

PROVIDED AS INFORMATION ONLY
ALWAYS CONSULT LEGAL ADVICE
TERMINATION-INTERRUPTIONS-TRANSFER

TERMINATION OF SERVICES

- Clinicians should terminate services to clients
 - when such services and relationships are no longer required
 - no longer serve the client's needs or interests
- Avoid abandonment
- Clinicians in fee-for-service settings may terminate services to clients who are not paying an overdue balance
- Clinicians should not terminate services to pursue a social, financial, or sexual relationship with a client

INTERRUPTION OF SERVICES

- In mental health care interruption of services is a paramount consideration
- Continuity of care is required

CLIENT TRANSFER

- ✓ When an individual who is receiving services from another agency or colleague contacts clinicians for services, the clinicians should carefully consider the client's needs before agreeing to provide services.
- ✓ If another agency or colleague has served a new client, clinicians should discuss with the client whether consultation with the previous service provider is in the client's best interest.
- ✓ Clinicians should take reasonable precautions to protect client confidentiality in the event of the clinician's incapacitation, or death.

Clinicians should make reasonable efforts to ensure continuity of services in the event that services are interrupted by factors such as unavailability, relocation, illness, disability, or death.

Clinicians who are leaving an employment setting should inform clients of appropriate options for the continuation of services and of the benefits and risks of the options.

Clinicians who anticipate the termination or interruption of services to clients should notify clients promptly and seek the transfer, referral, or continuation of services in relation to the clients' needs and preferences.