What AOT-LA Cannot Provide

AOT provides outpatient services and does not have the authority to mandate medication or involuntary long-term hospitalizations or LPS conservatorship; therefore, the Program is incapable of initiating long-term, involuntary commitment. LPS conservatorships are initiated by psychiatric hospitals, thus the decision of whether or not to pursue long-term involuntary commitment resides with the treating physician and the facility. AOT does not provide crisis response to individuals in psychiatric crisis. If you have a psychiatric crisis, please call 911 or ACCESS Center 24/7 at 1(800) 854-7771

Office Locations and Contacts

Little Tokyo SA 1-4
213-922-8144

Lomita SA 5-8
310-534-3684

Jonathan E. Sherin, M.D., Ph.D., Director
Department of Mental Health
Emergency & Non-Emergency Helpline!
24 hours/7 days
L.A. County ACCESS Center
1(800) 854-7771

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
EMERGENCY OUTREACH BUREAU

ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT
AOT—LA LAURA’S LAW

550 South Vermont Ave., 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90020
AOTLAOE@dmh.lacounty.gov
P: 213-738-2440
F: 213-380-3680

Referral Form
What is AOT-LA?
Assisted Outpatient Treatment, (AOT-LA) also known as Laura’s Law, was initiated following the 2001 killing of Laura Wilcox by an individual suffering from severe mental illness. AOT-LA Program serves seriously mentally ill individuals who are at substantial risk of deterioration and/or detention under WIC5150 as a direct result of poor psychiatric treatment compliance. The Program outreaches to these individuals in an effort to engage them in voluntary treatment. If the individual continues to decline treatment, the Program may elect to petition the individual into court ordered treatment.

Who is eligible for AOT services?
To qualify for AOT services, candidate must meet All criteria below:
- 18 years of age or older
- Seriously mentally ill
- Unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision
- Have a history of non-compliance with treatment has resulted in either:
  - Two or more hospitalizations or incarcerations within the last 36 months; or
  - Within the last 48 months, one or more acts and/or attempts to cause serious physical harm to self and/or others
- Substantially deteriorating
- Likely to become gravely disabled or seriously harm themselves or others without treatment
- Failing to engage in available treatment
- Likely to benefit from AOT services

What services does AOT provide?
- Extensive outreach and engagement for a minimum of 30 days
- Screening and assessment
- Linkage to outpatient psychiatric treatment, primarily FSP providers
- May petition for court-ordered psychiatric treatment
- Participation in court hearing and follow-up on court mandate

Who can refer?
Those who meet any of the following criteria can refer to AOT-LA services:
- Co-habitant aged 18 or older
- Close relative (parent, sibling, spouse, or child over age 18)
- Director of client’s residential care facility
- Hospital Director
- Licensed Mental Health Treatment Provider
- Peace Officer/Parole Officer/Probation Officer

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Hilda L. Solis, First District
Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District
Sheila Kuehl, Third District
Janice Hahn, Forth District
Kathryn Barger, Fifth District
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http://dmh.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dmh