



**A  
BETTER  
CONNECTION**

1009 Hollinger Street, Park Rapids, MN 56470

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Chemical Health Intake Coordination for: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Patient name)

TO: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your phone call/fax referral to our Chemical Health Program!

In order to begin the intake process, we need to obtain the information indicated below. Upon receipt of the information below, you will be called to schedule an intake appointment.

Please fax this form back with the applicable documents from the list below and cross off any of the ones below that don't apply and write n/a off to the side:

- A Release of Information (ROI) between A Better Connection, Inc. (ABC) and your clinic.
- A ROI between ABC and Department of Corrections/Patient's Probation Officer (if applicable)
- A ROI between ABC and Child Protective Services (if Patient has current CPS-involvement)
- A ROI between ABC and Social Services (if county-funded)
- A ROI between ABC and their insurance company (if applicable)
- A copy of their Rule 25/ Assessment (if public funded) or Substance Use Assessment
- A copy of their initial Treatment Plan
- A copy of their Mental Health Diagnostic Assessment (if applicable)
- A.B.C. Intake Packet (this can be faxed back at any time prior to discharge from your clinic)
- A form from your clinic that clearly states the recommended LEVEL OF CARE:**

- o We have found that the best outcomes occur when the patient steps down gradually from residential care to Intensive Outpatient care. Following successful completion of IOP, they are generally stepped down to either OP or Relapse Prevention, depending on progress:
  - a. ASAM LEVEL 2.0: INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT:  
IOP group consists of 3-hour groups which are scheduled on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings for 10 to 16 weeks depending on progress and one individual appointment per week.
  - b. ASAM LEVEL 1.0: OUTPATIENT:  
Outpatient group consists of two 2-hour groups which are scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for 16 to 20 weeks depending on progress and one individual appointment per week.
  - c. ASAM LEVEL 1.0: RELAPSE PREVENTION:  
Outpatient group consists of two 2-hour groups which are scheduled on Monday evenings and one individual appointment per week.

NOTE: ABC provides integrated treatment. Co-occurring patients will also attend psychotherapy as recommended by their mental health clinician. Please call me if you have any questions?



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**A Better Connection Service Initiation Policies related to ASAM Levels of Care and A.B.C. Groups**  
(Revised 12/5/2017)

**A.B.C.'s service initiation policies for patients "stepping down" from hospitalization, residential, partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient levels of care.**

**A.B.C. recognizes that risk and protective factors in Dimension 5 and Dimension 6 are significantly correlated to patient outcomes in community-based treatment.**

**Dimension 5 and Dimension 6 risk ratings will be closely reviewed for determination of either ASAM Level 2.0**

**Intensive Outpatient or ASAM Level 1.0 Outpatient care as follows:**

- Patients with a Risk Levels of 3 or higher in Dimension 5 and Dimension 6 will be eligible for entry into the Intensive Outpatient Group programming.
- Patients with a Risk Level of 3 in either Dimension 5 or Dimension 6 will be eligible for entry into either the Intensive Outpatient Group or Outpatient Group programming.
- Patients with a Risk Level of 0, 1 or 2 in Dimension 5 and Dimension 6 will be eligible for entry into the Relapse Prevention Group and the Risk Ratings **must be evidenced by seven or more** of the following protective factors in the patient's progress notes and/or discharge summary:
  - All "negative" tests results for drug/alcohol screenings for current treatment episode; **(Required)**
  - Significant prior period (i.e., 2 years or more outside of a controlled environment) of abstinence from all mood-altering substances;
  - Followed and successfully completed continuing care recommendations following previous treatment episodes;
  - Successful completion of past outpatient treatment episodes;
  - Honesty openness and willingness throughout current treatment episode;
  - Playing a leadership-role during current treatment episode;
  - Confirmation of "structured time" such as job and signed Release of Information with employer;
  - Strong sober support network that includes immediate family, spouse and/or significant other;
  - Active involvement by family, spouse and/or significant other in current treatment episode;
  - Family, spouse and/or significant other involvement in Al-Anon and/or therapy for co-dependency education, attitudes and/or behaviors;
  - Lack of current and past involvement in the legal system; **(Required)**
  - Active AA/NA involvement;
  - Has a (confirmed) sponsor; and
  - Confirmation that living environment (i.e., home/apartment) is drug and alcohol free. **(Required)**
- NOTE: Patients lacking significant protective factors as outlined above to justify the low Risk Level will not be accepted into the Relapse Prevention Program.