

Dear BHACA Community,

BHACA Blast #24 Headlines: *It looks like we are headed into some rainy November days at the end of this week. In your downtime from preparing Thanksgiving pies, we have just the fix for rainy weather: we invite you to pop a bag of popcorn and check-out one of BHACA's archived training events—*

- **Dr. John Oldham, MD, Senior Vice President and Chief of Staff, The Menninger Clinic**, provides physical health cross-training for behavioral health professionals, specifically regarding, “***Diseases with Increased Prevalence in Patients Living with Severe Mental Illness,***” accessible on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pIu1TSv2CE.
- **Dr. Stacy Ogbeide, PsyD, Behavioral Health Consultant with Healthcare for the Homeless—Houston, and instructor at Baylor College of Medicine Department of Family and Community Medicine**, shares her expertise on, “***Behavioral Health Screening in Primary Care Settings.***” A recording of this presentation can be found here: player.vimeo.com/video/107637814.
- **Kathleen (Kathy) Reynolds, LMSW, ACSW, Vice President for Health Integration and Wellness with The National Council for Behavioral Health**, shares her expertise on how to, “***Get Paid: Financing Integrated Health Care in Texas,***” with a focus on the public system. A video of her presentation is on YouTube here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=pSUI3yl3ito&feature=youtu.be.
- **Marshall Preddy, JD, Associate General Counsel and Privacy Officer with Lone Star Circle of Care**, speaks on, “***Privacy and Integrated Behavioral Health—Special Considerations Under HIPAA and Part 2,***” which can be viewed on YouTube here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=7mCCX7whBNM&feature=youtu.be.
- **Dr. Toni Watt, PhD, Professor of Sociology at Texas State University**, shares her expertise on outcome-based evaluation in a presentation titled, “***Rebooting Evaluation: From Tedious Exercise to Essential Change Agent.***” A recording of this presentation can be found here: <http://www.nbhp.org/rebooting-evaluation---april-24-2014.html>
- **Lastly, Please Take a Look at This Week's BHACA Featured Outcome Measure**, the [MoCA \(Montreal Cognitive Assessment\)](#), which is

described in more detail below in the outcome-based evaluation section of this BHACA Blast.

Please also read on below for the latest news and resources related the four BHACA project areas: (1) integrated health care, (2) certified electronic health record (EHR) systems, (3) maximizing third party funding streams revenue, and (4) outcome-based evaluation.

Happy (almost) Thanksgiving!,
The BHACA Team

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NBHP website – www.nbhp.org
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BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)

- **Resources: Integrated Care Training Project** – A collaboration of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and the UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs, the Integrated Care Training Project offers a wealth of online training resources, available at <http://uclaisap.org/dmhcod/index.html>.
- **Newsletter: November Issue of AIMS Center Newsletter** – A new issue of the AIMS Center’s online newsletter, Collaborations, is available at: <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=572a0dfcaff6e8a35be0ffb5c&id=d29ca8f6eb&e=a99c70362e>.

BHACA: Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System

- **Resource: The Big EHR Switch: A Behavioral Health and Human Services Guide to Switching EHRs**—This guide was created exclusively for behavioral health and human services providers, this in-depth guide will help you determine if switching EHRs is the right choice for your agency and provide the tools necessary to ensure a smooth EHR transition. The guide highlights:
 - Core reasons for switching EHRs

- Best practices for selecting your new HER
- 3 important steps in a successful EHR transition

To read the entire guide, [click here](#).

- **Article: *Why it's time to embrace data***—Healthcare reform has instigated fundamental changes in the delivery system, and many of the changes at this point are unstoppable. Even if the new GOP-led Congress successfully repeals the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the reform mindshift has already begun. No matter what happens in Washington, providers of all kinds will continue to adopt EHRs and strive for meaningful use. Value models will thrive, and data will be the backbone of everything from reimbursement to care decisions to insurance benefits. Read full article [here](#).
- **Articles: IOM (Institute of Medicine) recommends that stage 3 of EHR meaningful use incentives include the collection of behavioral and social data, to include:**
 - Educational attainment
 - Financial resource strain
 - Stress
 - Depression
 - Physical activity
 - Social isolation
 - Intimate partner violence (for women of reproductive age)
 - Neighborhood median household income

The above would be added to four pieces of sociobehavioral data already regularly collected by those using EHRs, including race/ethnicity, tobacco use, alcohol use, and residential address. **A variety of news outlets cover this story, among them:**

- *Modern Healthcare*—
www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20141113/NEWS/311139943
- *Government Health IT*— www.govhealthit.com/news/pros-and-cons-pulling-behavioral-and-social-data-ehrs
- *Medscape*— www.medscape.com/viewarticle/834914
- A link to the 317-page IOM report itself: [Capturing Social and Behavioral Domains and Measures in Electronic Health Records: Phase 2](#)
- **Webinar: SAFER Guides: What You Need to Know** (webinar from HPOE Live American Hospital Association)
Date & Time: Wednesday, December 3, 2:00-3:00 PM Central time

Description: This webinar will introduce and explain the ONC-sponsored SAFER guides, which can be found at <http://www.healthit.gov/safer/safer-guides>. The SAFER guides consist of nine guides that enable health care organizations to address EHR safety in a variety of areas. The guides identify recommended practices to optimize the safety and safe use of EHRs and provide a self-assessment to determine an organization's degree of conformance to the recommended practices.

