



# Provider Council

## Areas of Focus

Presented on February 8, 2019

# Introduction

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In response to recommendations submitted via the 2018 Provider Council Survey, the Maryland Department of Health collaborated with Beacon to develop special areas of focus to be a standing agenda item for 2019 meetings of Provider Council.

Areas of Focus will highlight:

- Outcome Based Standards
- Survey Results
- Research-Based Initiatives
- National Trends
- Clinical Best Practices
- And More



# Areas of Focus

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## Outcome Based Standards

- **Initiation & Engagement of Newly Diagnosed Consumers with Substance Use Disorder (SUD)**

**Note: Although these Outcome Based Standards sound similar to national HEDIS metrics, they can in fact have very different specifications and therefore should not be compared to HEDIS.**



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# Initiation & Engagement of Newly Diagnosed SUD Consumers

# Metric Definition

This metric measures the percentage of newly\* diagnosed consumers with a substance use disorder diagnosis.

**Episode** – is identified by the 1<sup>st</sup> claim with a SUD diagnosis

**Initiation of SUD Treatment** – percentage of consumers who initiate treatment through an inpatient admission, outpatient visit, intensive outpatient encounter, partial hospitalization or SUD residential treatment within 14 days of a new SUD diagnosis. (Note: This is a subsequent SUD visit after receiving a SUD diagnosis)

**Engagement of SUD Treatment** – percentage of consumers who initiated treatment and who had two or more additional SUD services (listed above) or Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) within 29 days after initiation event. (Note: These consist of two additional SUD visits after the Initiation visit)

Episode claim + Initiation claim + 2 Engagement claims = 100% completion of measure

*\*newly diagnosed is defined as a consumer having a 60-day negative SUD diagnosis history and no SUD claims for 60 days*

# Why is This Important?

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- As of 2013, an estimated 22.7 million Americans needed treatment for a problem related to drugs or alcohol but only 2.5 million people received treatment at a specialty facility. <sup>1</sup>
- Unintentional intoxication deaths (overdoses) are continuing to rise dramatically across the country as well as in Maryland. <sup>2</sup>
- Substance Use Disorders are complex disorders that can involve virtually every aspect of an individual's functioning. <sup>3</sup>
- Early identification and timely substance use treatment is shown to increase positive outcomes for substance use disorders <sup>4</sup>

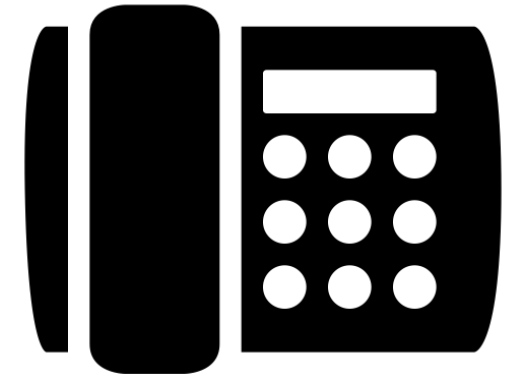
# How Providers Can Improve Maryland's Initiation and Engagement Rates

- **Screen:** Include substance use screening upon intake and throughout treatment as clinically indicated using appropriate screening tools (i.e. CAGE-AID, AUDIT or others)
- **Document:** Accurately document the diagnosis in record and on claims submissions.
- **Educate:** Provide psycho-education in a consumer friendly way regarding the dangers and effects of substance use disorders and all of the treatment options that exist for them in their community.
- **Follow up:** When a substance use disorder is identified, help schedule appropriate follow-up treatment. Try to give options to the consumer.
  - Try to schedule three follow-up appointments within the first 34 days of treatment with the first one being within 2 weeks of the new diagnosis.

(from Beacon Health Options HEDIS Tip Sheets)

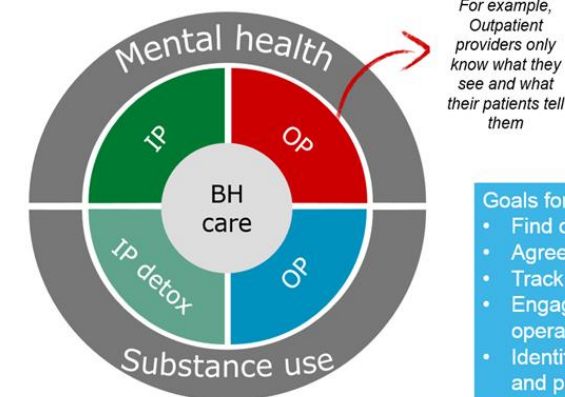
# Some Ways Beacon Is Addressing Initiation & Engagement

- Outreach telephonically and in-person to consumers with co-occurring conditions
  - Intensive Case Management (ICM)
  - Peer Specialists



- Presentations and trainings in the community
- Use of Provider Quality Program (formerly MPP) strategies to address barriers in accessing SUD treatment services

Provider Profiler data contains measures across the BH system of care





# References

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1. National Trends, National Institute on Drug Abuse. (June, 2015) Retrieved from <http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/nationwide-trends>
2. Overdose Data and Reports, 2018 Quarterly Report – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Maryland Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration. Retrieved from [https://bha.health.maryland.gov/OVERDOSE\\_PREVENTION/Pages/Data-and-Reports.aspx](https://bha.health.maryland.gov/OVERDOSE_PREVENTION/Pages/Data-and-Reports.aspx)
3. Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide (Third Edition). NIDA. Retrieved from <https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/principles-drug-addiction-treatment-research-based-guide-third-edition>
4. Surgeon General (2016). Executive Summary, The Surgeon General’s Report, Early Intervention, Treatment, and Management of Substance Use Disorders. Retrived from <https://addiction.surgeongeneral.gov/executive-summary/report/early-intervention-treatment-and-management-substance-use-disorders>

# Thank you



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