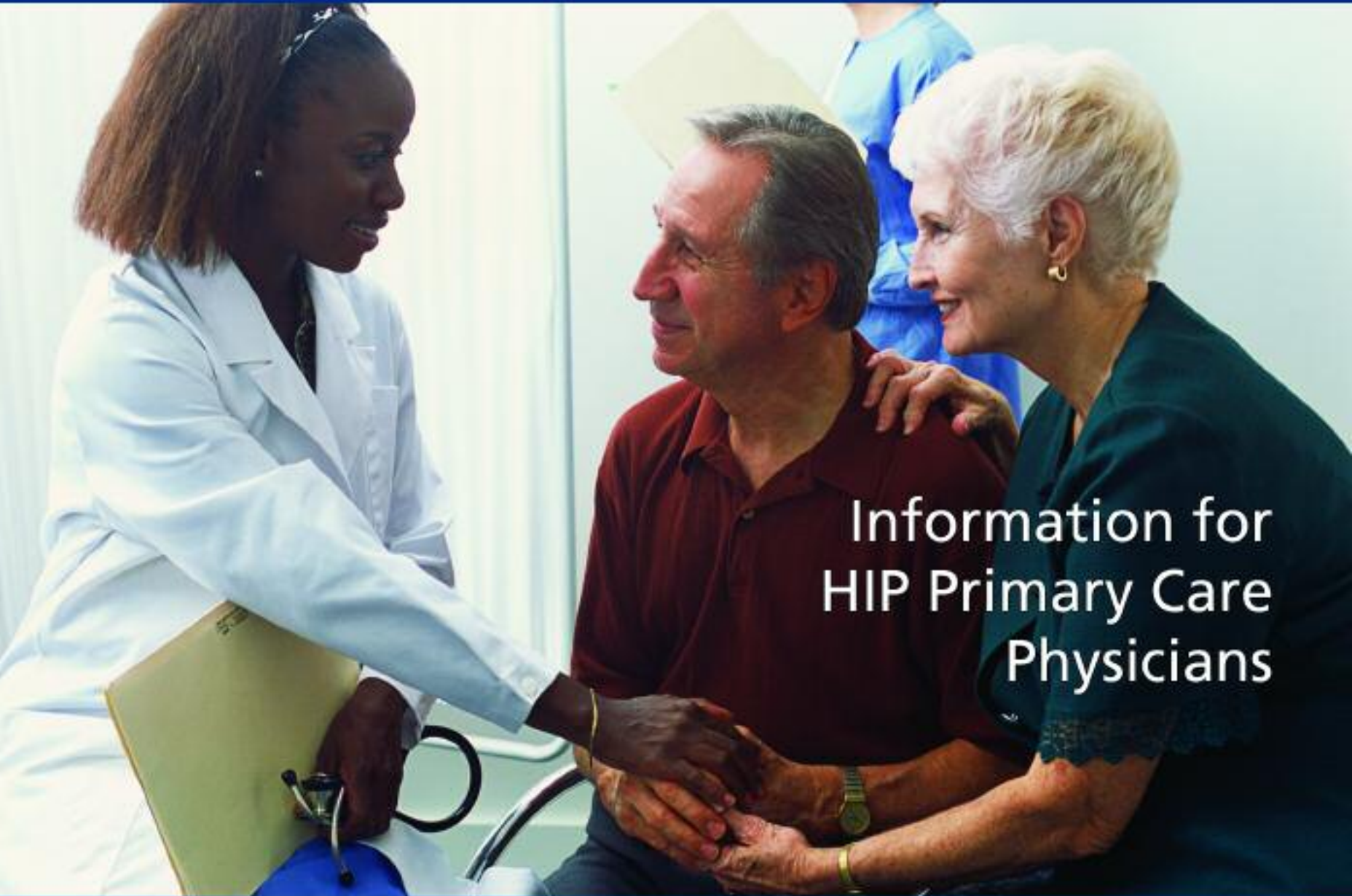


# Behavioral Health



Information for  
HIP Primary Care  
Physicians

Now that's **HIP**  
HEALTH PLAN OF NEW YORK

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**  
**INFORMATION FOR**  
**HIP**  
**PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS**

HIP Health Plan of New York  
Behavioral Health Department  
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# Preface

As a primary care physician, you have a unique opportunity to help identify behavioral health conditions among your patients, since you are often the first non-family member they turn to for help with these concerns. This puts you in an ideal position to intervene as early as possible or to make timely psychiatric referrals. In doing so, you become your patient's best advocate for the treatment of behavioral health conditions.

