



# The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School

## **MINUTES**

### **ASH Redesign Competency Restoration Workgroup**

Thursday, February 3, 2022 ▪ 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM ▪ Conference Call

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#### **Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Presentation by Neil Gowensmith and Dan Murrie

#### **Attendees**

John Petril, Sydney Harris, Joey Smith, Cory Morris, Daniel Murrie, Jennie Simpson, Nancy Hohengarten, Francela Brazil Williams, Neil Gowensmith, Chris Lopez, Felix Torres, Erika Canales, Cristyn Cordova, Reggie Smith, Krista Chacona, Erin Sreenivasan, Jason Steans, Jennifer Skeem

#### **Minutes**

##### *Welcome*

Group was welcomed and agenda reviewed. Guest speakers were introduced to the group.

##### *Presentation by Neil Gowensmith and Dan Murrie*

Presentation topic was “National Emerging Trends in Competency to Stand Trial”. Discussed increase in evaluations rates and incompetence findings. Shared rates broken down by misdemeanors, which is shown to be higher than felonies. Mobile app to track forensic evaluation data and rates was created to gather information. Reviewed six components of a healthy competency restoration system. Discussed how these components have impacted the system in Colorado. Reviewed sequential intercept model, used to determine who is appropriate for competency restoration and places to interrupt path into the legal system.

##### *Presentation Q&A*

A member asked how outpatient is defined, clarification provided. Parameters often created by local and state statutes. A member asked who has the jurisdiction to decide placement in VA and CO; both have default assumption of outpatient with input from evaluator and final decision is with the judge. A member discussed trends in misdemeanors v felonies, expressing belief that a barrier is a weak civil system and public desire for people to be held accountable for more severe offenses. A member asked if recidivism is being tracked in relation to the “75% positive outcome” number. Shared information on what is considered negative vs positive outcomes. Discussed what potential step-down program looks like for individuals who no longer need inpatient care but are not prepared for outpatient treatment. A member asked for details on the civil system in CO that is positively impacting results. Presenter stated “mental health first, legal issues second.” Goal is to stabilize person and avoid additional, unnecessary charges by using the civil system first.

##### *Close*

Presenters were thanked by the co-chairs and group. Shared date of **next meeting, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**.