



Coweta Circuit Adult Mental Health Court Client Handbook

Serving Troup and Carroll Counties

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Welcome to the Coweta Circuit Adult Mental Health Court Program

Congratulations and welcome to the Coweta Circuit Adult Mental Health Court Program (MHC)! This handbook is designed to answer your questions and provide overall information about MHC. Please read it carefully and ask a staff member to explain anything that you do not understand. As a participant, you will be expected to follow the instructions given in MHC by the Judge and comply with the treatment plan developed for you by the case manager and treatment team. This handbook will detail what is expected of you as a MHC participant and will review general program information and guidelines. The premise of MHC is to assist those with criminal charges to become stable and healthy citizens. Once accepted into this intensive treatment program, you will obtain a two-fold benefit. First, you will receive cost effective quality mental health treatment, and second, your criminal charges **may be** dismissed, if eligible, or other sentence modification upon successful completion of the treatment program.

Our responsibility is to assist you in learning the skills necessary for you to completely and permanently address the issues that made you become involved in the criminal justice system, as well as to help motivate you to make positive changes in those aspects of your life that have been adversely affected by your diagnosis. As such, to the extent by law, the clinical, medical, and treatment records of all mental health court participants are kept in a separate clinical file, and not kept in the public Clerk of Court criminal case file. Instead, your confidential records will be locked in a file cabinet within the Coordinator's office.

We realize that this may be the first opportunity that you have had to receive treatment for your mental illness. An entire team of professionals has been assembled to help you make these positive changes in your life. However, it will be your own motivation, your own commitment, and your own personal dedication to these goals that will be the deciding factor of your success in this program. If you honestly desire to seek treatment for your mental illness in order to lead a better life and reach your maximum potential, we will work with you to achieve those goals. We commend you for making the decision to participate in this program!

Mental Health Court Rules

1. You must actively participate in the treatment plan developed by you and the MHC team.
2. You must attend all required court sessions/hearings, treatment appointments, AA/NA meetings, and any other appointments, as directed.
3. You must be on time for all appointments, treatment sessions, and court appearances.
4. You must abstain from using any illegal drugs or unapproved medications as well as refrain from using alcohol.
5. You must participate in observed, random alcohol and drug testing when required by the Court.
6. You must comply with all local, state, and federal laws. You must immediately notify the MHC team of any arrests or detention by law enforcement.
7. You must behave in a respectful manner towards fellow participants and MHC staff/team/Judge.
8. You must keep the staff informed of your current address, phone number, and schedule. Your residence must remain in Troup or Carroll County while participating in this Mental Health Court Program.
9. You must dress appropriately for treatment sessions and court appearances. Clothing with violent, sexist, racist, drug or alcohol-related themes, or promoting alcohol or drug use is considered inappropriate.

Overview: What is Mental Health Court?

MHC is an intervention program for adults who have been accused of a crime(s) in Troup or Carroll Counties and who are having difficulty maintaining their mental well-being. The program has four phases for misdemeanor cases and five phases for felony cases. It is a collaborative effort between the Superior and/or State Courts, District Attorney's office, Solicitor's office, defense attorneys, law enforcement, probation, and mental health treatment programs. We work together to provide a variety of programs and supervision geared towards helping you maintain a healthy life and provide support. MHC involves frequent court appearances, random drug treatment, group and individual counseling, Participants who do not comply with the rules may receive sanctions and those who do comply may receive incentives. Participants who successfully complete all phases of treatment, as well as make substantial improvements relating to their employment, education, housing conditions, and all other mandated areas of focus, will be advanced through to graduation.

The MHC Judge will make all decisions regarding your participation in MHC with input from the MHC team. The addition to the Judge, the MHC team consists of:

- Defense attorney
- Prosecutors
- MHC Program Coordinator
- MHC Case Manager
- Treatment providers
- Surveillance officer
- Probation services

Confidentiality

Federal and State law requires that your identity and privacy be protected. MHC and its case managers and treatment providers have developed policies and procedures which protect your privacy. You will be asked to sign a document entitled "Consent for the Release of Confidential Information." The disclosure of this information is for the sole purpose of hearings and reports concerning your specific MHC case. Confidentiality is also essential in group therapy and court sessions. Anything that is discussed in group or court must remain within those confines. No information pertaining to any client should be discussed outside of group or court.

Fourth Amendment Waiver and Search and Arrest Requirements

All participants must, at any time, without warning, probable cause, articulable suspicion or a search warrant, provide a sample of blood, breath, urine, saliva or other bodily substance and submit to searches of his/her residence, workplace, vehicle, containers, records and all other locations and items, by any law enforcement officer, probation officer, or parole officer.

As a participant in MHC, you are required to submit your person, vehicle, place of residence or area to search and seizure of narcotics, drugs or other contraband at any time of the day or night with or without a search warrant, without prior notice, and without probable cause by any peace officer or probation officer. Any law enforcement officer who observes a current participant of MHC in any of the following circumstances is authorized to arrest that individual:

- In violation of any criminal law;
- Ingesting a controlled substance, marijuana or alcohol;
- Being under the influence of a controlled substance, marijuana or alcohol;
- Possessing a controlled substance, marijuana or alcohol or drug paraphernalia;

- Being in the presence of a person in possession of controlled substance(s) and a reasonable person in a like position, would conclude that drugs are present.

Participants detained in jail after arrest will be brought before a MHC Judge for hearing.

Progression through the Mental Health Court Program

Your progression will be broken down into phases which will dictate your court schedule. Your progression through these phases will be determined by the Court and your individual treatment providers. Any setbacks or breaks in your treatment path or Court ordered requirements may result in a return to a previous phase or a delay in your advancement from one phase to the next. A participant **MUST** attend **ALL** scheduled appointments that relate to their involvement with the Court. Absences due to medical emergencies must be immediately verified by documentation from your physician or health care provider. Your course of treatment will be specialized by the treatment team to meet your own personal needs. Treatment may include, but is not limited to, half-way house placement, in-patient placement, out-patient counseling, individual or group counseling, self-help sessions, as well as any combination thereof.

