Title: Interprofessional Training in Integrated Behavioral Health Urban Pediatric Primary Care

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Background: Access to quality behavioral health (BH) care for children is an unmet need in the U.S. Pediatric primary care (PPC) has emerged as a major “de-facto” venue for the delivery of behavioral health (BH) services; however, primary care providers (PCPs) are typically unable to provide the necessary range of BH services due to multiple constraints. Therefore, BH providers based in PPC can help improve the quality of preventative healthcare in these settings.

Aims: The purpose of this presentation is to describe a program designed to train Child Psychology, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and General Pediatrics trainees to address the BH needs of youth, specifically children and adolescents residing in low-income, urban settings.

Methods: Training in collaborative BH services in urban PPC at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) has evolved in response to current unmet needs and national priorities. Our model includes BH trainees working with PCPs, social workers, and residents. Experiential training occurs through the provision of direct consultation with the PCP and/or family and brief follow up interventions. Interdisciplinary training includes practice-based psychosocial rounds, individual and group supervision, and a series of seminars and case conferences focusing on population based care, engagement, trauma-focused care, and consultation with schools.

Results: Trainees have attained clinical competency required to provide effective primary care BH services. Trainee feedback has been positive, and a number of program graduates have entered careers in integrated PPC. Additionally, pilot findings indicate increased patient access to behavioral health care and overall satisfaction with the model and service.

Conclusions: Given that integrated behavioral health approaches require different clinical competencies than traditional outpatient practices, it is important that interdisciplinary, experiential and didactic training experiences are available.

Acknowledgements/Funding Sources: HRSA (D40HP25714), Department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences and CHOP Care Network, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia