



Thanks to participants and co-teachers/experts who participated in the BHACA Initiative's September 21, 2015, 6.5 hour continuing education class titled, "Billing, Collecting, and Credentialing for Behavioral Health." Especially thank you to Ben Story and Daniel Ramirez of Beacon Health Options, Mandie Eichenlaub of UnitedHealthcare, and Stephanie Ramirez of The Council on Recovery. We're pleased that event evaluations reflect that 100% of participants found the training to be "very or extremely worthwhile." Moreover, many of the participants stated that their 3rd party billing activities would change as a result of the class, including in these ways: review current credentialing process, implement a two-week follow-up after ICD-10, implement more tracking, closely monitor payer mix, stress collections best practices.

Dear BHACA Community,

BHACA Blast #46 Headlines:

This Friday! BHACA Event: please consider joining us for a peer networking group for clinicians, students, and administrators to support each other toward Primary Care and Behavioral Health Integration:

Event Title: Integrated Primary Care Behavioral Health Networking Group of Greater Houston

Date: Friday, October 2, 2015

Time: 2:30pm to 4:00pm

About and Meeting Theme: This group meets quarterly. The October 2nd meeting will focus on, "Workforce Development/Training in Integrated Primary Care."

Facilitator: This Friday's meeting will be facilitated by Katherine Bacon, Ph.D., LPC-S, NCC Assistant Professor, Graduate Counselor Education Program Project Director,

Experiential Training in Integrated Behavioral Health School of Education, Health Professions and Human Development University of Houston-Victoria
To Learn More and to RSVP: <http://www.mhahouston.org/events/517/>

BHACA Blast #46: Featured Outcome Measure – CG-CAHPS 12-month: Clinician and Group Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Survey with a 12-month reference period asks patients to report on and rate their recent experiences with clinicians and their staff, in primary care and specialty care settings. A measure developed by the [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\)](#), the CG-CAHPS has been endorsed by the [National Quality Forum](#), is included [among the Physician Quality Reporting \(PQRS\) measures](#), and is used by at least one Houston-area provider as a part of reporting quality and outcomes for the Texas 1115 Medicaid Waiver. **Please scroll down to find more information about the CG-CAHPS, in the section of this blast focused on outcome-based evaluation.**

The BHACA Team

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NBHP website – www.nbhp.org

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BHACA: Integrated Health Care (IHC)

- ***“Making Together Work” – Collaborative Systems-Change Initiative on Financing IHC and Preparing Providers for IHC*** – Mental Health America of Greater Houston has launched a collaborative systems-change initiative focused on financing integrated health care and preparing providers for integrated health care. **To learn more about the initiative and view a recording and PowerPoint from the kick-off event last month, please [click here](#).**

We are now actively forming workgroups to focus on each of the two issues. If you are interested in participating in either workgroup, you may RSVP for the initial workgroup meetings by [clicking here](#) for the provider preparation workgroup (October 2) and [clicking here](#) for the financing workgroup (October 7). A call-in option will be available for those who cannot attend in person. If you are interested in participating but cannot attend the initial meeting(s), or if you would like to learn more, please contact Alejandra Posada at aposada@mhahouston.org.

- ***Webinar – Challenges and Rewards of Integrating Behavioral Health into Primary Care***
Date & Time: Tuesday, October 13, 11:00 AM Central time
For More Information and to Register: [Click here](#)

Presenters: Charles A. Coleman, PhD, Senior Sponsor of IBM's Population Health Insights and Programs Management of IBM's Healthcare Solutions Board; Steven R. Daviss, MD, DFAPA, Chief Medical Officer at M3 Information, LLC, a DC-based mobile mental health information technology company that developed the peer-reviewed, multi-dimensional, patient-centered mental health screening tool, M3Clinician; Mark E. Lutes (Moderator), Member of the Firm and Chair of Epstein Becker Greens Board of Directors

Description:

Epstein Becker Green and EBG Advisors, as part of the Thought Leaders in Population Health Speaker Series, will host a complimentary webinar titled The Challenges and Rewards of Integrating Behavioral Health into Primary Care. This session will provide insights and strategies for optimizing behavioral health data inputs, starting with screening and assessments, incorporation of self-reported and exogenous data, identification and diagnosis of mental health problems in high-risk individuals with chronic comorbidities, and creation of coordinated care plans.

- ***Addressing Trauma in Collaborative Care – New Edition of Collaborations*** – The latest edition of the AIMS Center's online newsletter, *Collaborations*, focuses on collaborative care for individuals with a past history of trauma. As always, other information and resources are also included. To view the newsletter, please [click here](#).
- ***Blueprint to Success: The Integrated Treatment Plan – September Issue of eSolutions*** – The latest issue of the Center for Integrated Health Solutions' online newsletter, *eSolutions*, focuses on integrated treatment plans. As always, additional resources and information are also included. To read the newsletter, please [click here](#).
- ***New Toolkit on Collaborative Care for Individuals with Depression and Diabetes or Heart Disease*** – The *Neighborcare Health Compass Toolkit 2015* provides extensive information about implementing a collaborative care program for individuals with depression and chronic medical illness, particularly diabetes and heart disease. To view the toolkit, please [click here](#).

