

Transitional Behavioural Support Unit (T BSU)

Background

The Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network (TC LHIN) has appointed Baycrest as the health service provider accountable for leading the implementation of the Behavioural Supports for Seniors Program (BSSP), which is part of the TC LHIN Behavioural Supports Ontario (BSO) Action Plan.

One key component of this plan is a Transitional Behavioural Support Unit (T BSU).

Structure and alignment

Located in Baycrest's Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged, the Transitional Behavioural Support Unit (T BSU) is a 23-bed unit designed to provide time-limited, specialized support for seniors whose behaviours have become unmanageable in their current setting, and for whom available resources have been unsuccessful in managing their challenging behaviours.

The T BSU has an enhanced care delivery model and physical environment and is recognized as a specialized unit as stipulated within the Long-Term Care Home Act, 2007. The unit builds upon the knowledge and resources which currently exist in long-term care. It is staffed by an interdisciplinary team and is part of a coordinated continuum of care that leverages the strengths of existing services such as:

- Geriatric Mental Health Outreach Teams (GMHOT)
- Psychogeriatric Resource Consultants (PRC)
- Community Long-Term Care Homes (LTCH)
- Behavioural Support Teams (BST)

The 23 behavioral support beds are transitional in nature, allowing clients to receive stabilization and then be repatriated back to the originating community or long-term care home. Anticipated length of stay is four months.

Upon admission to the T BSU, clients are discharged from their original LTCH and a new referral for placement is initiated. To ensure smooth transition for clients back to their original LTCH or a LTCH of choice there will be transitional support provided by a team of professionals working in the community. Clients who wish to return to their LTCH after completing their stay in the T BSU will be identified as a readmission waiting list priority.

Access and referrals

The Toronto Central Community Care Access Centre (TC CCAC) is responsible for assessment and determining eligibility of all clients for long-term care homes and as such, referrals to the T BSU are processed through the TC CCAC. Clients will be screened for eligibility according to the following criteria:

- Medically stable
- Eligible for LTC placement as determined by TC CCAC
- Primary diagnosis of progressive dementia with behaviours that cannot be managed in current environment; other individuals with unprovoked responsive behaviours will be considered on a case by case basis
- Delirium has been ruled out
- Available community and/or hospital-based specialized psychogeriatric resources have been trialed and evaluated to be inappropriate or unsuccessful
- Behavioural pharmacological review and reconciliation of medications (i.e. CCAC Medication Management program) has been completed

For information about the Transitional Behavioural Support Unit (T BSU):

- **Information line:** 416-785-2500 ext. 2005
- **E-mail:** behaviouralsupport@baycrest.org
- **Fax:** 647-788-4883

The T BSU is located within the Toronto Central LHIN at:

Baycrest

Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged
3560 Bathurst Street, 3rd Floor
Toronto, ON M6A 2E1



Innovations in aging

