

Dear BHACA Community,

We hope you are doing well this September, which is [SAMHSA's National Recovery Month](#), a time “to celebrate the journey and achievements of the millions of Americans who are in recovery from a mental and/or substance use disorder.”

**BHACA Blast #19 Headlines:**

➤ **Save-the-Date! BHACA Webinar—Get Paid: Financing Integrated Health Care in Texas**

**Date:** Thursday, October 9, 2014

**Time:** 12:30pm – 1:30pm CST

**Speaker:** Kathleen (Kathy) Reynolds, LMSW, ACSW, Vice President for Health Integration and Wellness with The National Council for Behavioral Health

**Subject:** The [SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions \(CIHS\)](#) has updated a chart of state-specific billing codes (including E&M, HABI, Alcohol and Substance Use Services, SBIRT, Mental Health, and Peer Support) related to the provision of integrated health care. Reynolds will review the updated billing opportunities to “get paid” for integrated health care, and discuss trends in the generally still uncharted territory of financing integrated health care.

**Registration Details Will Follow.**

**Related Resources:** Please [click here to go directly to the updated chart for billing codes for Texas](#) related to the provision of integrated health care.

- **This Week’s BHACA Featured Outcome Measure is the: GAD-7**, a standard for screening for and monitoring generalized anxiety disorder in clients (and which is also reported to show good sensitivity and specificity for panic, social anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder). Please read a profile of this measure below in this blast’s Outcome-Based Evaluation section.

All best,  
The BHACA Team

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**BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)**

- **Highly Recommended Reading:** The best “overview” article on integrated care that we have read. This article, put out by The Commonwealth Fund, does a great job describing **the rationale for IHC, what it can look like, the obstacles, and the way forward in terms of payment reform:**  
<http://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/newsletters/quality-matters/2014/august-september/in-focus>
- **A helpful article in the growing body of literature on *integrated healthcare in pediatric populations (in this case: adolescents)*** – “Collaborative Care for Adolescents with Depression in Primary Care”:  
<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1899203>
- **Another piece by The Commonwealth Fund covers, “State Strategies for Integrating Physical and Behavioral Health Services in a Changing Medicaid Environment,”** overlaps with three BHACA project areas – integrated health care, maximizing third party funding, and electronic health record systems:  
<http://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/fund-reports/2014/aug/state-strategies-behavioral-health?omnicid=EALERT550358&mid=rick.ybarra@austin.utexas.edu>
- **The latest issue of National Council Magazine, [The Many Faces of Integration](#), provides a wealth of resources on approaches to IHC and population health, including features on:**
  - **[Building the Amazon Prime Experience in Healthcare](#)** by National Council President and CEO Linda Rosenberg which describes how community behavioral health can help other health care providers make integrated health more widespread.
  - In **[Integrated Care: Moving Toward Total Population Health](#)**, specialty editor Laura Galbreath explains how innovative integrated practices are taking population health approaches.
  - The infographic **[What is Population Health?](#)** summarizes 10 steps organizations can take to implement population health management.
  - **[Integration Road Trip](#)** profiles 10 communities with SAMHSA Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration grants.

- The insert [The Game of ACOs](#) graphically explores the steps a behavioral health care organization can take to get involved with accountable care organizations.
- **Materials from 2014 PBHCI Conference Available Online** – The SAMHSA Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration (PBHCI) grantees recently met for their annual conference. A wealth of resource material from the conference is now available at <http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/pbhci-learning-community/2014-pbhci-grantee-meeting>.

### **BHACA: Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System**

- **The Urgent Need for EHRs in Houston:** Phil Beckett, interim CEO at Greater Houston Healthconnect, Lisa Mayes, executive director of Harris County Healthcare Alliance, and Catherine Clark Mosbacher, CEO of the Center for Houston's Future, offer an opinion piece in the *Chronicle* regarding the urgent need for electronic health record systems (EHRs): <http://www.chron.com/opinion/outlook/article/Beckett-Electronic-medical-records-system-5736883.php>
- **Sept. 15 – 19 is National Health IT Week!** Click here for daily webinar opportunities that detail the overlap between healthcare IT and patient engagement, meaningful use, interoperability across the care continuum, standards (outcomes), and clinical quality and safety: <http://www.healthit.gov/healthitweek/>

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

- **Several strong resources regarding children and adolescents in the Medicaid system (from care coordination to overall health management from a statewide, systems perspective):** The Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services (CMS) has released a series of four strategy guides to support states in their work to implement EPSDT, the Medicaid benefit for children and adolescents:
  - [Making Connections: Strategies for Strengthening Care Coordination in the Medicaid Benefit for Children & Adolescents](#)
  - [EPSDT – A Guide for States: Coverage in the Medicaid Benefit for Children and Adolescents](#)

- [Paving the Road to Good Health: Strategies for Increasing Medicaid Adolescent Well-Care Visits](#)

These guides were produced as part of a larger project to improve the EPSDT benefit NASHP is working on with CMS, under a subcontract from NORC at the University of Chicago. This project is also supporting the development of NASHP's new "[Resources to Improve Medicaid for Children and Adolescents](#)" map.

## **BHACA: Outcome-Based Evaluation**

- **BHACA Blast #19: Featured Outcome Measure – GAD-7**
  - **What is the GAD-7?**

Originally developed to diagnose generalized anxiety disorder (hence the name of the measure), authors of the tool report that the GAD-7 additionally shows good sensitivity and specificity as a screener for panic, social anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder. The GAD-7 was designed to parallel to the PHQ-9 (which focuses on depression).
  - **What does it measure?**

The GAD-7 measures the severity of anxiety, from mild to moderate to severe.
  - **For additional information:** Please visit the website of the GAD-7 and the PHQ-9: <http://www.phqscreeners.com/>
  - **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!
  - **To access a growing list of measures we are compiling, along with brief summaries,** visit [BHACA's outcomes page](#) on the NBHP website.

**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

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