless a mental illness that can be diagnosed is also present which contributes to the diminished capacity of the person.

I, , person completing petition, believe that (individual's name) is a person with a serious mental illness and is requiring assisted outpatient treatment.

The person was born on (DOB) and is currently located at
 (address/phone number)

I, I believe that the person identified above meets the criteria for someone with a mental illness and that (check all that apply):

☐ Because of mental illness and without assisted outpatient treatment, there is clear and convincing evidence that the person is unlikely to understand or participate in treatment voluntarily and that, if allowed his or her liberty, (s)he noncompliance would result in further disability or deterioration of the person.

☐ Because of mental illness and without assisted outpatient treatment, there is clear and convincing evidence that the person is unlikely to understand or participate in treatment voluntarily and that the noncompliance would result in further disability or deterioration of the person which is likely to result in harm to (s)he/himself or others.

☒ Because of the individual's current mental illness the person is not capable of surviving in the community in which he or she resides without available supervision/assisted outpatient treatment.

☐ The individual is currently receiving treatment for mental illness but has been noncompliant with said treatment as provided by:

 (name of provider)

☐ The individual has demonstrated a history of noncompliance with treatment which has played a factor in the person's:

☐ Residential placement ☐ Psychiatric hospitalization ☐ Jail ☐ Prison

 (signature of person completing petition)

1. Petition for Assisted Outpatient Treatment

3. The individual:

- ☐ Is 18 years or older
☐ Is not 18 years or older

4. The above statements are based on:

a. the person doing the following acts and saying the following things:

b. conduct and statements that others have seen or heard and have told me about:

By: (name) Address: Phone #:

5. This petition ☐ is ☐ is supported by a certificate of a physician, psychiatrist or licensed psychologist stating that he/she has examined the person alleged to be a person with mental illness and, because of that illness, is likely to harm himself, herself or others if allowed his or her liberty.

6. This person ☐ has agreed ☒ has refused to submit to examination or treatment by a physician, psychiatrist or licensed psychologist

7. I request that the court determine the individual to be a person who requires assisted outpatient treatment.

Person completing form:

Address: Phone No.:

Relationship: Date:

Signature:

(Relationship = spouse, parent, adult children, legal guardian, physician, psychologist, social worker, registered nurse, accredited agent of the Department of Human Resources, officer authorized to make arrests)

AOT in Southern Nevada (cont.):

For each individual admitted into the program, assessment and, if needed, enrollment is completed for the following rehabilitative services. These are typically provided by various community service providers:

- a. Treatment of substance abuse disorders
- b. Basic skills training
- c. Psychosocial Rehabilitation
- d. Housing (e.g. group home)
- e. Medication administration
- f. Vocational training

AOT team performs the following critical functions:

- a. Medication prescription and monitoring
- b. Counseling or therapy
- c. Coordination and linking with needed other services and benefits

AOT in Southern Nevada: Current Data

As of 05/06/2014:

- Program officially launched: March 15, 2014
- 48 referrals submitted
- 10 petitioned to the program by AOT; 7 ordered (approved)
- 1 denied admission to the program by the Family Court
- 2 awaiting hearing

AOT in Southern Nevada: Current Data

- Primary reasons for AOT denying admission into program:
 - Individual does not meet criteria for admission
 - e.g. Appropriate less-restrictive options have not yet been attempted
 - e.g. Individual not able to survive safely in the community despite AOT
- Individual discharged from hospital prior to AOT initial evaluation

AOT in Southern Nevada: Current Data

Current Challenges:

- Training/educating new team on AOT, AB 287, etc.
- Expanding to include referrals from jail/detention center
- Training/educating new team on SNAMHS-specific programs, policies and procedures
- Training hospital staff (e.g. social workers, physicians, Mobile Crisis) on AOT; appropriate admission criteria for AOT
- Team Psychiatrist

AOT in Southern Nevada: Current Data

- Educating and coordinating brand-new and unique program procedures with other involved community service providers:
 - Las Vegas Metro Police Department
 - Group Homes
 - Family/District Court
 - On-call 24/7 AOT access options
- Refining program procedures and policies to reflect ethical and pragmatic “realities” in the community

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT):

Questions?