Program Requirements

The Mental Health Court treatment program allows offenders with a mental illness the opportunity to participate in court-supervised treatment rather than going to jail. As a participant in the Mental Health Court program, you will be required to:

- Adhere to mental health treatment and groups, as recommended. It is expected that participants will consider their treatment to be of primary importance. Missing treatment or any court-related activity without permission will be sanctioned.
- It is expected that participants will behave in a manner appropriate to the setting when in Court or anywhere associated with their participation in Mental Health Court.
- It is expected that participants will be actively involved in treatment and strive to make personal progress while they are in the Program.
- Adherence to psychotropic medications, if prescribed
- Secure housing and residential treatment if necessary
- Compliance with drug and alcohol testing and counseling if appropriate. Missing drug screens will be treated as a probation/parole violation for sanctioning purposes. Failure to produce a urine sample is also a violation and will be sanctioned accordingly.
- Compliance with the terms of probation/parole/pretrial diversion and reporting to Probation/Parole Officer
- Regular attendance at court appearances
- Evidence of productive use of time (obtain a job, volunteer community service, education, etc.) if appropriate
- Community service work if appropriate

Home visits and/or inspections to ensure your compliance with all conditions may also be conducted by treatment case managers, members of the Court Team, and/or law enforcement agencies. ALL participants will be held responsible for all substances found in your residence, vehicle, or on your person regardless of whether or not they are yours. Participants may also be placed on a daily call-in requirement with the possibility of immediately reporting for a drug screening.

Phases of the Mental Health Court

You must successfully complete each phase before moving up to the next phase. Upon successful completion of a phase, the MHC Judge will award you a completion certificate.

Phase I: Stabilize (minimum two months)

The focus of Phase I is adjustment to the Mental Health Court and stabilization. During this phase, personal strengths and goals will be identified as well as current barriers. Medications will be assessed, monitored and altered as needed.

Requirements:

1. Cooperate with licensed psychiatrist and address medication concerns. Obtain prescribed medications and begin taking them as instructed
2. Report for drug/alcohol testing as mandated
3. Maintain consistent attendance at all appointments for psychiatric, mental health and substance abuse counseling and engage in a dialog with therapist to address treatment needs and compliant with individualized treatment plan
4. Attend weekly court sessions
5. Adhere to a curfew if imposed by the team
6. Maintain updated contact information with MHC Office
7. Completion and approval of Phase 1 written assignment
8. Start Double Trouble with Pathways
9. No leave/travel will be granted while in Phase 1 of the MHC Program (extenuating circumstances may be considered)

Phase II: Engage (minimum four months)

You will continue with intensive case management, become accustomed to attending treatment, move toward medication maintenance, and begin to embrace recovery. This is a time for mental health treatment, medication compliance, and substance abuse treatment to become a habit.

Requirements:

1. Maintain medication compliance and move into a maintenance plan with the prescriber
2. Report for Drug/Alcohol tests as mandated
3. Maintain consistent attendance at all appointments as mandated by MHC team including community meetings (NA, AA) as directed
4. Find and maintain suitable, secure housing
5. Find employment, enroll in the Vocational Rehabilitation program, or enroll in school. If you are deemed unable to work, an appropriate application for assistance will be made. A productive use of time should be established (volunteering or community contribution)
6. Continue working on additional case management services as determined by the team: detox, residential treatment, etc.
7. Completion and approval of Phase 2 “Recovery Plan” written assignment
8. Attend court sessions as mandated
9. Adhere to curfew if ordered by the court
10. Maintain updated contact information with the MHC Office
11. Complete Double Trouble and start MRT
12. 30 days clean (must be documented with successful MHC drug screens) to promote to Phase 3

Phase III: Maintain (minimum five months)

This phase addresses the ongoing recovery needs of the participant, including total abstinence from drugs and alcohol, and focusing on daily living skills. The phase is designed to initiate your return to the community as a productive citizen. The achievement of basic life necessities will be the focus of this phase as employment, housing, SA recovery, and individual life goals should be achieved.

Requirements:

1. Maintain medication compliance
2. Report for Drug/Alcohol tests as mandated
3. Maintain consistent attendance at all appointments for psychological and SA counseling, including group and community meetings
4. Maintain employment, volunteer work, community contributions, or attend school. Appropriate application for assistance with SSI and/or SSD should be submitted
5. Work on additional case management services as determined by the team, such as: residential treatment, mental health services, employment assessment, job search, etc.
6. Formulate personalized life goals to be presented to the MHC team.
7. Attend court appearances as directed
8. Maintain curfew if ordered by the court
9. Maintain updated contact information and safe housing
10. Complete MRT and start Seeking safety
11. 60 days clean (must be documented with successful MHC drug screens) to promote to Phase 4

Phase IV: Transition (minimum four months)

You will work toward a successful transition from a lifestyle within the co-occurring court structure to a lifestyle more representative of what you will experience following completion of the MHC Program. In this phase, the goals that have been achieved in housing, employment, sobriety, treatment continuity, and personal life goals will be solidified. You will depend more on community resources and display stability to the team through sustaining your achievements with less external motivation.

