

Calling the Emergency Room (796-8427) and going to Bartlett Regional Hospital (*No Health Insurance Required*)

Q: What will happen when I go to Bartlett Hospital Emergency Room?

A: *Emergency Room Staff will attempt to immediately* place the person in a private room. Most of the time you will be able to remain with the person. If there are others in the ER with more critical emergency needs, ER staff will make every effort to find a quiet place for the person. Next, Emergency Department medical staff will conduct an initial medical evaluation of the person. This ensures that any critical medical problems are addressed (for instance, an overdose of medication or other substances) and ***will*** identify other important medical issues/concerns. ER medical staff will inquire about any suicidal intentions the person may have. Most of the time when a potentially suicidal person comes to the Emergency Department, ER staff will contact the On-Call Mental Health Clinician from Juneau Alliance for Mental Health (JAMHI). The On-Call Mental Health Clinician will then come to the hospital ***to*** meet and talk with the person to do a "risk-assessment". The On-Call Mental Health Clinician will ***not*** come to your home or other location to meet with the suicidal person; this must be done at the emergency room.

Q: What is a "risk assessment"?

A: This assessment includes standard questions to assist the On-Call Mental Health Clinician develop recommendation tailored to help the suicidal person with immediate mental health needs.

Q: What happens after the mental health clinician completes the risk assessment with the suicidal person?

A: Based on the findings of the risk assessment the On-call Mental Health Clinician will make a clinical recommendation as to the best course of action. These recommendations might involve a safety plan (contracts), recommendations for follow up services with another mental health agency or mental health providers and strategies to keep the person safe. They will also provide you the number for the "Care-line".

In the event that the clinician feels the best course of action is to recommend in-patient psychiatric services (admission to the hospital) the clinician contacts a BRH psychiatrist, and shares the recommendation with the psychiatrist. The BRH psychiatrist then takes the recommendation into consideration, and the BRH psychiatrist would then determine if the person should be admitted to the hospital (for psychiatric care). The clinicians cannot admit people to the hospital. Only a psychiatrist can make this final determination.

Unfortunately there are no in-patient psychiatric services for children and adolescents in Juneau. When someone 17 and younger needs in-patient psychiatric care, they may be admitted to BRH only until arrangements are made for the young person to transfer to a hospital or treatment center that provides them care.

NOTE: Anyone going to the Emergency Room at Bartlett Regional Hospital for any reason should **always bring any medications** they are prescribed and/or have taken.