

Title: Universal Promotion of Child Behavioral Health in Primary Care

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Background

Primary care (PC) offers a unique setting for health promotion, as greater than 90% of children visit a healthcare provider each year (Child Trends Databank, 2014) and visits are frequent in the early years. Therefore, PC represents an opportunity to provide non-stigmatizing, integrated health services to underserved populations.

Aims

We present learnings from 9 months of an innovative universal PC intervention focused on positive parenting and child behavioral health (BH) for families with children 0 to 5 years during routine well child checks (WCC).

Methods

Using process and outcome data from the electronic health record (EHR), we capture information regarding the implementation and impact of BH screening and clinical services provided by a pediatric psychologist. Observational and qualitative data illustrate the impact on professional development and practice transformation.

Results

Greater than 50% of eligible patient visits included BH services, and 100% of those families agreed to participate in the integrated program. 80% of families seen in this clinic have completed the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Social-Emotional and the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire, both used as future outcome measures. We are currently obtaining EHR data regarding penetration of BH services at the patient-level. Future data will assess the program's impact on WCC adherence. Observational and qualitative feedback indicate early practice transformation and health professionals' satisfaction. Pediatric and psychology trainees, as well as medical students, participate in office-based BH care.

Conclusions

Universal BH promotion services offer the potential to transform patient- and systems-level outcomes. We are exploring costs and sources of sustaining revenue streams. Our intent is to expand this BH promotion model to other urban PC sites.

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References

Child Trends Databank. (2014). Well-child visits. Retrieved from <http://www.childtrends.org/?indicators=well-child-visits>