

Participation Requested: Behavioral Health Performance Measure Study

The Health Care Authority (HCA) requested Comagine Health to conduct a study that will analyze performance measure variation across multiple payers and Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs). The goal is to gain insight into why performance varies across payers and ACH region, and over time. This will help inform and target quality improvement activities across regions and payers, including measures related to high-profile care coordination needs between physical health and behavioral health providers.

We need your help! We would like to learn from behavioral health and medical providers what would help improve care delivery for Medicaid clients.

HCA provided Comagine with 12 measures to analyze, trended from 2018-2020, calculated by the Department of Social and Health Services Research and Data Analysis. These measures reflect care delivered in multiple settings: primary care, behavioral health, and other outpatient and inpatient settings. The measures are sensitive to care coordination and communication across settings, such as:

- Proportion of clients with an indication of need for mental health services who access services;
- Proportion of clients with an indication of need for substance use disorder services who access services;
- Readmission to psychiatric inpatient care within 30 days;
- Follow up after hospitalization for mental illness within 7 and 30 days; and
- Follow up after emergency department visits for mental illness and substance use disorder within 7 days.

Our ask

Comagine Health will be attending provider meetings throughout the state in April and early May. At each meeting, HCA staff will present performance measure results for your region, including measures for two social determinants of health and certain measures broken out by children and adults. Comagine Health will then administer a short survey. Your input is critical to help us understand why performance measures have changed across regions over time. We are requesting that you attend the meeting in your region and participate in this important survey. As time allows, we would invite you to also enter a dialogue with us on these trends in data.

The meeting for the Better Health Together region is part of the BHT Behavioral Health Forum on April 7, 10–11am. This item is on the agenda for 10:30–11:00. If you do not have this meeting on your calendar, please contact Sarah Bollig Dorn (sarah@betterhealthtogether.org) to receive the invitation.

HCA will be happy to share the results of the study with each region this summer after Comagine Health completes the report.