Integrated Care: Models, Screening & Financing

NEFTALI SERRANO, PsyD
Director of Clinical Training, Center for Excellence and Integration
Screening As A Strategy
Mindful Screening

- **In the early years of efforts to integrate care** screening was encouraged as a means of increasing awareness of behavioral health issues in a population, with the idea being that these needs would then be naturally addressed. This failed miserably and now the recommendation is not to screen unless resources for intervention are reasonably available.

- **Screening** can be thought of as serving three possible functions: patient identification, assessment of progress, tagging patients for tracking purposes.
“Screen only for that which you have a solution for.”

—Primary Care Clinicians Everywhere
Screening Tool Utility

- **Identification:**
  - Screening tools can identify patients in the population who are symptomatic or may require attention to previously unidentified issues

- **Assessment:**
  - Screening tools can assess the progress that patients are making towards resolution of their previously identified issues

- **Tagging/Tracking:**
  - Screening tool scores can be used to tag and track patients in a registry to ensure that care proceeds along evidence-based pathways
Core Concept

**Screening:** Identification of problem
- M-CHAT
- MDQ
- ACE

**Assessment:** Evaluation of a problem
- WHODAS
- WAI-S

**Tracking:** Tagging of patients
- Vanderbilt

**PHQ9**
Care Management

• Care management is a function, not a position.

• This function allows for the systematic tracking of groups of patients to improve engagement and outcomes

• Registry or patient lists and some documentation of work done for each patient

• Protocols can range from broad and loose to defined and constricting
How and Where To Document

• In some cases documentation must be duplicated based on the tracking needs and the software capabilities available, but the EHR should always be a repository of clinical data

• Minimizing documentation demands is key because this activity is by necessity high volume

• Documentation should be standardized and for key outcomes or variables, “contained”

• “Contained” variables should be relatively easy to input and extract from an EHR
Core Concepts

- **Simplicity** and **speed of administration** is essential
- Purposes should be **clearly defined** with **definable remedies**
- Tagging and tracking strategies should be integrated with **existing documentation strategies**
- **Minimize flow interruption** and maximize point of care utility
- **Don't forget the human factors** that impede the use of tools