BHACA: Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System

- ***Webinar – What's Your Take on EHRs and SBIRT: Featuring Les Sperling***
Date & Time: Wednesday, October 21, 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm Central time
To Register: [Click here](#)
Description: This webinar will highlight the role of electronic health records in the implementation of SBIRT services in several primary and acute care settings in Kansas. Implementation challenges and solutions involved with integrating SBIRT into existing workflows and EHR systems will be shared. Perspectives from billing barriers to appropriate outcome data collection will be offered from the SUD and Medical Provider perspective. Learning objectives:
 - Outline of SBIRT services being implemented
 - Analyze the cost and process for adding the SBIRT component to the EHR

- Review of the challenges or barriers faced with implementing and sustaining use of the SBIRT component/ field in the EHR

Presenters: Les Sperling serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Central Kansas Foundation. The Foundation provides a full continuum of substance use prevention and treatment services in five locations throughout Kansas. He has 32 years of experience in the substance use disorder field and specializes in the integration of behavioral health services into acute and primary medical care settings.

- ***The Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT has released a draft of the 2016 Interoperability Standards Advisory*** for public comment. Read more: [click here](#).
- ***Next week (Oct. 5-9, 2015) is “National Health IT Week.”*** To learn more: [click here](#).

BHACA: Maximizing Third Party Funding Streams Revenue—Resources Related to Insurance Billing and Credentialing

- ***Are you ready for tomorrow’s switch to ICD-10...? Some resources:***
 - BHACA Blog summary/overview: <http://bhacablog.weebly.com/blog/o-to-60mph-on-icd-10-a-road-map-for-behavioral-health-clinicians>
 - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS): <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/index.html?redirect=/ICD10>
- ***Reduced payment rates affecting services for children with disabilities in Texas are scheduled to go into effect on October 1, 2015.*** “Over the next two years, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission is slated to slash about \$350 million in state and federal funds from Medicaid, which includes cuts to the Texas Acute Care Therapy Program,” (Dillard, 2015). Delayed from September 1, 2015, cuts will begin to go into effect on October 1. Many advocacy groups have raised concerns about the impact of the cuts. Read more: [click here](#).
- ***According to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS): Medicare Advantage premiums will remain stable for 2016, with enrollment at all-time high***—Quality has also improved, as “About 65 percent of Medicare Advantage enrollees are currently enrolled in plans with four or more stars for 2016, a significant increase from an estimated 17 percent of enrollees in such plans in 2009.” To read the full CMS press release: [click here](#).
- ***The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has awarded \$110 million in Affordable Care Act funding*** to 17 national, regional, or state hospital associations and health system organizations to continue efforts in reducing preventable hospital-acquired conditions and readmissions. Read more: [click here](#).

BHACA: Outcome-Based Evaluation

- ***Webinar – Why All the Excitement about Logic Models?***
Date & Time: Tuesday, October 20, 2:30 PM Central time

To Register: [Click here](#)

Presenters: Jay Blackwell, Director of the Office of Minority Health Resource Center's Capacity Building & Development; and Henry Ocampo, Senior Program Analyst, Capacity Building & Development

Description:

This webinar provides an overview of logic models and when to use them in both applications and evaluations. The webinar includes how to write specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely (SMART) objectives and how to access logic model designs. Logic model templates are provided.

- ***BHACA Blast #46: Featured Outcome Measure – CG-CAHPS 12-month: Clinician and Group Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Survey with a 12-month reference period*** asks patients to report on and rate their recent experiences with clinicians and their staff, in primary care and specialty care settings.

- **Measure standardization – what other entities support CG-CAHPS?**
 - CG-CAHPS is one of 254 measures recognized in Medicare Part B's **Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS)**. (More than the name suggests—PQRS applies to Medicare fee schedule practitioners, including behavioral health providers such as licensed clinical social workers and licensed psychologists.)
 - **The National Quality Forum** has endorsed CAHPS Clinician/Group Survey as measure number 0005 and measure number 0006.
 - **We are aware of at least one Houston-area provider using CG-CAHPS to report on outcomes of care for the 1115 Waiver.**

- **For which populations/age(s) is the CG-CAHPS appropriate?** “The survey **includes standardized questionnaires for adults and children**. The adult questionnaire can be used in both primary care and specialty care settings; the child questionnaire is designed for primary care settings, but could be adapted for specialty care. Users can also add supplemental items to customize their questionnaires.” (Source: [click here](#).)

- **How does CG-CAHPS fit into health reform: which of the six National Quality Strategy domains does the CG-CAHPS apply to?** According to the PQRS 2015 Measure List, the CG-CAHPS applies to this domain of the National Quality Strategy: “(1) Person and Caregiver-Centered Experience and Outcomes.” (The other National Quality Strategy domains are (2) Efficiency and Cost Reduction, (3) Communication and Care Coordination, (4) Effective Clinical Care, (5) Patient Safety, and (6) Community/Population Health. To read more about the National Quality Strategy: [click here](#).)

- **What languages is the CG-CAHPS available in?**
 - Spanish
 - English

- **Where can I find an instruction manual to for the CG-CAHPS?**
A comprehensive set of instructional materials that address implementing the Clinician & Group Survey, analyzing the data, and reporting the results can be found on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's website: www.cahps.ahrq.gov. For assistance in accessing these documents, please contact the CAHPS Help Line at 800-492-9261 or cahps1@westat.com.

Additional Items of General Interest:

- **New Reports from the 2014 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)** – SAMHSA has released new reports from the 2014 NSDUH.
 - Regional health barometers are now available for each of the 10 Health & Human Services regions. (Texas is in Region 6.) To download the health barometers, please [click here](#).
 - For a Data Review on Receipt of Services for Behavioral Health Problems, please [click here](#).
 - For more data and reports from the NSDUH, please see the main NSDUH webpage [here](#).

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 the United Way of Greater Houston Community Response Fund and the Rockwell Fund.