Guidelines for Systems and Professionals

Learning Plan

A. Module Description

Effective tobacco dependence treatment requires integration of agency policies and protocols with the skill of individual providers. The role of a tobacco treatment specialist may vary depending upon the setting and other professional training of the individual clinician. This module will address systems level issues, including elements of program protocol, evaluation, and potential barriers and facilitators.

Professional responsibilities will be discussed including ethical standards, the role of clinical supervision and self-care issues for the treating professional and setting boundaries. Opportunities for professional development such as the UMass Tobacco Treatment Specialist Certification Program will be described.

B. Goal of the module

The goal of this module is to help the tobacco treatment specialist understand their role within a system and provide information regarding the basic elements of program management.

C. Learning objectives

1. List the Public Health Service recommendations for optimal structure and intensity of effective tobacco treatment interventions
2. Describe the range of established and innovative treatment modalities
3. Discuss systems and program implementation
4. Define the role of the TTS: Professional development, resources and responsibilities

D. Outline

1. PHS recommendation
   a. Three major treatment strategies:
      i. Counseling
      ii. Pharmacological support
      iii. Systems support
   b. Implementing the 5As in healthcare systems
2. Treatment modalities
   a. In-person: 1:1 and group counseling
   b. Telephone counseling
   c. Internet based
   d. Mobile-phone applications
   e. Harm reduction

3. Systems Issues
   a. Definition
   b. External and internal influences
   c. Challenges and opportunities to implementing tobacco treatment in healthcare systems

4. Program components
   a. Documentation
   b. Evaluation
   c. Billing

5. Role of the TTS: Professional development and responsibilities
   b. Core Competencies & Ethics
   c. Professional development resources
   d. UMass Exam and Certification Process