New Year, New Resource!

NaBITA recently launched the first app version of the NaBITA Threat Assessment Tool. It is now available, free of charge, from the iTunes store (search for *NaBITA*). An Android version of the app is under construction and should be available by the spring.

The app is an automated version of NaBITA's resource document 21 Questions: A Supplemental Flowchart for the NaBITA Threat Assessment Tool, created to help Behavioral Intervention Teams use the NaBITA tool more consistently with each of the cases that come across the team's radar. The app can be downloaded to team members' IOS devices and then used to help guide the user to rate student, faculty and staff behavior on the D-Scale, Generalized Risk Scale and Hostility and Violence Scale. The app asks a series of questions to the user and then produces a summary page that can be "screen captured" and then emailed to be saved in the BIT's electronic database.

Every two years, we conduct a national survey at NaBITA to ascertain the best practices in behavioral intervention across the country. The 2016 survey results found that only 34% of teams are using the NaBITA Threat Assessment Tool on each case that comes to the team. One of NaBITA's training goals for this year is to encourage BITs to use an objective risk rubric on each case that comes to the team to ensure consistency in interventions and reduce potential bias and subjective decision-making that can lead to erratic intervention and legal risk. One way to encourage teams to use the tool is to make it easily accessible on an app, as well as by providing supplemental supports such as 21 Questions.

I encourage you to read the 2014 whitepaper and see our additional training resources to better ensure proper use of the app. I would also advise against members of your campus community using the app if they are not on the BIT. While the NaBITA Threat Assessment Tool is available for all to better understand and rate behavior, using the app without additional training and reference to NaBITA resources is not recommended.

As always, please share with me any ideas or thoughts that would make your assessment and intervention efforts with students, faculty and staff more effective.

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