

Dear BHACA Community,

We hope you had a nice Thanksgiving holiday!

BHACA Blast #25 Headlines:

- **Save the Date: Continuing Education Classes for Behavioral Health Billing Staff** Offered by the Network of Behavioral Health Providers and the Center for Healthcare Professionals, Coleman College of Health Sciences, Houston Community College!

BHACA is proud to have joined with the faculty and staff at Coleman College to offer a series of billing classes including a fundamentals overview, and specialized sessions on claims denials, credentialing, the ICD-10 and other key issues. The first class in fundamentals will run on three successive Thursdays, Jan. 22, 29, and Feb. 5. Registration through HCC opens on January 1 and class size is limited. More details to follow in the next Blast on Dec. 17.

- **We now have a BHACA Blog to address specific topics and questions raised by our colleagues** and the first entry is, "Health and Behavior Assessment and Intervention Codes & Texas Medicaid." Please read more here: www.BHACAblog.weebly.com.
- **This Week's BHACA Featured Outcome Measure is the PHQ (Patient Health Questionnaire).** Find more information below in the Outcome-Based Evaluation section.

All best,
The BHACA Team

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BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)

- **TOMORROW – Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Webinar – The Road to Team-Based Primary Care and Behavioral Health**

Date & Time: Thursday, December 4, 1:00 – 2:00 PM Central time

For More Information and to Register: [Click here](#)

Note: In order to register for the webinar, you will need to sign up as an IHI website user (free). You'll also have the opportunity to indicate if you'd like to receive IHI's e-newsletter and such, which may be of interest. As many of you know, IHI is the creator of the "Triple Aim" framework around which so much of the health care conversation has taken shape, and towards which integrated care is an important contributor.

- ***Commonwealth Fund Webinar – Integrating Behavioral Health into Primary Care***

Date & Time: Wednesday, December 10, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Central time

To Register: [Click here](#)

Presenters: Jurgen Unutzer, MD, chair of the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, University of Washington, and director of its Advancing Integrated Mental Health Solutions Center; Andrea Fox, MD, chief medical officer of the Squirrel Hill Health Center in Pittsburgh; Marty Abdo, a certified peer specialist and peer bridger at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle; and Melinda Abrams, vice president for Health Care Delivery System Reform, The Commonwealth Fund.

Description: This webinar will discuss the benefits of integrating behavioral health into primary care, especially for low-income individuals, drawing on lessons from the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative, a five-year demonstration that was supported by The Commonwealth Fund, Qualis Health, and the MacColl Center for Health Care Innovation at the Group Health Research Institute.

- ***Patient- Centered Primary Care Collaborative Webinar– Interprofessional Primary Care Training: Seven Champion Programs***

Date and Time: Thursday, December 11, 1:00 – 2:00 PM Central time

To Register: [Click here](#)

Presenters: Marci Nielsen: CEO, Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative
Barbara Brandt, Director, National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education, Associate Vice President for Education, University of Minnesota Academic Health Center, Professor, Pharmaceutical Care and Health Systems

Description: Hear Marci Nielsen, PhD, MPH and Barbara Brandt, PhD discuss a new publication the PCPCC is releasing on December 11 that focuses on interprofessional primary care training. The publication takes a deeper dive into seven exemplary programs that train medical students, residents, nurse practitioners, nurses, physician assistants, social workers, psychologists, and other health professionals for work in patient-centered medical homes.

- ***December 17 – Behavioral Health Integration Advisory Committee Meeting to be Webcast*** – The Behavioral Health Integration Advisory Committee of HHSC will meet on Wednesday, December 17, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Central time. Among the topics on the agenda will be a discussion and vote on the preliminary quality measures recommendation results and a discussion and vote on the preliminary health home pilots recommendations results. The meeting will take place in Austin but will be webcast. For more information or to view the webcast, please see <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/news/meetings/2014/121714-bhiac.shtml>.

