



**Acute Psychiatric Treatment Committee**  
**April 28, 2022**

Chairman Nelson and Committee Members, I am Tim Blasl, President of the North Dakota Hospital Association. At the last committee meeting, I was asked to provide additional information regarding acute psychiatric hospitalization.

The first request was for the number of acute hospital inpatient psychiatric beds in the state. Currently, there are a total of 113 beds in Grand Forks, Fargo, Bismarck, and Minot in five of the state's large (PPS) hospitals; 120 beds in the state's private psychiatric services hospital; and approximately 9 beds at the Fargo Veteran's Administration Health Care System. There are no inpatient psychiatric beds in North Dakota critical access hospitals. The critical access hospitals do use regular observation beds to stabilize and monitor patients until they can be transferred to one of the larger hospitals that offers inpatient psychiatric services.

I was asked to provide information on patients that come from out-of-state to a North Dakota hospital for inpatient psychiatric services. In the Bismarck area, approximately 92 percent of patients are from North Dakota and the rest are mostly from South Dakota. In the Fargo area, approximately 33 percent are from Minnesota and about half of those are from Clay County. In the Grand Forks area, approximately 15 percent are not from North Dakota, with the majority of those being from Minnesota.

I was also asked to work with the Department of Human Services to provide a comparison of North Dakota Medicaid and Minnesota Medicaid reimbursement for inpatient psychiatric services. It is my understanding that Department of Human Services executive director, Chris Jones, will provide that information.

Thank you for your time today. I would be happy to try to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Blasl, President,  
North Dakota Hospital Association