Requirements:

1. Maintain medication compliance
2. Report for Drug/Alcohol testing as mandated
3. Maintain consistent attendance at appointments with psychiatrist
4. Complete other case management services as determined necessary by the team
5. Maintain ongoing review and update of a treatment plan
6. Appear in court for progress reviews as directed
7. Maintain curfew if ordered by the court
8. Maintain updated contact information
9. Maintain safe and adequate housing, in same location, for 90 days prior to phase completion
10. Maintain predictable, accountable schedule for 90 days through employment, vocational rehabilitation or volunteer activities
11. Complete Seeking safety and start Relapse prevention
12. 120 days clean (must be documented with successful MHC drug screens) to promote to Phase 5

Phase V (minimum 3 months)

Requirements:

1. Maintain medication compliance
2. Report for Drug/Alcohol testing as mandated
3. Maintain consistent attendance at appointments with psychiatrist
4. Complete other case management services as determined necessary by the team
5. Maintain ongoing review and update of a treatment plan
6. Appear in court for progress reviews as directed
7. Maintain curfew if ordered by the court
8. Maintain updated contact information
9. Maintain safe and adequate housing, in same location, for 90 days prior to phase completion
10. Maintain predictable, accountable schedule for 90 days through employment, vocational rehabilitation or volunteer activities
11. Complete Relapse prevention
12. Must have six months of successful drug screens, documented through MHC prior to: complete Mental Health Court
13. Present “Life Project” to the MHC team upon completion of Phase 5.

Phase Life:

This is a time of collaboration between yourself and the team. A plan for sustained health is developed and approved with much of your own input. Employment and housing should be sustained.

Attendance

As a participant in the Mental Health Court, you are required to attend all meetings as assigned. Failure to attend will result in sanctions. Special requests to be excused from meetings must be approved by your case manager and/or the MHC Team. Participants in Phase 1 should not request permission to travel.

This procedure must be taken in order to miss a required MHC activity and/or drug screen:

- All requests are to be submitted a minimum of two weeks in advance to your case manager.
- All requests must have verified documentation attached. (For example: doctor, school, work, or court letterhead explaining the situation and signed by a person in authority, including a phone number.)
- The MHC staff will screen requests, and only if they are recommended will they be presented to the Judge for consideration.
- The MHC Judge will inform you of his/her decision on the requests that the staff recommends.
- Whenever leave is approved, all participants must wear a drug patch at their own expense.

Only legitimate excuses will be considered. For example, birthdays, anniversaries, vacations, concerts...will not be considered. More leeway may be given to senior participants. In the event of a sudden illness and/or death of immediate family, of course, proceed as needed. (Immediate family includes spouse, children, siblings, parents, and grandparents only.) Contact your case manager by phone on the next working day and obtain proof of relationship, medical records, or an obituary to be submitted upon your return to treatment.

Mental Health Court Hearings

As a MHC participant, you will be required to appear in MHC on a regular basis. The number of times you must appear depends upon the phase of MHC you are currently in. Failure to appear will result in a warrant being

issued for your arrest and detention in jail until you can appear before the court. If you have questions about your court appearances you may contact your Case Manager. The MHC court schedule will be provided to you upon acceptance into the program.

Your behavior from the time you leave your automobile until you arrive in the courtroom should reflect positively on MHC. Your attire shall not include shorts, tank tops, halter-tops, hats, sunglasses, or excessively baggy clothing. Additionally, you shall not wear clothes displaying offensive language, advertising alcohol or other drugs. Loud and boisterous behavior is unacceptable. You must be punctual. Once in the courtroom, conversations should be minimal, and you are to remain seated unless directed otherwise. You are not to read or sleep in the courtroom. No food, drink, cell phones, or other distracting items are allowed. You are responsible for your guests and/or children.

When addressed by the Judge, you should stand and respond respectfully. For example, “Yes” and “No” or “Yes, sir” and “No, ma’am” are appropriate. Speak clearly and directly to the Bench and remain in front of the Judge until dismissed.

A. Progress Reports

Before your MHC hearing, the Judge will be given a progress report presented by your Case Manager and/or Treatment Provider. The progress report will discuss your Mental Health treatment, attendance, participation and cooperation in the treatment program, employment and/or other requirements that may have been imposed. The Judge may ask questions about your progress and any problems you may be having. If you are doing well you may be rewarded with reduced program requirements, or, at times, other incentives like food coupons. If your progress reports show that you are not doing well, the judge will discuss this with you and determine future action, which could include a sanction in order to help you remember your goals in the program. Sanctions can be anything from increased program requirements to jail custody.

B. Termination from MHC

Warrants, new arrests, or a violation of any aspect of your treatment plan may result in termination from the MHC Program. Other violations, which could result in termination, include the following:

- i. Missing and/or positive drug tests
- ii. Altered drug test
- iii. Demonstrating a lack of program response by failing to cooperate with the case manager or treatment program
- iv. Violence or threat of violence directed at treatment staff, other participants of the program or other clients of the treatment providers
- v. Subsequent felony, violent misdemeanor, or DUI arrests

C. Minimum Sanctions

Sanctions include admonition from the judge, community service, incarceration, writing papers, home confinement, increased reporting to probation and/or MHC Coordinator, electronic monitoring (at participant’s expense), curfew or check-in time, and other sanctions as deemed appropriate.

D. Incentives

Upon the recommendation of the MHC Team, participants may be given rewards or incentives for compliant behavior. Common incentives are as follows:

- ❖ Praise/compliments from Judge
- ❖ Applause/special recognition
- ❖ Phase move certificates
- ❖ Grant travel privileges
- ❖ Birthday cards
- ❖ Special occasion recognition
- ❖ Gift certificates (fish bowl drawing)
- ❖ Star/Court awards

Drug Testing

All participants are assigned a drug screen hotline number upon entry to the program. The number is 706-407-0507. For the duration of your participation in the Drug Court Program, it is your responsibility to check daily to see if you are required to drug test that day. In the event that, for any reason, you cannot access this information by phone, it is your responsibility to report to the drug lab during scheduled drug testing hours.

