

Research Participant Recruitment and TCHATT

TCHATT Policy

# Purpose

This policy clarifies when it is appropriate to recruit potential, current, and former TCHATT patients for both Consortium-funded and outside research studies.

# Rationale

The Texas Legislature expressed direction for HRIs to not recruit subjects into research studies from TCMHCC clinical programs. TCHATT is meant to provide direct mental health care services to students. Research is not a goal of the TCHATT program.

# Scope

This policy applies to all HRIs and their subcontracted partners who receive Consortium funds to implement TCHATT or research studies.

# Policy

Research activities and TCHATT program operations should not overlap. Consortium funds should not be used for TCHATT staff to recruit research participants or engage in research studies.

HRIs should not use their access to schools and their students through the TCMHCC clinical programs as a mechanism to recruit students into research studies. Referred, enrolled, and discharged students should not be contacted directly by research staff and TCHATT staff should not facilitate a direct referral to a research study.

HRIs are permitted, but not required, to offer research studies as potential referral sources to any referred student whose needs fall outside the scope of TCHATT services or to any enrolled student as part of discharge planning. The referral must be appropriate for the student and family’s needs and should be provided as an option for the family to consider with other referral options identified by the HRI. Participation in research studies should be the choice of the consenting party.

Evaluation of the TCHATT program is an acceptable ancillary activity to assess program effectiveness and identify areas for improvement but HRIs are strongly encouraged to discuss with the Consortium’s evaluation teams to avoid redundancy.

# Definitions

## Research Recruitment

Leveraging a student’s referral and/or current or former enrollment in TCHATT as a lead to directly contact them and attempt to enroll them in a study of human subjects. Requires additional enrollment and consent from a student/family to participate.

## Referred Student

A student who has been formally recommended for TCHATT services through Trayt, or whose referral information was received by an HRI for recommendation to TCHATT services, from a school TCHATT liaison.

## Enrolled Student

A student whose referral has been processed and consents were obtained to provide TCHATT services. An enrolled student will be scheduled for at least one session with a TCHATT provider.

## Discharged Student

A student who was previously enrolled in TCHATT but is no longer receiving services. A student may be discharged because treatment ended, the student/family elected to end services, or was unresponsive.

## Evaluation

Use of existing data, typically housed in Trayt, institutional EMRs, and family satisfaction surveys to analyze the effectiveness of the TCHATT program. Evaluation does not require additional enrollment or consent from a student or family.

# Related Policies & Procedures

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| Policy/Procedure | Link |
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# Other Resources

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| Resource | Link |
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# Revision History

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Date Approved | Description of Changes | Sections Changed |
| [Date] | Policy created | All |