HIP is dedicated to ensuring that our members receive quality health care that is responsive to their needs, and we value our collaboration with you to achieve this goal. It is clear that integrating behavioral care into the primary care setting is integral to our mutual success. We are also committed to supporting primary care physicians in treating and referring HIP members with behavioral health conditions. To this end, we are proud to offer this guidebook, which contains a wealth of easily accessible behavioral health information.

This book was designed specifically with the primary care practitioner's needs in mind, in that it serves as both a quick overview as well as a handy reference manual. The book contains 11 chapters on behavioral health conditions commonly seen in primary care. Each chapter contains a clinical overview, facts about the condition, information on identification and diagnosis, available treatment options, and insights to the conditions' presentation in special populations, such as children or the elderly. In addition, this book contains a list of HIP's behavioral health programs, information on making referrals, and appendices with information on prescribing antidepressant medication, reproducible patient education handouts, and HIP clinical practice guidelines.

It is our hope that by supporting your comprehensive care efforts, this book will play a role in improved outcomes for your patients.

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Table of Contents

Accessing HIP Behavioral Health Services  
 Important Phone Numbers.....i

Referring Patients for Behavioral Health Services .....ii

**1. Depressive Disorders**

**Depression**

Clinical Overview .....1-1

Clinical Snapshot .....1-1

Facts about Depression .....1-2

How to Identify and Diagnose Depressive Disorders.....1-2

    Screening Tools .....1-2

    DSM-IV Criteria .....1-3

Other Mood Disorders: Dysthymic Disorder and Bipolar Disorder...1-4

Treatment of Depression .....1-4

    Medication.....1-5

    Psychotherapy.....1-5

    Medication and Psychotherapy.....1-5

Special Populations .....1-6

    Depression in Children and Adolescents .....1-6

    Postpartum Depression .....1-7

    Grieving Patients.....1-8

Depression in the Medically Ill.....1-9

    Depression in the Elderly .....1-9

Depression and Substance Abuse.....1-9

*Appendix A: Reproducible Patient Handout on Depression Treatment..14-2*

*Appendix B: Clinical Practice Guideline for Depression .....15-2*

*Appendix C: Prescribing Antidepressant Medication for Adults .....16-2*

**2. Depressive Disorders: Suicidal Patients**

Clinical Overview .....2-1

Clinical Snapshot .....2-1

Facts about Suicide.....2-2

Identifying Suicidal Patients .....2-2

Risk Factors.....2-2

Suicide Risk Assessment .....2-3

Treatment of Suicidal Patients.....2-3

Special Populations .....2-4

    Suicide in Adolescents .....2-4

    Suicide in Women.....2-4

    Suicide in the Elderly .....2-5

**3. Anxiety Disorders: Panic Disorder**

Clinical Overview .....3-1

Clinical Snapshot .....3-1

Facts about Panic Disorder.....3-2

How to Identify and Diagnose Panic Disorder .....3-2

    Screening Tools .....3-2

DSM-IV Criteria .....3-3  
 Medical Rule-Outs .....3-4  
 Uncovering a Possible Underlying Panic Disorder .....3-5  
 Treatment of Panic Disorder .....3-5  
     Education .....3-5  
     Medication .....3-6  
     Psychotherapy .....3-6  
 Deciding Whether to Treat with Medication or Psychotherapy .....3-7  
 Special Populations .....3-7  
     Panic Disorder in Children and Adolescents.....3-7  
     Panic Disorder in the Elderly.....3-7  
 Other Anxiety Disorders.....3-7

**4. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)**

Clinical Overview .....4-1  
 Clinical Snapshot.....4-1  
 Facts about PTSD .....4-2  
 How to Identify and Diagnose PTSD and Acute Stress Disorder .....4-3  
     Acute Stress Disorder.....4-3  
     PTSD .....4-4  
     Screening Tool. ....4-4  
     DSM-IV Criteria .....4-4  
 Treatment of PTSD.....4-6  
     Education.....4-6  
     Medication .....4-6  
     Psychotherapy.....4-7  
 Medical Implications/Complications Associated with PTSD.....4-7  
 Special Populations .....4-8  
     Children .....4-8

**5. Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD)**

Clinical Overview .....5-1  
 Clinical Snapshot.....5-1  
 Facts about GAD .....5-2  
 How to Identify and Diagnose GAD.....5-2  
     Screening Tools .....5-2  
     DSM-IV Criteria .....5-2  
 Medical Rule-Outs .....5-3  
 Treatment of GAD.....5-3  
     Education.....5-3  
     Medication .....5-4  
     Psychotherapy.....5-4  
     Deciding Whether to Treat with Medication or Psychotherapy .....5-4  
 Special Populations .....5-5  
     GAD in Children and Adolescents.....5-5  
     GAD in the Elderly.....5-5

