



Overview of DDMHT Services

The Developmental Disability Mental Health Team (DDMHT) is a specialized community based MH consultative service under Mental Health and Substance Use Services VIHA focusing on clients with diagnosed Developmental Disability and mental health disorders.

The team objective is to support clients in community settings and to reduce and eliminate hospital and emergency encounters. Through timely assessment and consultation, DDMHT supports informal & formal caregivers and families to increase and build capacity to manage and support individuals safely in the community.

DDMHT SERVICE STREAMS:

Developmental Disability Service Stream.

Eligibility:

For adults, Community Living British Columbia (CLBC) or physician are our referral pathways. Patients must meet the eligibility requirements for developmental disability (DD) as described in the diagnostic criteria DSM IV for mental retardation (MR) and/ or DSM-5 diagnostic criteria for Intellectual Disability.

Children & Youth ages 14 – 18 yrs.

For children and youth, the Ministry of Children and Families (MCFD), Children and Youth with Special Needs division (CYSN) or physicians are our referral pathways.

As with adult eligibility criteria, youth need to be diagnosed as having a Developmental disability, or there are clear indicators that they will meet the criteria for DD prior to transitioning to adult services.

Referral Pathway

1. 19 yrs. plus Community Living BC
2. 14yrs- 18yrs MCFD/CYSN.
3. Physician direct referral

Core services involve a multidisciplinary team approach, (Nursing/Psychology/ Psychiatry.

DDMHT is also available for one time consults. Telehealth facilities are available if necessary.

Please contact DDMHT Intake or Coordinator to discuss.

All completed referrals are reviewed and triaged by our team.

Child & Youth Consultation Service Stream - Enhanced Collaborative Care:

This service does not include the DDMHT multidisciplinary team, only psychiatric consultation.

The Enhanced Collaborative Care Service supports general practitioners (GPs) in Victoria in providing primary care for eligible children and youth with special needs who exhibit mental health and or behavioral challenges. These one-time non-urgent consultations for GPs may include specialist telephone availability as needed.

Overview of DDMHT Services cont'd:

MCFD/CYSN or physician are the referral pathways for all ECC Child & Youth psychiatric consultation services. The child or youth's local CYSN office will assign a SW to assist the family to complete an application for this service.

To receive this service, Children and Youth must be eligible for services with MCFD CYSN and meet one of the following criteria. Acceptance to this program is not dependent on being open with MCFD CYSN.

- ✓ Age 5- 14yrs with a Developmental disability.
- OR
- ✓ Age 14 to 18yrs but not deemed as eligible for DDMHT core services (if IQ >70), Island Health Child and Adolescent psychiatry services or MCFD CYMH services

Geographical coverage of service:

Eligible Children and youth with Special Needs from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands are eligible for this service. Coordination for this service will be done by the CYSN MCFD Liaison SW working with the DDMHT Program Coordinator.

Out of town patients may travel to Victoria to see the Psychiatrist or a Telehealth consultation can be arranged.

All Appointments:

DDMHT will schedule all appointments and will notify the CLBC or CYSN SW if they are involved, and we recommend that a representative attend to facilitate the shared care approach. Collaboration is key to the success of this service model.