Screening is random and can be up to 7 times per week in all phases. It is a requirement that a person submit a drug screen upon request of any staff member or it will be considered a positive test for sanctioning purposes. It is a requirement that each person submit a clean, valid, non-dilute test. It is your responsibility to provide a valid sample. The best way to do this is to drink a minimal amount (a maximum of 8 oz. fluid every 30 minutes for at least 2 hours prior to the screen).

The most common way for participants to attempt to beat a drug screen is by flushing with fluids. Almost all of the substances that claim to help you beat screens require this and that is why we require that YOU be responsible for providing a valid specimen. If it is determined that you have tampered with a screen or that you are providing a replacement sample, you will be sanctioned appropriately (which could include jail time or termination from the program).

If you do miss a drug screen, you must report for a screen on the next screening day during the morning testing time. You must be punctual and prepared to submit a specimen during the specified hours. Late arrivals will not be allowed to test and the failure to submit a specimen will be considered a missed screen.

Drug Screening Procedure:

1. Only one participant is allowed in the testing area at a time. A staff member must accompany you at all times during drug testing.
2. You must make sure that your name and information is on the label of the specimen bottle.
3. You must indicate an admission or denial of alcohol or drug use and grant permission for confirmation of results if appropriate. Honesty is a crucial component for recovery and participation in the Drug Court Program. Self-disclosure of use will be considered by the court when sanctions are imposed.

4. You will not be allowed to leave the testing area or to drink excessive fluids until a specimen is rendered.
5. A staff member of the same sex must always witness the sample being given.
6. You may not carry purses, coats, bags, etc. into the testing area.
7. Shirt sleeves should be rolled up to the elbow and you may be requested to remove additional clothing to ensure the validity of a specimen.
8. Participants must arrive at the Drug Court office at the specific time instructed or sanctions will apply.
9. Diluted specimens will be considered positive.
10. Altered specimens will be considered positive.
11. Participant must produce a sample within 2 hours of arriving at the office; failure to submit a specimen within the 2 hour allotted time frame will be considered positive.
12. The test cup must contain a minimum 1/3 level to be adequate for testing.
13. Participants will then place the cap back on the cup and dry off cup before handing it to the screener.

If a urine sample is confirmed positive at the lab, and you deny usage, the specimen can be sent off for confirmation at a toxicology lab. You will be responsible for the cost of the confirmation testing. The fee for the confirmation must be paid prior to the specimen being sent off.

If you are required to be in an environment (school, work, training, etc.) that exposes you to or requires that you use or handle hygiene or other products with high alcohol content, it is your responsibility to let us know immediately.

Urinalysis Testing & Incidental Alcohol Exposure

Recent advances in the science of alcohol detection in urine have greatly increased the ability to detect even trace amounts of alcohol consumption. In addition, these tests are capable of detecting alcohol ingestion for significantly longer periods of time after a drinking episode. Because these tests are sensitive, in rare circumstances, exposure to non-beverage alcohol sources can result in detectable levels of alcohol (or its breakdown products). In order to preserve the integrity of the Drug Court testing program, it has become necessary for us to restrict and/or advise Drug Court participants regarding the use of certain alcohol-containing products.

It is *YOUR* responsibility to limit your exposure to the products and substances detailed below that contain ethyl alcohol; however, this list is not all inclusive. It is *YOUR* responsibility to read product labels, to know what is contained in the products you use and consume and to stop and inspect these products *BEFORE* you use them. *Use of the products detailed below in violation of this contract will NOT be allowed as an excuse for a positive test result. **When in doubt, don't use, consume or apply.***

Cough syrups and other liquid medications: Drug Court participants have always been prohibited from using alcohol-containing syrups, such as Nyquil®. Other cough syrup brands and numerous other liquid medications, rely upon ethyl alcohol as a solvent. Drug Court participants are required to read product labels carefully to determine if they contain ethyl alcohol (ethanol). All prescription and over-the-counter medications should be reviewed with your case manager before use. Information on the composition of prescription medications should be available upon request from your pharmacist. Non-alcohol containing cough and cold remedies are readily available at most pharmacies and major retail stores.

Non-alcoholic Beer and Wine: Although legally considered non-alcoholic, NA beers (e.g. O'Doul's®, Sharp's®) do contain a residual amount of alcohol that may result in a positive test result for alcohol, if consumed. Drug Court participants are NOT permitted to ingest NA beer or NA wine.

Food and Other Ingestible Products: There are numerous other consumable products that contain ethyl alcohol that could result in a positive test for alcohol. Flavoring extracts, such as vanilla or almond extract, and liquid herbal extracts (such as Gingko Biloba), could result in a positive screen for alcohol or its breakdown products. Communion wine, food cooked in wine, and flambe' dishes (alcohol poured over a food and ignited such as Cherries Jubilee, Baked Alaska) must be avoided. Read carefully the labels on any liquid herbal or homeopathic remedy and do not ingest without approval from your case manager.

Mouthwash and Breath Strips: Most mouthwashes (Listermint®, Cepacol®, etc.) and other breath cleansing products contain ethyl alcohol. The use of mouthwashes containing ethyl alcohol can produce a positive test result. Drug Court participants are required to read product labels and educate themselves as to whether a mouthwash product contains ethyl alcohol. Use of ethyl alcohol-containing mouthwashes and breath strips by Drug Court participants is not permitted. Non-alcohol mouthwashes are readily available and are an acceptable alternative. If you have questions about a particular product, bring it in to discuss with your case manager.

Hand sanitizers: Hand sanitizers (e.g. Purell®, Germex®, etc.) and other antiseptic gels and foams used to disinfect hands contain up to 70% ethyl alcohol. Excessive, unnecessary or repeated use of these products could result in a positive urine test. Hand washing with soap and water is just as effective for killing germs.

