

NUR 323: MILIEU ASSESSMENT

Clinical Area Assessment Tool for Milieu Project

Agency: Pavilion Behavioral Health

Unit : Adult

Date of Assessment: 02/17/2020

Student: Hope Dykes

Milieu Assessment: Overall, our experience was a positive one. The patients felt safe and secure enough to talk and share feelings with staff and each other. It was a calm, quiet, peaceful day during our time there

Physical Layout: Elevator corridor with locked doors on each side. Nurse's station right inside door leading to pt areas. Long hallways with group meeting rooms and individual rooms similar to a

Lighting, color, décor: Neutral colors, tans and browns and off-whites, moderately low lighting, minimal décor (I think I did see a picture on the wall, but this was over a month ago, so I'm

Pace, activity level: Slow and laid back. No one seemed in a hurry to get anywhere on a certain schedule. Patients were relaxing in the TV room and talking to each other and staff in the hallways and other group rooms.

Emotional atmosphere: For the most part, very calm. No one seemed upset or on edge the day I was on the adult unit, although I'm sure this is not always the usual. Patients were getting along and talking to each other about many interesting topics. Some were playing

Factors that are contributing to the emotional atmosphere: It seemed to be a good mixture of patients who got along well. Several of them were planning on discharging to rehab, so I got the impression they were hopeful and optimistic about their futures. (I will mention this seemed true even of the repeat patients).

Typical clients who use this service:

Age: (average and range) Early adulthood-mid adulthood. Most were late teens-mid 20's. A few exceptions were much older.

Gender: ½ Male and ½

Cultures: Caucasian (majority), African American (2 in this group), Teens, Parents, and a few older adults (grandparents).

Socioeconomic status: Socioeconomic status did not stand out to me while I was observing. 2 people mentioned homelessness. Education level: Mix of dropout(few), hs grad (most), and college

Reading ability: Seemed strong in this group. During group, only 1 patient was unable to read strongly. Communication ability: Very good in this group.

Reasons for using this agency/service? Many suicidal ideations, relationship problems, depression. Only a few with "stereotypical" psych patient diagnoses. (A few bipolar, 1 schizophrenic)

What could a nurse do to improve the milieu today on this unit? (Use extra pages if necessary)
What I saw was a very positive milieu experience. The nurse seemed fairly uninvolved, but the techs were amazing. As we talked about, the nurse was busy doing behind-the-scenes work more than hands-on. A different day could have given me a very different outcome on this assignment, but based on this

What needs are being focused on by the staff? (Physical, vocational, social, spiritual, emotional, etc.)
The majority of what I witnessed during my day on the floor was emotional support for patients. Along with the discussion came positive social interaction. The group leader talked a lot about knowing what could be controlled and controlling it. This included things like relationships, homes, jobs, etc., but he mainly focused on personal improvement. He went around the room and had each person list one thing they would change to improve their life and then had the group brainstorm ways to help the person meet that goal. He had each patient read part of a story and then some affirmative statements. Only one patient refused, but then she later asked if she could read something. Anytime a patient would place blame, he would redirect them to think about what they could control and how. It was a great group to listen to, and it was a great day to be a part of.

Honor Code: "I have neither given nor receive, nor will I tolerate others' use of unauthorized aid".

Signature Hope Marie Dykes Date: 04/07/2020

Instructor Comments: