

## **PSYCHIATRIST (O-6)**

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### **Position Description**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This position is located within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO), ICE Health Service Corps (IHSC). As the Psychiatrist for IHSC, the incumbent is responsible for applying professional knowledge in the practice of medicine in the field of psychiatry in an ambulatory, infirmary, and tele-health setting. The incumbent may function in a consultation role, providing psychiatric consultation for medical staff and the ICE, and/or a clinical role, providing diagnostic, preventive, and therapeutic services to patients, and a supervisory or leadership role.

IHSC has a multi-sector, multidisciplinary workforce of more than 900 employees, including U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) commissioned officers, federal civil servants, and contract staff. The IHSC provides on-site direct patient care to ICE detainees at 21 detention facilities throughout the country and manages the provision of off-site medical care for detainees housed in approximately 250 additional facilities. The ICE detainee population is 34,000 detainees on a daily basis, with an average length of stay of about 30 days, and over 400,000 detainees annually. The IHSC also provides medical support during ICE enforcement operations in the air, on the ground and at sea.

#### **MISSION:**

IHSC's mission is to manage and provide medical care to maintain the health of individuals in the custody of ICE through an integrated health care delivery system, based on nationally recognized correctional and detention health care standards. The Agency is committed to providing healthcare services to protect the nation's health, reduce global disease and support the safe apprehension, enforcement and removal of detained individuals involved in immigration proceedings.

#### **COMPETENCIES:**

1. Board Certified or Board eligible in Psychiatry.
2. Administrative or supervisory experience within an inpatient treatment unit.
3. Credentialed, privileged, and possess a current, permanent, full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in a State, District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or a territory of the United States.
4. Maintains clinical professional skills via continuing education opportunities.
5. Maintains current CPR/BLS certification.
6. Maintains basic readiness status.

7. Cultural Competency.
8. Demonstrates strong interpersonal skills.
9. Demonstrates strong oral and written communication skills.
10. Integrity/Honesty.
11. Experience in correctional health care preferred.

### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Prescribes and monitors psychiatric medication treatment services including monitoring the side effects of medication and/or adverse reactions.
2. Offers comprehensive psycho-educational information with each medication/somatic treatment regarding the patient's mental illness, emotional disturbance or behavior disorder, treatment goals, potential benefits and the risk of treatment, self-monitoring aids, and identifies support groups for therapeutic assistance.
3. Utilizes the evidence-based algorithms for decision-making regarding patient assessment and medication management.
4. Evaluates patients receiving Medication/Somatic Treatment on the Assessment of Involuntary Movement Scale (AIMS) annually, adjusting medication according to findings.
5. Adheres to medical standards in accordance with DHS and ICE policies, American Psychiatric Association standards, and legal requirements.
6. Determines the need for core treatment and specialty services for those in need of mental health treatment.
7. Performs various diagnostic and treatment procedures, including cognitive and behavioral psychotherapy, supportive individual and group psychotherapy, somatic therapies (including the use of traditional and atypical drugs).
8. Provides professional, recovery based psychiatric care considerate of cultural and ethnic diversity and focuses on empowering individuals to change their own lives.
9. Assures patients are treated with dignity and are consulted when evaluating and/or revising treatment and services.
10. Utilizes evidence-based practices to promote recovery, reduces stigma and unconditionally enhance the quality of life.
11. Assures a positive therapeutic milieu exists during treatment and emphasizes recovery goals.
12. Participates in comprehensive performance improvement and utilization management plans to include:
  - a. Quality and appropriateness of services.
  - b. Evaluation of patient-based functions.
  - c. Decreasing the escalation of healthcare costs.
  - d. Improvement in patient outcomes.
13. Prepares or oversees the preparation of documentation, testimony, and written orders needed for care, treatment, medical records, legal actions, referrals, performance development, credentials/privileges, and administrative requirements.

14. Provides expert guidance to the Director and other staff in all matters pertaining to mental health treatment (modalities and medications), and mental health programs both domestic and international.
15. Analyzes public health care trends, in the mental health area, of related special population groups and assists in developing and implementing policies and guidelines to improve mental health services of such groups.
16. Assumes responsibility for the non-psychiatric medical evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of patients for whom she or he is responsible in the absence of non-psychiatric physicians in emergency situations and within incumbent's competency and scope of practice.
17. Acts as the Clinical Director in the absence of the Clinical Director.
18. Provides clinical supervision to mental health staff.
19. Attends required medical and professional staff meetings.
20. Participates in after hour telephone on-call rotation, to include weekends, designated holidays or other times as directed.
21. Spends at least 60% of time in direct patient care to meet the performance targets set by the IHSC. This can also include care delivered via Tele-health.
22. Maintains accreditation readiness under regulatory standards for surveys by The National Commission of Correctional Health Care (NCCCHC), Performance Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) and The American Correctional Association (ACA).
23. Serves as an independent, qualified practitioner within the designated scope of professional practice.
24. Supports Agency-wide activities within the nursing and medical care area by:
  - a. Reviewing and analyzing data.
  - b. Developing strategies, analytical models, and methodologies.
  - c. Providing assistance and advice on nursing issues.
  - d. Supporting higher-graded Nurse Consultants and other Specialists.
  - e. Analyzing policy and guidance, to assure consistent interpretation and application.
  - f. Reviews strategies to appraise and report on progress toward the achievement of goals and the adequacy of institutional arrangements.
25. Follows supervisory chain of command.
26. Travel required – 25% or greater as directed.
27. TDY as needed to provide clinical care support at IHSC-staffed detention facilities with critical staffing needs.
28. Other duties as assigned.

### **REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**

1. Knowledge of the principles of public health.
2. Knowledge of the indications and contraindications, complications and techniques in the various psychiatric treatment and diagnostic modalities.
3. Flexible and able to adapt to sudden changes in schedules and work requirements.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

1. Sitting and/or standing for extended periods of time [6-8 Hours].
2. Performing repeated bending motion.
3. Average manual dexterity for computer operation.
4. Phone use for extended periods of time.

**DHS SUPERVISORY CONTROLS:**

1. DHS
2. ICE
3. ERO

**HHS SUPERVISORY CONTROLS:**

1. DHHS
2. USPHS CC

**SUPERVISORY CONTROLS**

The Psychiatrist works under the general supervision of the Clinical Director at the site.