# HSC Medical Clearance & Screening Process

## Medical Clearance

The Human Services Center is a psychiatric hospital, providing specialized care for people who are experiencing severe symptoms of mental illness that require hospitalization.

It is sometimes challenging to know if symptoms of abnormal thinking/agitation are due to mental illness or underlying physical illness that is causing neurologic dysfunction. Patients must be medically stable before they can be admitted to the Human Services Center for mental health treatment. It is critical for patient's health and safety that they receive care in the most appropriate setting.

The South Dakota Human Services Center (HSC) is pleased to announce the implementation of the SD–SMART Medical Clearance Process, a standardized approach designed to enhance the safety and efficiency of transfers for individuals requiring inpatient psychiatric care.

Developed in alignment with national best practices, this process aims to:

- Improve communication between referring and receiving facilities
- Reduce unnecessary diagnostic testing
- Ensure timely access to psychiatric care

The following ***resources*** will be used to support your team's implementation:

- SD–SMART Medical Clearance Guidelines
- Fillable SD–SMART Form
- Hack's Impairment Index (HII) Tool

We ask that your team begin using this process for all psychiatric referrals to HSC. Our admissions team is available to assist with answering questions to support a smooth transition to this new standard.

HSC looks forward to continuing collaboration with you and providing high quality care for our patients. Standardized medical clearance not only achieves the objectives listed above but also ensures that we can safely provide needed care.

Human Services Center

A division of the South Dakota Department of Social Services

# HSC Medical Clearance & Screening Process

## Medical Limitations of HSC

Medical limitations at HSC generally include but are not limited to the following:

- No cardiac monitoring
- No IV potassium replacement therapy
- No IV antiarrhythmic medication therapy
- No IV insulin drips
- No burns
- No post-op with chest tubes
- No pain pumps
- No medically monitored detox services
- No Methadone treatment for opiate addiction
- No dialysis unless approved in conjunction nephrology services at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital

## Transfers from Inpatient Settings and Nursing Homes:

- The case will be reviewed by HSC and a physician-to-physician consult will be completed, if necessary, to resolve concerns.
- Additional lab work may be requested.
- The admission will not be delayed for review of rehab therapies and such.

Human Services Center

A division of the South Dakota Department of Social Services