

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Development of Field-Based Recommendations for Measurement Based Care within VA Primary Care Mental Health Integration Programs

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Measurement Based Care (MBC) Initiative

- Workgroups requested by OMHSP
 - Intention to provide a hybrid (bottom-up & top-down) implementation strategy where voice of the field is major driver of guidance
- PCMHI workgroup followed in footsteps of PTSD and BHIP groups
 - Routed through VA Center for Integrated Healthcare (CIH)
 - Volunteer group of PCMHI clinicians and leaders
- Major objectives were:
 - Recommend the specific PROMS to be used in PCMHI
 - Provide guidance around transdiagnostic PROMs (e.g., health behaviors)
 - Identify frequencies at which PROMS should be administered, discussed, and acted upon





Workgroup Process

- Weekly meetings May - August 2021
- Gathered resources on PROMs and MBC literature
 - Organized and shared materials via MS Teams group
- Sought input from the PCMHI field via two national calls and a 20-item survey (sent to listserv)
- Many rounds of editing and revision based on feedback
 - Guidance and final approval from OMHSP

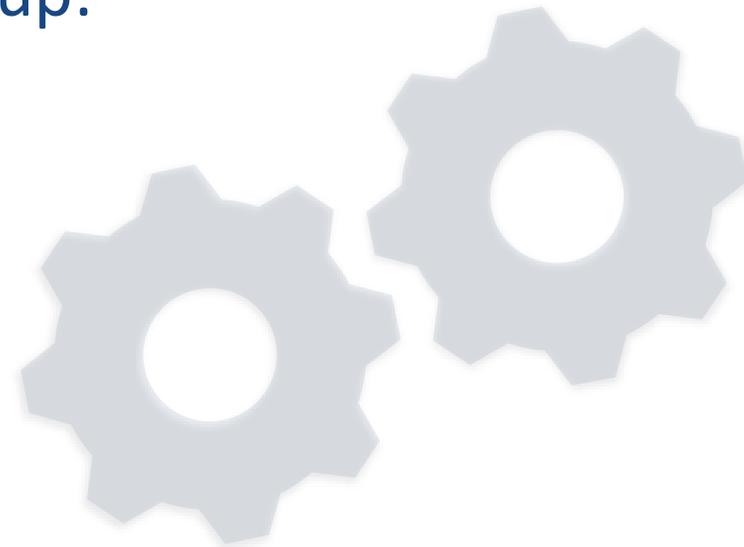
RedCap Field Survey:

- N=143
- 18 Likert-type items
- 2 open ended items
- Organized around Collect, Share, Act



Addressing Challenging Topics

- Workgroup addressed many potential controversies and came to consensus
 - Discussion informed by group members' discipline/training and local experience
- Major topics addressed by the Workgroup:
 - *MBC in PCMHI vs. General/Specialty MH*
 - *Term definitions*
 - *Cultural considerations*
 - *Time management*
 - *Virtual care considerations*
 - *Use of technology (e.g., BHL Touch)*
 - *Resources/needs for implementation support at the individual and program levels*





MBC in VA PCMHI Programs

- Synthesized information into one cohesive [document](#)
 - [Executive Summary](#) included to enhance practical application
- Document organized around Collect, Share, and Act
 - 10 major recommendations
 - Multiple considerations and resources for best practices
- Overarching messages:
 - MBC is a *dynamic process*, not merely a collection task
 - MBC is an essential component of PCMHI and an expectation of all team members
 - MBC is empirically supported, collaborative, and efficient
 - MBC is highly consistent with the Whole Health approach, helping to focus on what matters most to Veterans



Measurement Based Care Within VA Primary Care Mental Health Integration Programs

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Recommendations Compiled by a Field-Based National Workgroup:

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Summary

- Collaborative workgroup process was effective
- Development of MBC recommendations tailored specifically for PCMHI was much needed and challenging
- Guidance representative of field opinions
 - Subsequent presentation of final product on several national calls was well received
- Implementation resources will help launch more effective MBC
 - Priority for use of BHL software products for best practice
- Next Steps: Socialization of recommendations and consideration for future PCMHI policy



Questions and Comments



Additional questions or comments can be directed to:

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General Questions about MBC within VHA can be directed to: MBCInformation@va.gov