To Register: [Click here](#)

BHACA: Maximizing Third Party Funding Streams – Insurance Credentialing and Billing & Coding Resources

- **Article: Specific health plans and how they are faring (and often benefiting) from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act:** www.nytimes.com/2014/11/18/us/politics/health-law-turns-obama-and-insurers-into-allies.html?_r=0
- **Article: The AMA (American Medical Association) weighs in on policies regarding network adequacy** as those policies apply to marketplace insurance plans. The AMA has requested, for instance, that if a plan is going to drop a provider, that this change be done prior to open enrollment so that consumers are given accurate and up-to-date lists of in-network providers with which to inform their enrollment decisions. Is there a similar policy opportunity for behavioral health?: www.sys-con.com/node/3221648

BHACA: Outcome-Based Evaluation

- **BHACA Blast #23: Featured Outcome Measure –MoCA (Montreal Cognitive Assessment)**
 - **What is MoCA?**

The Montreal Cognitive Assessment is a mental health assessment screening tool used to test for normal memory, mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and early Alzheimer's dementia. The MoCA can be used in a variety of settings from primary care to acute care and is available in two alternative forms (version 7.2 and 7.3) in an effort to decrease possible learning effects when used repeatedly.
 - **What does it measure?**

The Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) assesses the domains of attention and concentration, executive functions, memory, language, visuoconstructional skills, conceptual thinking, calculations, and orientation.
 - **For which populations/age(s) is the MoCA appropriate?**

The MoCA can be used for individuals between the ages of 55 to 85, but has been tested on individuals as young as 49.

- **How long does the measure take to complete?**

The MoCA takes approximately ten minutes to administer.

- **How is it administered?**

The MoCA may be administered by anyone who understands and follows the instructions, but only a health professional with expertise in the cognitive field may interpret the results.

- **Is training and/or certification required for the MoCA?**

Not presently, a training and certification program is currently being developed. Once developed, training and certification will be required to administer the MoCA.

- **Can I get the MoCA in other languages?**

The MoCA is available in 36 languages including: English, Spanish, French, Chinese and many more. Find all other languages, as well as a copy of the MoCA and instructions, [click here](#).

- **A note about BHACA's Featured Outcome Measures**

Our intention is to expand awareness of and knowledge about existing outcome measures within the BHACA community. In featuring a measure, we do not mean to endorse it as the right fit for your practice, because the appropriateness of a measure for any one behavioral health practice must be evaluated with that specific practice in mind. We hope you enjoy our featured outcome measures section.

- **Article: *ONC sees 10 years of quality improvement*:** “In tandem with its 10-year [interoperability](#) roadmap, [ONC](#) has developed a decade-long vision for ensuring health information technology is deployed to ‘enable robust and continuous quality improvement,’ ... according to the [ONC](#)..., ‘For the purposes of performance measurement and improvement for value based payment, regional linking of claims and clinical data will enable measurement and reporting on quality and efficiency to all payers while providing timely feedback to providers on all their patients.’” Read more in *HealthcareITNews*: [click here](#).
- **Call for Comments: National Quality Forum (NQF) Project— Behavioral Health Phase 2 Commenting Through December 12:** The [draft report](#) (PDF), funded by the Health and Human Services Commission, regards NQF's work on behavioral health, and contains the Standing Committee's recommendations for endorsement on the measures submitted, regarding, in this Phase 3 report, “**measures of tobacco use, alcohol and substance use, psychosocial functioning, ADHD, depression, and health screening and assessment for people with serious mental illness (SMI).**” The

comment period is open through **December 12 at 5:00pm, CDT**. The public is now able to [submit comments](#) on the report as a whole, on individual recommended measures, and on measures not recommended. You will need to log in to the NQF website to submit comments. Please contact the project team at behavioralhealth@qualityforum.org with any questions.

BHACA: Additional Items of General Interest

- ***Call for Presentations for 2015 Texas Behavioral Health Institute (TBHI) Now Open*** – Some of you are familiar with the Texas Behavioral Health Institute, a conference held each summer in Austin. The theme for the 2015 conference is “Integrated Approaches to Healthy Living.” Presentation proposals are being accepted now through November 21. Please see <http://www.texinstitute.com/>.

About BHACA: The Behavioral Health Affordable Care Act (BHACA) Initiative is a major collaborative endeavor of the Network of Behavioral Health Providers (NBHP) and Mental Health America of Greater Houston (MHA) designed to support Greater Houston area mental health and substance use providers in responding to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and other recent healthcare reforms across four domains: (1) enhancing and increasing the delivery of integrated health care (IHC), (2) maximizing third party funding streams revenue, (3) adopting certified electronic health record (EHR) systems, and (4) developing outcome-based evaluations. The BHACA Initiative is generously funded by Houston Endowment Inc., The Meadows Foundation and United Way of Greater Houston Community Response Fund.