

INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH 101



What is IBH?



BH clinicians, case managers and pyschiatrist are embedded within the medical setting. Patients can make their own appointments or can be referred by any staff or the medical provider.

Patients can get BH care on the same day as they see a medical provider, or at different times. BH and medical providers are on the same team, on the same EHR and communicate regularly about shared patients.

Why do it?



Primary care is the de facto mental health system in the US. PCPs prescribe 80%

of psychotropics

Most people with BH needs *never seek help* in a mental health setting.

People prefer to see a counselor at their primary care site.

Health outcomes are better when BH conditions are treated concurrently with medical conditions.



Medical provider job satisfaction improves due to having support in helping people with behavioral health needs, knowing patients are getting the care they need and multidisciplinary comradery.



What do BH clinicians do?





BH clinicians have different experience and training, however most can *assess, diagnose* and *treat all mental health conditions, as well as:*





How many BH clinicians should we hire?





60%

of the Medicaid population have behavioral health needs. This means at least *1 BH provider* to every *2 PCPs*.



Most primary care organizations take a *few years to get up to this ratio.* The staffing plan should include operational staff to support Behavioral Health Services.





Who do we hire?







Licensed Clinical Social Workers & Associate Social Workers Licensed Psychologists & Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists BH Case Mangers & Care Coordinators Psychiatrists and Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners



How does it get paid for?



Behavioral Health Integration is sustainable, and often profitable. Behavioral health providers bill public and commercial insurances in a fee for service model, or at FQHC's, they bill the same PPS rate as physicians.





What about space?



What about space?

Behavioral Health Treatment Room

Behavioral Health treatment rooms are ideally located as close as possible to the medical exam rooms.





It is important to be purposeful about BH treatment rooms, as the environment effects health outcomes. The behavioral health treatment rooms need to have couches or soft chairs, soft lighting, a desk, and children's toys.



What is so hard about it?





Medical systems and behavioral health systems are very different cultures. It takes very purposeful planning, implementation and maintenance to integrate two cultures, ensure mutual respect of strengths and differences, and avoid BH being subsumed into medical culture.



What are the most important things to be successful?



Hiring the right BH people- those who like doing something different, working at a faster pace, can work on a team, and are strong clinicians.

Hiring enough BH clinicians to meet the need (not just a few).

Ensuring operational & administrative integration, not just clinical integration.



Hiring a *Chief Behavioral Officer*, not just clinicians who answer to a medical leader For more useful resources please visit:



www.emorrisonconsulting.com

