## IS ACUTE RIGHT FOR ME?

#### **ACUTE ACCEPTS:**

- Patients ages 15 and older
- Patients of all gender expressions
- Patients experiencing severe weight disruption, with any or all of the following medical issues:
  - Weight less than 70 percent of ideal body weight or BMI < 15;
  - Unstable vital signs such as low or irregular heart rates or low blood pressure:
  - Cardiac disturbances such as abnormal heart rhythms or heart failure;
  - Loss of consciousness due to low blood pressure;
  - Acute kidney or liver failure;
  - Electrolyte abnormalities such a low potassium or low phosphorous
- Patients with malnutrition caused by MAI, cancer, HIV and/or other infections

#### **ACUTE OFFERS:**

- Specialized inpatient medical stabilization
- Behavioral health support
- Additional recovery services, including Dietary, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Child Life, Pet Therapy and Chaplain (upon request)

#### **ACUTE WORKS WITH:**

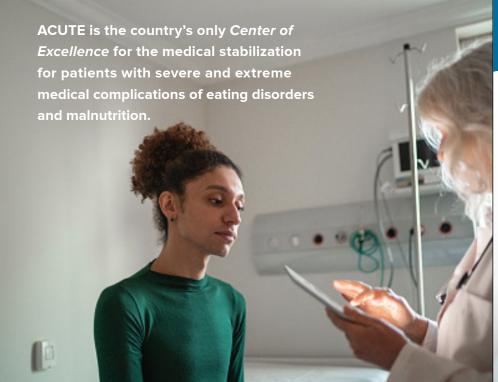
- O Hospitals
- Outpatient treatment providers
- Residential eating disorder treatment centers
- All major medical insurance
- Air ambulance providers



The care is very personalized. Besides the medical stabilization, their PT and OT staff taught me to walk and care for myself again.



The entire ACUTE team worked alongside me, and each other, to tackle my case and help me toward independent recovery.



For many individuals, the discomfort of medical complications is an urgent catalyst to seeking eating disorder treatment. These patients may begin their recovery journey at ACUTE.

Others may already be seeking treatment in an eating disorders program when medical complications arise or intensify. Providers will often refer these patients to ACUTE for specialized medical stabilization.

Upon achieving medical stability, ACUTE seamlessly returns patients to their treatment center to continue their recovery.

ACUTE works with you and your treatment providers toward a common goal: lasting recovery.



# HERE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WHEN EXPERIENCE MATTERS

ACUTE is different than other eating disorder treatment centers. It is a hospital-based, medical stabilization unit treating only patients who are experiencing severe, uncomfortable and life-threatening medical complications from an eating disorder or severe malnutrition.

This makes a difference when it comes to survival and recovery.



ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders & Severe Malnutrition 877-ACUTE-4-U • 877-228-8348 • ACUTE.org

### **ADMITTING TO ACUTE**

Seeking treatment for a severe eating disorder can be overwhelming, especially when you're experiencing life-threatening medical complications.

ACUTE's compassionate admissions specialists are available seven days per week to:

- Onduct same-day assessments, in person or by phone
- Gather all relevant information from treatment providers to understand each patient's unique case
- Verify insurance to leverage all available medical benefits
- Arrange air-ambulance transfer from medical hospitals or residential treatment centers (when necessary)

## **MALNUTRITION SERVICES**

Some patients that admit to ACUTE do not have an eating disorder. Instead, they require medically-supervised weight restoration and/or refeeding for severe malnutrition to achieve minimum Body Mass Index (BMI) requirements to undergo life-saving surgeries and treatments:

- Organ transplant
- Infection treatment
- Chemotherapy and radiation
- HIV anti-retroviral therapy

In addition to expert care from ACUTE's providers, patients with malnutrition benefit from consultation with specialty providers in the Denver Health Medical Center to address co-occurring diagnoses.



## **ACUTE TREATMENT TEAM**

ACUTE's highly experienced **internal medicine physicians**, **psychiatrists and nurses** drive medical interventions, manage medications and lead the treatment teams of these valuable experts:



#### **Registered Dietitians**

Support effective weight restoration and refeeding protocol and provide patients with 1:1 nutritional education and counseling.



## **Psychologists**

Deliver evidence-based psychotherapy to patients as well as psychoeducation to help foster understanding of these complex illnesses.



#### Child Life Specialists

Provide age-appropriate activities to help adolescents cope with the stress and uncertainly of illness, injury, disability and hospitalization.



#### **Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists**

Provide support and training to restore mobility, strength and engagement in everyday activities.



#### Social Workers

Collaborate with the treatment team to coordinate care and discharge planning.



Certified Nursing Assistants and Behavioral Health Technicians Provide 24/7 1:1 support.



#### **Denver Health Medical Center**

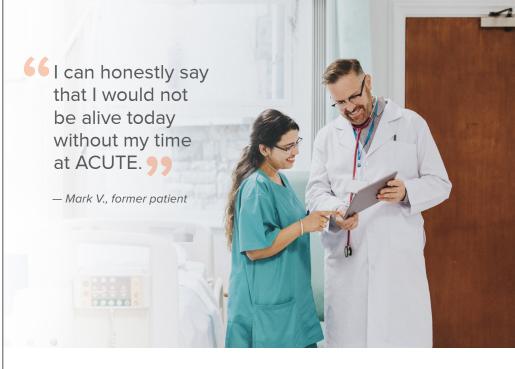
ACUTE can access all services and specialists within this nationallyranked academic medical center to meet any patient treatment need.



# MEET DR. PHILIP MEHLER

Philip Mehler, MD, FACP, FAED, CEDS Founder and Chief Executive Officer ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders & Severe Malnutrition at Denver Health

All care at ACUTE is overseen by Dr. Philip Mehler, the world's leading expert in the medical treatment of eating disorders. Expertise and experience matter when seeking medical care for a severe eating disorder. You deserve the unmatched understanding Dr. Mehler and the ACUTE team bring to each and every case.



## WHAT IS MEDICAL STABILIZATION?

Eating disorders are the only mental illnesses regularly accompanied by severe, life-threatening medical complications. Depleted nutrition, starvation, purging and overexercising wreak havoc on the body's vital organs and major systems. The result? Any or all of the following medical complications:

- Gastroparesis
- Pseudo-Bartter's edema
- Liver function
- Eye pain
- Swallowing difficulties
- Electrolyte abnormalities
- Emergency room care

- Osteoporosis/osteopenia
- Constipation/laxative abuse
- SMA syndrome
- Cardiac dysfunction
- Abdominal pain
- Diarrhea

The good news is that nearly all these issues completely resolve with nutrition and weight restoration. ACUTE provides a balance of expert medical and behavioral health support for all patients, no matter how extreme their illness.

Once medically stable, patients transition to appropriate care to continue recovery. Traditional eating disorder treatment programs help patients sustain the medical progress they achieved at ACUTE and deliver intensive psychotherapy, nutritional education and recovery skills training.