BHACA: Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System

- ***TODAY – Webinar – Preparing for a Medicaid and Medicare EP EHR Incentive Program Audit***
Date and Time: Wednesday, December 3, 1:00 - 2:00 PM Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Presenter: Mary Givens, is dedicated to educating behavioral health providers about the Meaningful Use program and helping every Eligible Professional attest and receive their incentive payment. Mary is the Meaningful Use Program Manager for Qualifacts, and prior to this role she worked for over 20 years providing service in the community as an LPN, Behavior Intervention Specialist, Director of Program Services, Employment Specialist, and as the Executive Director of a nonprofit that served adults and children with developmental disabilities and adults with significant behavioral health issues. Mary has her Masters in Rehabilitation Administration from the University of San Francisco.
Description: Organizations have been attesting for Meaningful Use for years, and the audits have begun. On this webinar, Mary Givens, the Product Manager of Healthcare Reform at Qualifacts will teach you how to prepare for a Medicaid and Medicare EP EHR Incentive Program Audit.
If you can't make it to the webinar you can still register and they will send you the follow-up materials.

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

- ***Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services*** – Is providing in a recent [publication](#), helpful definitions and payment information on the following code sets:
 - International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM)

- International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM)
 - International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Procedure Coding System (ICD-10-PCS)
 - Current Procedural Terminology (CPT)
 - Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)
- ***Texas Medicaid regulators hit with legal setback***—For those following the issues of the Office of the Inspector General’s fraud allegations, a state appeals court has concluded that HHSC regulators have overreached the extent of the law when withholding funds for reasons that had nothing to do with fraud, such as unintentional billing errors or paperwork irregularities. To read full article [click here](#).

BHACA: Outcome-Based Evaluation

- **BHACA Blast #25: Featured Outcome Measure –PHQ (Patient Health Questionnaire)**
 - **What is the PHQ?**
The Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ) was initially created as a self-administered version of The Primary Care Evaluation of Mental Disorders (PRIME-MD). The PRIME-MD was an instrument developed and validated in the early 1990s to efficiently diagnose five of the most common types of mental disorders presenting in medical populations: depressive, anxiety, somatoform, alcohol, and eating disorders.
 - **What does it measure?**
The full PHQ, Brief PHQ, and PHQ for Adolescents (PHQ-A) can be used to establish provisional diagnoses for selected DSM-IV disorders, the PHQ-9 is used to assess Depression Severity, and the PHQ-15 is used to measure Somatic Symptom Severity. To view all variations of the PHQ and what they measure and how they are scored, [click here](#).
 - **For which populations/age(s) is the PHQ appropriate?**
The PHQ can be administered to people all of ages. However, there is a modified version of the PHQ, PHQ-A, that was created for adolescents.
 - **How is it administered?**
The PHQ is self-administered, however all responses should be verified by the clinician, and a definitive diagnosis is made on clinical grounds taking into account how well the patient understood the questionnaire, as well as other relevant information from the patient.
 - **Can I get the PHQ in other languages?**
The PHQ is available in over 50 languages, which include: French, German, Japanese, Spanish and many more!
 - **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.

- ***Institute for Healthcare Improvement White Paper– A Guide to Measuring the Triple Aim: Population Health, Experience of Care, and Per Capita Cost***– This white paper provides a menu of suggested measures for the three dimensions of the Triple Aim. The menu is based on a combination of the analytic frameworks presented in the paper and the practical experience of the organizations participating in the IHI Triple Aim prototyping initiative. The suggested measures are accompanied by data sources and examples. The paper also describes how the measures might be used along with increasingly specific, cascading process and outcome measures for particular projects to create a learning system to achieve the Triple Aim. Read full paper [here](#).

BHACA: Additional Items of General Interest

- ***Mental Health Channel***– An online mental wellness channel created to raise awareness and help every viewer realize the benefits of improved mental health. This web channel has 12 series of original documentaries, building up to 120 episodes. Available 24/7 via the web. Free to view, free to share, and commercial free. Please visit www.mentalhealthchannel.tv/ for more information.

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.