



POLICY AND PROCEDURE NOTICE: PPPN-062 OAHS CLIENT TRIAGE SYSTEM

Summary and Purpose of PPN: The Atlanta EMA operates under a medical triage system which directs clients to certain Ryan White Part A-funded service providers based upon the individual's acuity level.

Authority:

- PHS ACT 2604(h)(5)
- Funding Opportunity Announcement
- HAB National Monitoring Standards – Fiscal - Part A, Section A: Limitation on Uses of Part A Funding
- Part A Manual

Policy and Procedure:

1. The Atlanta EMA operates an established “triage” system under which Ryan White Part A clients who are in general good health, do not have an “AIDS-defining” illness, and who do not have advanced HIV disease as indicated by a CD4 count less than 200 cells/mm³ receive outpatient/ambulatory health services through one of several satellite centers supported by Part A funds.
2. Clients served through one of the Ryan White Part A supported OAHS centers who have had a CD4 count less than 200 cells/mm³ may continue to receive services at that center as long as the clinician believes he or she can continue to manage the client's care.
3. Ryan White Part A clients who have an “AIDS-defining” illness and/or who have advanced HIV disease as indicated by a CD4 count less than 200 cells/mm³ are directed to the Infectious Disease Program (IDP) which is the outpatient HIV/AIDS facility of the Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation (d/b/a Grady Health System - GHS) for outpatient/ambulatory health services.
4. Grady IDP does not need to triage out clients who had a CD4 count <200 cells/mm³ at some point in time but have responded to therapies and have achieved CD4 counts >200 cells/mm³.
5. Any Ryan White Part A eligible client in the Atlanta EMA who receives a positive HIV diagnosis through any of the several inpatient or outpatient medical operations of the Grady Health System shall, regardless of the presence or absence of an “AIDS-defining” illness and regardless of CD4 cell count, be eligible to receive services at the Grady Health

System's Ponce de Leon Center aka Infectious Disease Program (IDP). This does not require that the client must select the IDP for service provision, but rather provides the opportunity for the individual to elect to receive services at the IDP.

6. Any partner or spouse of an IDP client who is living with HIV disease and who qualifies for Ryan White Part A services may elect to receive services through the Grady IDP.
7. Agencies must have a process in place for linking clients to other providers. This procedure must include the transfer of medical records.
8. Agencies must insure that appropriate staff are aware of the triage requirements and must maintain documentation to that effect.

Verification:

1. Charts will be reviewed to ensure compliance with triage requirements.
2. Personnel files will be reviewed to verify documentation that staff have been informed of procedures.

Approved: June 2016

Reviewed March 2021