Three significant issues limit pediatricians’ ability to effectively treat and manage behavioral health concerns in primary care:

- Pediatricians lack training to effectively manage behavioral health issues
- The absence of behavioral health providers on the medical home team
- An absolute shortage of child and adolescent psychiatrists

In 2013, the Pediatric Physicians’ Organization at Children’s (PPOC) launched the Behavioral Health Integration Program to address these issues, and redesign how practices deliver care to include behavioral health as a central component.

Project Aims

1) Increase pediatricians ability and competence to screen, identify, and treat behavioral health issues in primary care.
2) Embed a behavioral health clinician with the medical home team.
3) Increase access to timely psychiatric consultation services.

Impact

>100 clinicians
>40 PPOC practices
Representing > 200k patients

Outcomes

Proportion of psychotherapy visits occurring within the medical home

Proportion of SSRI prescriptions written within the medical home

Next Steps

- Spread BHI program to the remaining PPOC practices
- Launch psychiatric telehealth services
- Broaden scope of psychiatric consultative services to all PPOC providers
- Expand efforts to influence policy change and payment reform at the state and national levels to be more aligned with the integrated care model

Adapted from the IHI Triple Aim Collaborative Learning Community Model Integration of Behavioral Health Providers Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Consultation Operational Support

Top Diagnoses

- Anxiety: 37%
- Adjustment Reaction: 25%
- Attention Deficit Disorder: 16%
- Depressed Mood: 10%
- Conduct Disorder: 4%
- Emotional Disturbance: 4%
- Substance Abuse: 2%
- Eating Disorder: 0%
- All Other: 3%

Background

Methods

Collaborative Learning Community Model

Integration of Behavioral Health Providers

Place of a psychologist, social worker, or mental health counselor on the medical home team

Scope of work:
- Screening and prevention
- Diagnostic evaluation
- Evidence-based treatments
- Consultation with providers
- Enhanced care coordination

Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Consultation

"Doc to Doc" – Supporting PCP Management

1:1 psychiatric consultation to PCPs

Hours: Mon – Fri, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

Operational Support

Spread BHI program to the remaining PPOC practices
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Expand efforts to influence policy change and payment reform at the state and national levels to be more aligned with the integrated care model