

What is Early Assessment and Support Alliance (EASA)?

EASA is a statewide network of programs which identify youth with symptoms of psychosis as early as possible, and provide support and treatment based on current research.

Who does EASA serve?

EASA helps identify and support young people whose symptoms are consistent with the onset of a psychotic illness such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder with psychosis. EASA also helps clarify diagnosis and appropriate treatment, and supports referents in linking to appropriate care.

Who should I refer?

Refer anyone who you believe may be experiencing the early signs of psychosis. If a person is having new, significant and worsening difficulties in several of the following areas, call for a consultation:

Reduced performance

1. Trouble reading or understanding complex sentences
2. Trouble speaking or understanding what others are saying
3. Becoming easily confused or lost
4. Trouble in sports or other activities that used to be easy (Example:

can't dribble basketball or pass to team members)

5. Attendance problems related to sleep or fearfulness



Behavior changes

1. Extreme fear for no apparent reason
2. Uncharacteristic actions or statements that make no sense
3. Impulsive and reckless behavior (giving away all belongings, etc.)
4. New, bizarre beliefs
5. Incoherent or bizarre writing
6. Extreme social withdrawal
7. Decline in appearance and hygiene
8. Dramatic changes in sleep (sleeping almost not at all or all the time)
9. Dramatic changes in eating behavior

Perceptual changes

1. Fear that others are trying to hurt them
2. Heightened sensitivity to sights, sounds, smells or touch
3. Making statements like "my brain is playing tricks on me"

4. Hearing voices or other sounds that others don't
5. Reporting visual changes (colors more intense, faces distorted, lines turned wavy)
6. Racing thoughts
7. Feeling like someone else is putting thoughts into their brain or that others are reading their thoughts

What should I do if someone is experiencing these changes?

Call EASA to refer someone, or call for an anonymous consultation. EASA can come meet with the family at school, home, or any other location. Consultations are free – give us a call!

Other referral guidelines include:

1. Ages 15-27
2. Lives in Deschutes, Jefferson, or Crook County
3. IQ over 70
4. Symptoms not known to be caused by a medical condition or drug use
5. Person has not received treatment for symptoms of psychosis for more than the past 12 months

What does EASA offer?

EASA services are based on the most current research. There is no financial barrier to receive EASA Services. We accept private insurance, OHP, and people without insurance.

Services Include:

1. Outreach, specialized assessment, and linkages to appropriate care
2. Coaching to understand changes and help the young person succeed in school and elsewhere
3. Family groups and peer support opportunities where people come together to learn relevant information and skills and to support each other
4. For youth with ongoing symptoms not best treated elsewhere, an intensive two-year transitional program from a local team including medical professionals, counselors, occupational therapists, and school/work specialists



EASA is changing the way services are delivered.

EASA is about continually improving the way Oregon responds to early symptoms of psychosis. The 2007 Oregon legislature funded EASA to bring the most current, evidence-based treatment to individuals in the early stages of illness. EASA is now in 18 Oregon counties. The goal of EASA is to make these services available statewide.



If you think someone you know could benefit from the EASA Program call:

(541) 322-7576 or (541) 322-7500
Deschutes County Behavioral Health
Early Assessment & Support Alliance
1340 NW Wall St
Bend, Oregon 97701

Deschutes County encourages persons with disabilities to participate in all programs and activities. This location is accessible to people with disabilities. If you need accommodations to make participation possible, please call (541) 617-4747 or send email to accessibility@deschutes.org.

Early Assessment and Support Alliance



Partnering to help young people's well-being in school, work and life.



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1340 NW Wall St Bend OR 97701
www.easacommunity.org