Hygiene Products: Aftershave and colognes, hair sprays and mousse, astringents, insecticides (bug sprays such as Off®) and some body washes contain ethyl alcohol. While it is unlikely that limited use of these products would result in a positive test for alcohol (or its breakdown products) excessive, unnecessary or repeated use of these products could affect test results. Participants must use such products sparingly to avoid reaching detection levels. Just as the Court requires Drug Court participants to regulate their fluid intake to avoid dilute urine samples, it is likewise incumbent upon each participant to limit their use of topically applied (on the skin) products that contain ethyl alcohol.

Solvents and lacquers: Many solvents, lacquers and surface preparation products used in industry, construction, and the home, contain ethyl alcohol. Both excessive inhalation of vapors, and topical exposure to such products, can potentially cause a positive test result for alcohol. As with the products noted above, Drug Court participants must educate themselves as to the ingredients in the products they are using. There are alternatives to nearly any item containing ethyl alcohol. Frequency of use and duration of exposure to such products should be kept to a minimum. A positive test result will not be excused by reference to use of an alcohol-based solvent. If you are in employment where contact with

such products cannot be avoided, you need to discuss it with your case manager. Do not wait for a positive test result to do so.

Energy drinks: Some energy have been shown to contain small amounts of alcohol although it is not necessarily identified on the label. Therefore, it is recommended that you not consume such beverages/liquids.

Medications

Make sure you follow through with the instructions below, any time you see a physician or other medical professional(s) who are prescribing you medication (such as a dentist):

- Present your “Medical Notification” card to the doctor/dentist.
- Get permission from MHC Court staff to FILL and BEGIN taking any new prescription medication. Do not fill a prescription for any **new** prescription medication **without prior approval!**
- Once approved, fill out a new medication form and turn in the original to the Drug Lab.
- Do not discontinue or stop medications(s) without medical approval. Notify MHC Court staff and if necessary get a step down plan in writing from the prescribing physician.
- Approval is needed for you to begin taking over-the-counter medications; also, you need to fill out an updated medication form and turn in to the Drug Lab. Remember to inform the Lab staff of any medications you have taken prior to your drug screen.
- Never take a medication given to you by someone else without knowing what it is. For example, a friend trying to be helpful can inadvertently cause a setback for a person in recovery by giving them a narcotic for a headache.
- Avoid any products containing Cannabis, such as CBD, anxiety vitamins, certain lotions, and other products.
- Avoid energy drinks, such as Red Bull.
- Avoid over-the-counter medications that contain alcohol. Read the label. These meds are typically liquid cough medicines or liquid cold medications. There are several cough syrups available that are alcohol free.

There is a possibility that while you are in this program, you may need medication (including both prescriptions and over-the-counter medications). These medications should only be taken as prescribed by your primary care physician in conjunction with our Treatment Staff, and upon proper authorization.

Recovering people need to make sure their physicians are aware of their addiction. They should ensure their charts at their physician’s office is marked accordingly so no one can make a mistake in prescribing meds. In an emergency situation (i.e.: accident, severe illness, etc.) your doctor may decide a medication listed under “Not Allowed” is the best method to treat your condition. If that occurs, documentation from you doctor must be provided along with notification to the Drug Court Coordinator. Any such medications need to be firmly limited both in time and quantity and administered under intensive rules.

This guide is intended to serve as a resource for you and your doctor(s). Decisions about particular prescription medication(s) should be suited to the needs of the patient under the direction of a medical health professional. This guide is not intended to be a complete list, nor does it endorse use of any particular brand or medication. It is simply to provide pharmacological information to you and your healthcare providers.

MHC/Drug Court Medication Guide – Client Copy

ANALGESICS/PAIN RELIEF/MUSCLE RELAXANTS			
Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Acetaminophen 500mg (not PM formula)	Advil (ibuprofen)	Actiq	Alfenta, Alfentanil HCL
Aleve (naproxen sodium)	Amerge (naratriptan)	Anexsia (hydrocodone/acetaminophen)	Avinza
Anacin/Anacin aspirin-free	Anaprox (naproxen sodium)	Axocet (acetaminophen/butalbital)	Bancap HC (hydrocodone)
Ansaid (flurbiprofen)	Arthrotec (diclofenac)	Buprenorphine (Butrans, Buprenex)	Butorphanol
Ascriptin	Aspirin (no PM formula)	Codeine	Combunox (Oxycodone with ibuprofen)
Axert (almotriptan)	BC Powders	Dalgan	Darvocet (propoxyphene, acetaminophen), Darvon (propoxyphene)
Ben Gay muscle rub (thermal patches)	Bufferin	Demerol (meperidine)	DHC Plus (acetaminophen/caffeine/dihydrocodeine)
Cataflam (diclofenac)	Celebrex (celecoxib)	Dilaudid (hydromorphone)	Duragesic (fentanyl)
Clinoril (sulindac)	Cortisone	Empirin #3, #4	Esgic (caffeine/acetaminophen/butalbital)
Dexamethasone	Diclofenac (Voltaren)	Fentanyl (sublimaze)	Fioricet (acetaminophen/butalbital/caffeine)
Doan's Backache	Dolobid (diflunisal)	Fiorinal (aspirin/butalbital/caffeine)	Hydrocodone (Zohydro)
Ecotrin	Excedrin, Excedrin Migraine (not PM formula)	Hydromorphone (Exalgo)	Hysingla ER
Feldene (piroxicam)	Fenoprofen (Nalfon)	Kadian	Levoprome (levomepromazine)
Frova (frovatriptan)	Goody's Powders	Lorcet, Lorcet HD (hydrocodone/acetaminophen), Lortab	Meptergan
Ibuprofen 200-800 mg (not PM formula)	Icy Hot muscle rub & thermal patches	Methadone (dolophine)	MS Contin (morphine)
Indocin (indomethacin)	Lodine (etodolac)	Nubain (nalbuphine)	Orlaam (levomethadyl)
Methylprednisolone (Medrol, A-methapred, Depo Medrol, Solu Medrol)	Midol, Midol IB	Oxycodone, Oxycodone HCL	Oxycontin
Mobic (meloxicam)	Motrin (ibuprofen)	Oxymorphone, Oxymorphone HCL (Opana, Opana ER, Numorphan)	Pentazocine/naloxone (talwin)
Nalfon	Naprosyn (naproxen)	Percocet (acetaminophen, Oxycodone), Percodan	Phrenilin (butalbital/acetaminophen)
Nuprin (ibuprofen)	Orudis (ketoprofen)	Propoxyphene (aspirin or acetaminophen)	Roxicet (oxycodone/acetaminophen)
Oruvail	Pamprin	Stadol (butorphanol)	Suboxone, Subutex (buprenorphine)

