

Electroconvulsive Therapy Services (ECT)

Research has consistently shown Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) to be the most effective treatment for severe depression, especially if accompanied by psychotic features or catatonia. It is also highly effective in the treatment of bipolar disorder and some psychotic disorders.

ECT is generally used when other forms of treatment, including medication and psychotherapy, have failed. However, ECT is often the first treatment of choice in life-threatening situations such as a potential suicide because of the rapid results.

Porter Adventist Hospital is home to one of the region's leading Electroconvulsive Therapy programs. Administered in a specially equipped treatment area and staffed by our specially trained ECT board certified psychiatrists, anesthesiologists and experienced nurses provide ECT, a safe procedure that involves the delivery of a small electrical stimulus to the brain to induce a controlled seizure. This procedure is generally performed on an outpatient basis but when clinically indicated, can be provided as an inpatient treatment

Program Schedule

ECT is offered on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Length of Treatment

- Individuals typically begin with treatments three days per week (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)
- Symptoms are evaluated before each treatment to monitor response
- Patients are scheduled for treatment according to their needs for an average of 7 to 15 treatments until significant symptom reduction is achieved
- Once that is achieved, the frequency of an individual's treatment is decreased as tolerated either to maintenance ECT or to discontinuation.

Staff

- Three board-certified psychiatrists with extensive ECT experience
- Board-certified anesthesiologists
- Trained and experienced psychiatric nurses and technicians

Insurance and Managed Care

Porter Adventist Hospital has contracts with most major insurance providers and managed care companies.

Information and Referrals

- For more information and questions regarding ECT or to make a referral, please contact us at 303-765-6894. Referrals and first opinion letter can be faxed to 303-765-6464.
- Further information about ECT as well as a consult form (First Opinion Letter) are available if requested by phone or at our website: www.porterhospital.org/behaviorhealth

Behavioral Health Services
Porter Adventist Hospital



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