**6. Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)**

Clinical Overview .....6-1  
 Clinical Snapshot.....6-1  
 Facts about OCD.....6-2  
 How to Identify and Diagnose OCD.....6-2  
     Screening Tools .....6-2  
     DSM-IV Criteria .....6-2  
 Medical Rule-Outs .....6-3  
 Common Comorbid Diagnoses.....6-3  
 Treatment of OCD.....6-4  
     Education.....6-4  
     Medication .....6-4  
     Psychotherapy.....6-5  
 Deciding Whether to Treat with Medication, Psychotherapy, or Both.....6-5  
 Special Populations .....6-5  
     OCD in Children and Adolescents .....6-5  
     OCD in the Elderly.....6-6

**7. Substance Abuse: Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AOD)**

Clinical Overview .....7-1  
 Clinical Snapshot.....7-1  
 Facts about AOD .....7-2  
 How to Identify and Diagnose AOD Disorders.....7-2  
     Screening Tools .....7-2  
     DSM-IV Criteria .....7-2  
     Who Should be Screened?.....7-3  
 Treatment of AOD Disorders.....7-4  
     Brief Intervention.....7-4  
     Referring to Specialized Treatment.....7-4  
 Special Populations .....7-5  
     AOD in Children and Adolescents.....7-5  
     AOD in the Elderly.....7-6  
     AOD in Smokers.....7-6

**8. Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)**

Clinical Overview .....8-1  
 Clinical Snapshot.....8-1  
 Facts about ADHD .....8-2  
 How to Identify and Diagnose ADHD.....8-2  
     Screening Tools .....8-2  
     DSM-IV Criteria .....8-2  
 Tips for Proper Assessment .....8-4  
 Presenting Problems That May Suggest ADHD .....8-4  
 Treatment of ADHD.....8-5  
     Education.....8-5  
     Medication .....8-5  
     Psychotherapeutic Interventions .....8-6  
 Referring to Mental Health Services.....8-6  
 Special Populations .....8-7  
     Adult ADHD .....8-7

*Appendix B: Clinical Practice Guidelines for ADHD* .....15-4

**9. Cognitive Disorders: Dementia**

Clinical Overview .....9-1  
 Clinical Snapshot.....9-1  
 Facts about Dementia .....9-2  
 How to Identify Dementia .....9-2  
     DSM-IV Criteria .....9-2  
     Signs of Dementia .....9-2  
     Screening for Dementia .....9-3  
     Mental Status Exam .....9-3  
 Common Types and Causes of Dementia.....9-5  
 Treatment .....9-6  
     Education.....9-6  
     Medication .....9-7  
     Psychotherapy.....9-7  
 Pseudodementia.....9-7  
     Dementia vs. Pseudodementia .....9-9

**10. Domestic Violence**

Clinical Overview .....10-1  
 Clinical Snapshot.....10-1  
 Facts about Domestic Violence .....10-2  
 How to Recognize Domestic Violence .....10-3  
     Screening Tools .....10-3  
     Possible Signs of Domestic Violence .....10-4  
     Other Possible Medical/Behavioral Warning Signs .....10-4  
 Treatment/What to Do When Domestic Violence is Identified.....10-4  
 Resources .....10-5  
 Education.....10-6  
 Special Populations .....10-8

**11. Difficult Patients**

General Tips for Dealing with Difficult Patients .....11-1  
 Angry/Demanding Patients.....11-1  
 Overly Dependent Patients.....11-3  
 Somatizing Patients.....11-4  
 Help-Rejecting Patients.....11-5  
 Deniers/Self-Destructive Patients .....11-6  
 Patients Addicted to Medication .....11-7  
 Dramatic, Emotional or Erratic Patients .....11-8  
 Anxious/Fearful Patients.....11-10  
 Odd or Eccentric Patients.....11-11  
 Common Scenarios .....11-12  
     The Note Seeker. ....11-12  
     The Angry Patient Who Had to Wait .....11-12  
     Dealing with Family Members.. ....11-12  
     The Internet Information Patient.....11-13

12. HIP Behavioral Health Programs .....12-1

13. Sources. ....13-1

14. Appendix A: Reproducible Patient Education Handouts .....14-1

Depression is Treatable.....14-2

Generalized Anxiety Disorder.....14-3

Taking Your Medication for Anxiety.....14-4

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder .....14-5

Panic Disorder .....14-6

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) .....14-7

Memory Tips from the Alzheimer’s Society.....14-8

ADHD Tips for Parents.....14-9

Domestic Violence Safety Tips .....14-10

15. Appendix B: Clinical Practice Guidelines .....15-1

Depression .....15-2

ADD & ADHD.....15-4

Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment.....15-7

16. Appendix C: Prescribing Antidepressant Medication for Adults .....16-1