ANALGESICS/PAIN RELIEF/MUSCLE RELAXANTS ...CONTINUED

Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Piroxicam (feldene)	Ponstel (mefanamic acid)	Sufenta (sufentanil)	Talacen (pentazocine/acetaminophen)
Prednisolone, Prednisone	Relafen (nabumetone)	Tapentadol (Nucynta, Nucynta ER)	Tylenol #1, #2, #3, #4
Robaxin (methocarbamol)	Tolectin (tolmetin)	Tylox (oxycodone/acetaminophen)	Ultracet, (tramadol/acetaminophen), Ultram
Triamcinolone (Allernaze, Aristospan, Kenalog, Kenalog Nasacort AQ)	Tylenol (acetaminophen)	Vicodin (acetaminophen/hydrocodone)	Vicoprofen (hydrocodone/ibuprofen)
Vanquish	Vioxx (rofecoxib)	Zydone (hydrocodone/bitartrate/acetaminophen)	
Voltaren (diclofenac)	Tylenol Liquid		

ANTIVIRALS, ANTIBIOTICS

Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Amanatadine	Amoxicillin		
Ampicillin	Augmentin (amoxicillin, clavulanate)		
Avelox (moxifloxacin)	Bactrin/Bactrim DS (sulfamethoxazole, trimethoprim)		
Biaxin (clarithromycin)	Ceclor (cefaclor)		
Cedax (ceftibutin)	Ceftin (cefuroxime)		
Cefzil (cefprozil)	Cipro (ciprofloxacin)		
Cleocin (clindamycin)	Diflucan (fluconazole)		
Doryx (doxycycline)	Duricef (cefadroxil)		
E-Mycin (erythromycin), Erithromycin	Famvir (famciclovir)		
Flagyl (metronidazole)	Keflex (cephalexin)		
Levaquin (levofloxacin)	Lorabid (loracarbef)		
Macrobid/Macrochantin (nitrofurantoin)	Minocin (minocycline)		
Relenza (zanamavir)	Rimantadine		
Sporanox (itraconazole)	Sumycin (tetracycline)		
Tamiflu (oseltamivir)	Valtrex (valacyclovir)		
Zithromax (azithromycin)	Zovirax (acyclovir)		

ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER (ADD OR ADHD)/ANTICONVULSANTS (SEIZURE CONTROL)

Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Clonidine	Depakote (valproic acid)		Adderall
Dilantin (phenytoin)	Intuniv		Concerta
Keppra	Neurontin		Cylert
Strattera	Tegretol (carbamazepine)		Dexadrine
Tenex	Topamax (topiramate)		Preludin
Wellbutrin			Ritalin

COUGH/COLD/ALLERGY/NASAL SPRAYS

Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Aerobid	Airborne	4-way	Actifed (tripolidine)
Alavert (loratadine)	Allegra (fexofedadine)	Afrin (xylometazoline)	Allegra D
Astelin	Ayr Nasal Spray (saline)	Allerest	Ambenyl
Azmacort	Beconase (beclomethasone)	Benadryl (diphenhydramine)	Benylin
Breonesin capsule	Cepacol throat lozenges/spray	Benzedrex	Brompheniramine
Chloraseptic Daily Defense, Chloraseptic lozenges	Clarinex (desloratadine)	Chlorpheniramine	Chlor-trimeton (chlorpheniramine)
Claritin (loratadine)	Cold Eze Zinc lozenges	Claritin D	Codeine
Delsym	Fenesin tablets	Comtrex	Contac
Fisherman's Friends Cough Drops	Flonase (fluticasone)	Cyproheptadine	Delsym(non-alcoholic/pediatric)
Guaifenesin	Halls Cough Drops	Dexchlorpheniramine	Dextromethorphan ("DM")
Humibid LA	Humist Nasal	Desoxyephedrine	Dimetapp, Dimetane (brompheniramine)
Mucinex (no D or DM)	N'ICE cough drops	Dristan	Duration
Naldecon Senior EX	NaSal	Duratuss	Ephedrine
Nasacort/ Nasacort AQ (triamcinolone)	Nasarel, Nasalide (flunisolide)	Hycodan tabs or syrup	Hycomine
Nasonex (mometasone)	Ocean Mist Nasal Spray	Hydrocodone Compound or syrup	Naphazoline
Organidin NR	Rhinocort (budesonide)	Neo-Synephrine	Novahistine DH
Ricola Cough Drops	Robitussin Chest Congestion (alcohol-free) Cough Drops, Robitussin Plain	Nucofed	Nyquil
Saline Nasal Spray, Salinex	Sucrets Cough Drops, Sucrets Defense	Phenergan with Codeine	Phenylephrine
Tavist-1 (clemastine fumarate)		Phenylephrine	Phenylpropanolamine
Tessalon Perles (benzonate)	Theraflu Chest Congestion	Privine	Promethazine
Tylenol Chest Congestion (alcohol-free)	Vancenase	Propylhexedrine	Pseudoephedrine
Vicks 44 sore throat lozenges or spray	Vicks cough drops, Vicks Vaporub	Pyrilamine Maleate	Robitussin DM, Robitussin AC
Zyrtec (cetirizine)		Sinarest, Sinex	Tavist (clemastine)
Rymed		Tetrahydrozoline HCL (Visine)	Trimeprazine
		Tripelennamine	Tripolidine
		Tylenol cold or Tylenol Nighttime	Tyzine
		Vicks Formula 44 D, Vicks Inhaler	Zyrtec D
Make sure Medication does not contain "DM" or "Dextromethorphan"			

