

Common Measures for Adult Mental Health Services: A Proposal for Widespread Implementation



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Background

- Summit Planning Group
- Links to national consumer survey development
- Transformation through the 1st Carter Center meeting
 - Separate workgroups within one Forum
 - Returning to commonality



Adult Mental Health Workgroup (AMHW): Constituencies Represented

- Federal, state and county mental health agencies (including CMHS/SAMHSA as funder)
- Private psychiatric hospital systems
- Community behavioral health centers
- Academic behavioral health treatment centers
- Managed behavioral healthcare organizations
- State mental health department offices of consumer affairs
- Consumer advocacy organizations
- Research institutions focused on performance measurement
- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services



Relationships with Other Initiatives

- Forum, including its members:
 - Other 4 Forum Workgroups
 - MHSIP
 - Modular Consumer Survey Workgroups
- Decision Support 2000+



The Need for Common Measures

- Organizational benchmarking for:
 - selection by purchasers, consumers
 - accountability
 - quality improvement
- Guidance to organizations for measure selection
- Unity of the field to enhance:
 - Public profile
 - Funding of services



Common Framework

- Domains of access, quality/appropriateness, and outcomes
- Primary data sources – consumer survey items
- Secondary data sources – administrative data



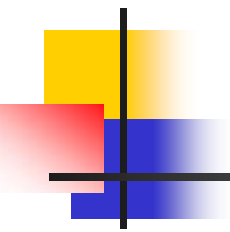
Common Terminology for Performance Measures

- Domain
- Topic
- Concern
- Indicator
- Measure
- Items or Type of Administrative Data
- Scoring and/or Other Specifications



Research Background for AMHW Consumer Survey-Based Measures

- Collaboration of MHSIP and CABHS survey development teams
- Initial item comparison studies through Harvard research team and HSRI to determine best item format, wording
- Input from multiple constituencies, including Summit Planning Group as precursor to AMHW
- Cognitive testing of selected items with consumers
- Further pilot studies to refine items



Consumer Survey-Based Measure Issues

- Modular approach
- Item Response Theory
- Phase of treatment
- Retrospective time frame to measure
- Prioritizing items for selection



AMHW Proposed Indicators Based Upon Consumer Survey Items

- Timeliness of access to treatment services
- Quality of interaction with counselors and clinicians
- Perceived improvement with symptoms and functioning
- Information provided by counselors and clinicians
- Perceived cultural sensitivity of treatment services
- Perceived overall quality of treatment services
- Perceived improvement in work functioning



AMHW Proposed Indicators Based Upon Administrative Data

- Persons with mental health problems using services at three levels of care intensity
- Treatment duration at three levels of care intensity
- Timeliness of first outpatient follow-up session after discharge from 24-hour care
- Initiation of treatment for persons with previously identified serious mental illness
- Engagement in treatment for those with serious mental illness for whom treatment was previously initiated



AMHW Outreach: Preparing for the Carter Center Meeting

- Prioritize and categorize consumer survey-based measures for recommendations to the Modular Consumer Survey Workgroup
- Refine WCG measures customized for adult mental health
- Work with other Forum Workgroups to finalize list of Carter Center meeting invitees
- Outreach to invitees with materials on proposed measures, particularly those adopted by the Modular Consumer Survey Workgroup and those based on administrative data



AMHW Consumer Measures: Selected Methods Issues

- Recall period
- Phase of treatment
- Screeners vs. "n/a"
- Item Response Theory (IRT)
 - assumptions about item construction
 - population-independent item information
- Response scales
- Risk or case-mix adjustment
- Sample size



AMHW Administrative Measures: Selected Methods Issues

- Mixture of established and evolving measures
 - Identification/penetration & Follow-Up measures well accepted and used
 - Initiation & Engagement under development
- Availability of race/ethnicity data
- Risk or case-mix adjustment
- Unit of analysis (size) limitations
- Time period examined

Initiation & Engagement: (Simplified) Draft Measurement Model for MH

INITIATION: Completion of IP Index event or next claim with specified condition(s) within [14 or 30] days after Index date

ENGAGEMENT: Two more OP claims (or one IP) with specified condition(s) within 30 days after Initiation date

