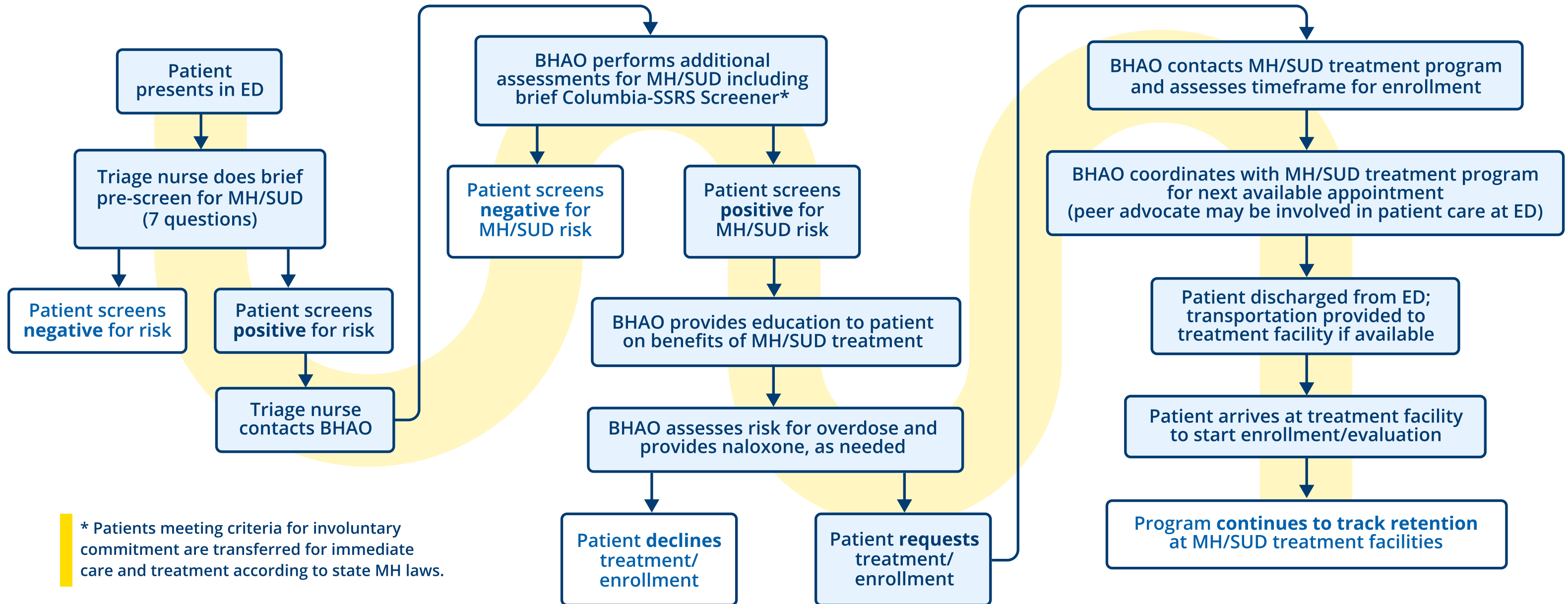


Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder

Emergency Department Workflow



Behavioral Health Assessment Officers (BHAO) play a key role in evaluating patients with mental health (MH) or substance use disorders (SUDs) in rural emergency departments (EDs) and providing referrals/handoffs when patients are interested in treatment. The following workflow has been implemented at two EDs in rural Appalachian New York State.



* Patients meeting criteria for involuntary commitment are transferred for immediate care and treatment according to state MH laws.

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