GASTROINTESTINAL MEDICATIONS FOR NAUSEA, DIARRHEA, CONSTIPATION, HEARTBURN, LAXATIVES

Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Aciphex (rabeprazole)	Alka Seltzer (not Plus)	Anything containing alcohol such as Imodium AD liquid or Paregoric	Bonine (OTC meclizine)
Beano	Bentyl (dicyclomine)	Dramamine II	Donnagel liquid
Colace	Dialose	Lomotil (diphenoxylate, atropine), Lonox	Lonox
Docusate	Emecheck, Emetrol	Marinol	Meclizine (Antivert)
Fibercon	Gas-X	Motofen (atropine, difenoxin)	Norzine (thiethylperazine)
Immodium (loperimide)	Kopectate	Thorazine (chlorpromazine)	Opium Tincture
Lactaid, Lactinex	Maalox	Ranitidine	Torecan (thiethylperazine)
Metamucil	Milk of Magnesia	Trilafon	Vontrol (diphenidol)
Mirilax	Mylanta, Mylanta Gas	Zantac	
Nausetrol	Nexium (esomeprazole)		
Pepcid AC, Pepcid Complete	Pepto-Bismol		
Phazyme	Prilosec OTC		
Reglan (metoclopramide)	Roloids		
Tagamet HB	Tigan (trimethobenzamide)		
TUMS	Zofran		
Note: Use laxatives as directed and for short durations.			

MISCELLANEOUS

Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Gly-Oxide	Multivitamins	Sports additives or supplements	Energy drinks
Orajel Perioseptik	Prenatal vitamins	Ayahuasca Tea	Alcohol
Vitamin E, B12, D		Cepacol, Cheracol	Listerine, Listermint
		Peridex, Periguard (alcohol-free)	Plax (alcohol-free)
		Scope	St. John's Wort
		Sucrets spray	Valerian
Preparation H		Preparation H cooling jel	

PSYCHOTROPICS / MOOD STABILIZERS / ANTIDEPRESSANTS / STIMULANTS / SLEEP AIDS

Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Abilif (ariprazole)	Buspar (buspirone)	#Acacia	Adderall (amphetamine/ dextroamphetamine)
Celexa (citalopram)	Chamomile tea	Alprazolam	Alurate
Clozaril (clozapine)	Cymbalta (duloxetine)	Ambien (zolpidem)	Amytal sodium
Depakote (divalproex)	Desyrel (trazodone)	Ativan (lorazepam)	#Blackbrush
Effexor (venlafaxine)	Elavil (amitriptyline)	Butisol Sodium	#Carnitine
Eskalith (lithium)	Geodon (ziprasidone)	#Cathinone (Khat plant)	Centrax (prazepam)
Haldol (haloperidol)	Lexapro (escitalopram)	Chloral Hydrate	Compoz
Luvox (fluvoxamine)	Melatonin	Concerta (methylphenidate)	Cylert (pemoline)
Neurontin (gabapentin)	Pamelor (nortriptyline)	Dalmane	Dexedrine (detroamphetamine)
Paxil (paroxetine)	Prozac (fluoxetine)	Dextrostat	Diopotassium (saw palmetto)
Remeron (mirtazapine)	Risperdal (risperidone)	Dizac	Doriden
Rozerem (ramelteon)	Seroquel (quetiapine)	Dormin	Doral (quazepam)
Serzone (nefazodone)	Sleepy-time tea	#Ephedra	Equanil
Strattera (atomoxetine)	Tegretol (carbamazepine)	Estazolam	Excedrin PM
Topamax (topiramate)	Trazodone (Desyrel)	Flurazepam	Focalin (dexmethylphenidate)
Warm milk	Wellbutrin (bupropion)	Genxene	#Guarana
Zoloft (sertraline)	Zyprexa (olanzapine)	Halazepam	Halcion (triazolam)
Vistaril			Klonopin (clonazepam)
		Levoamphetamine	Librax, Libritabs
		Luminal	Librium (chlordiazepoxide)
		Lunesta	Mebaral
		Meprobamate, Meprospan	Miltown
		Nembutal Sodium	Nytol
		Paral	Paxarel (acetylcarbromal)
		Paxipam	Placidyl (ethchlorvynol)
		ProCentra	Prosom
		Restoril	Ritalin (methylphenidate)
		Secondal Sodium	Seral (oxazepam)
		Sleep-eze	Solfoton
		Sominex	Sonata (zaleplon)
		Temazepam	Trancopal
		Trilafon	Tranxene (clorazepate)
		Tuinal Pulvules	Twilite
		Tylenol PM	Unisom
		Valium (diazepam)	Valrelease
		Versed (midazolam)	Vyvanse
		Xanax (alprazolam)	

WEIGHT CONTROL

Approval Required		Do Not Take	
Xenical/Alli (orlistat)		Amphetamine	Benzphetamine HCL
Slimfast		Caffeine	Ephedra
		MaHaung	Phentermine, Phendimetrazine

Treatment Facilities

All MHC activities and locations may be viewed as an extension of the Troup or Carroll County Superior Court. Your behavior should reflect that understanding at all times. This includes all contracted treatment locations, community service sites, special events, and any other functions associated with MHC activity. Violations of program rules can result in sanctions and/or new criminal charges. All staff members of MHC are to be considered as officers of the Court, and you are expected to follow their instructions.

- No alcohol, drugs, weapons, or pocketknives will be brought to these facilities.
- Groups will begin on time! You must be punctual, as tardiness will result in sanctions. You must attend and participate in the full session to receive credit.
- Confidentiality is a must. What is said here stays here! There will be stiff consequences to any violations of this rule.
- Free expression of your thoughts and feelings is encouraged; however, violence, threats or intimidation will not be tolerated. Extreme use of profanity is not acceptable.
- If provided with a break, though a break is never guaranteed, this time is for smoking, bathroom breaks, and getting a drink. Use this time wisely and return to group on time.
- Leave group only in an emergency after notifying staff.
- Pagers and cell phones must be left outside in a locked vehicle. They will be confiscated if they ring or beep during group.
- No visitors allowed. You will be notified of scheduled exceptions to this rule. This includes children and pets.
- Pairing up with another MHC participant for an intimate relationship is not allowed.
- Smoking is permitted outside only. Place cigarette butts in the ash can provided.
- No littering in parking lot or in building. You must be responsible for assisting in maintaining the cleanliness of the building.
- Destroying or defacing property will lead to sanctions and possible criminal charges.

Financial Obligations

All participants will be responsible for any and all expenses relating to their treatment. Your medical insurance or Medicaid may cover some or all of your costs. The Court and the various treatment providers will work with each client to try and accommodate those persons with limited financial means. However, the participant agrees to be responsible for any fees/costs not covered by insurance. Please consult with your treatment provider for details.

In addition, all Court related expenses such as restitution, fines, or surcharges must be paid in full before a participant will be eligible for graduation from the Coweta Circuit Adult Mental Health Court program. Payment schedules will be established by the participant and monitoring agencies. These schedules must be approved by the Court, and adherence to the agreed upon schedule will be a requirement of the program (subject to sanction).

Please discuss difficulties in meeting financial obligations with the Mental Health Court Coordinator before a missed payment occurs. If at all possible, alternative arrangements will be made. You may be responsible for providing proof of your income. This will be used to assess your ability to pay any treatment costs.

Employment

It is your obligation to inform your employer of your participation in the Coweta Circuit Adult Mental Health Court program and make the necessary arrangements for Court appearances, treatment sessions, self-help

meetings, etc. The Court and the Coordinator must be notified immediately of any changes in your employment status. Employment will be verified routinely by the Court Coordinator/staff. This may also include on-site visits.

Graduation

In order to successfully graduate from the Coweta Circuit Adult Mental Health Court program, a participant must demonstrate an ability to consistently comply with all of the requirements of their diagnosis as determined by the Mental Health Court Judge and Team members. Other conditions of graduation may also be required in individual cases. These may include abstinence from illegal drugs, employment, vocational training, payment of restitution or Court fines, educational mandates/GED, housing arrangements, self-sufficiency from Social Services, the completion of community service/improvement projects, etc. The Judge will ultimately be responsible for determining criteria for graduation eligibility.

Participants that have completed all Court phases, satisfied all criteria for graduation, and who have developed a plan for ongoing recovery will be successfully graduated. Prior to graduation, all participants must conduct an exit interview with the Court staff. A participant who graduates from the program but needs to return to Court at a later date for disposition or sentencing on their file will remain under the conditions of Mental Health Court until their sentencing is complete. Any violations of the rules during this time period will result in a sanction, and may cause the graduation to be revoked.

Conclusion

The goal of the Coweta Circuit Adult Mental Health Court is to help you achieve a healthy life free of dependence on mind-altering substances. The Judge, court staff, and the MHC Team are here to guide and assist you, but the final responsibility is yours. To succeed, you must be motivated to make this commitment to a healthy life.

Important Contact Information

Troup County Mental Health Court

Denise Smith
Program Coordinator
706-883-2165

Courtney Powell
Case Manager
706-298-3752

Meribeth Pillot
Pathways Regional Manager
706-845-4054

James Dawson
Community Service Coordinator
Mental Health Officer
404-710-5630

Nina Markette Baker
Superior Court Judge Coweta Judicial Circuit
706-298-3626

Carroll County Mental Health Court

Ronda R. Cole
Case Manager, Mental Health Court
678-390-6204

Sheila Story
Pathways Site Supervisor (Carrollton/Heard)
770-836-6678

Georgeanna "Anna" Garmon
Carroll County Sheriff Department
770-830-5937

Kevin Herrick
State Court Public Defender
770-830-1323

Drug Lab TDL Hotline
706-407-0507

Meaghan Smith
Assistant District Attorney
706-298-3708

Sandra Taylor
Solicitor General
706-883-1726

Jackie Cauble
Superior Court Public Defender
706-883-2170

Katie Rose Martin
State Court Public Defender
706-298-3730

Brandy Atcheson
Probation Officer
678-476-2693

Sarah Japour
Assistant District Attorney
706-675-0955

Chad Wilson
Carrollton Police Department
706-298-0492

Dennis Blackmon
Superior Court Judge Coweta Judicial Circuit

Agreement

I, _____, understand that by voluntarily participating in the Coweta Circuit Adult Mental Health Court program, I agree to abide by every requirement outlined in this handbook. All participants must sign a contract to enter the Mental Health Court, and by signing the contract they agree to be held to all requirements and waivers outlined in this handbook, as well as in the Policy and Procedure Manual.

Signature: _____

Date: _____