

**Washington Integrated Care Assessment (WA-ICA)
Behavioral Health Providers
Cohort 1 Results
Tuesday, April 25, 2023**

Data Collection Period: July – Aug 2022



Agenda

12:00 – 12:10	About the WA-ICA & Cohort 1 Snapshot
12:10 – 12:20	Characteristics of Cohort 1
12:20 – 12:40	Cohort 1 Results by Subdomain
12:40 – 12:45	Narrative Themes
12:45 – 1:00	Discussion

About the Integrated Care Assessment (ICA) & Henry Chung

- **About Henry Chung, MD**
 - Professor of Psychiatry at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.
 - Developed the original Continuum Based Integrated Care Frameworks from which the Washington ICA was adapted from.
- **WA-ICA** is a coordinated effort across WA State, replacing previous integration assessments (such as the MeHAF) used by Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).
- **Continuum-based model**, with 8 domains and 15 subdomains.
- **Foundational domains** are those considered core to advancing integration and can be an opportunity to focus improvement when a practice is in the preliminary stage.
- In addition to assessing a practice's current level of integration, the assessment framework serves as a road map for progress.
- For more information on the ICA framework, see [Continuum-Based Behavioral Health Integration](#) and [General Health Integration in Behavioral Health Settings](#).

Cohort 1 Snapshot

* **Foundational Domain.** Sites in preliminary stages can focus on these areas to establish a foundation for advancing integrated care.

Cohort 1 - Responses received July 11 - August 22, 2022

- 195 behavioral health sites representing 102 behavioral health organizations were invited to complete the assessment
- 126 sites responded (65% site response rate)
- Behavioral health sites are largely in the earlier stages of integration as compared to Cohort 1 primary care sites.

	Org Response Rate (responded / invited)	Site Response Rate (responded / invited)
Behavioral Health	57% (58/102 orgs)	65% (126/195 sites)

Characteristics of Cohort 1 Responses

N = 126*

*Actual number of responses used in analysis may vary to account for data quality or missing data.

SUD Representation

Nearly half of sites (47%) provide some type of SUD service.

Payor Mix

Payor mix differs significantly between Behavioral Health and Primary Care sites. Median Medicaid for Behavioral Health is double that of Primary Care (89% vs. 44%).

Medicare and commercial representation is lower at Behavioral Sites than Primary Care. Medicare median is 1% for Behavioral vs 17% for Primary Care. Commercial median is 4% for Behavioral vs 21% for Primary Care.

SDoH Screening

A quarter of sites do not use any SDoH screening tool.

'Other' (internal and EPIC-based) is the top screening tool cited by 63% of all sites

Patient Volume per Month

	Min	25% Percentile	Median	75% Percentile	Max
BH Sites - Monthly Patients	9	83	228	587	4,030

Characteristics of Cohort 1 Responses

N = 126

- **What funding sources support your integrated care efforts?**
(select all that apply):

Type	Count	% Sites (count / N)
Grants	92	73%
Fee for service billing	72	57%
Capitated PMPM rate	49	39%
Other	24	19%
Value based payment arrangements	14	11%
None	7	6%
Collaborative Care codes	3	2%

Grants support integrated care efforts for **three-quarters of Behavioral Health sites.**

Only 11% of BH sites reported value-based payments for their efforts vs. 44% of PC sites.
VBP supports 1 in 10 Behavioral Health sites, compared to half of all Primary Care sites.

Collaborative Care codes support only 2% of BH sites for integration versus 28% for PC sites.
CoCM codes support only 1 in 50 Behavioral Health sites, compared to 1 in 3 Primary Care sites.

Characteristics of Cohort 1 Responses

N = 126

- Which of the following IT and/or population health tools are in use at your clinical site? (select all that apply):

Type	Count	% Sites (count / N)
Electronic Health Records	125	99%
Health information exchanges (HIE)	52	41%
Registries	39	31%
Shared care plans	35	28%
Electronic referrals to outside services	29	23%
Closed loop referral systems with outside services	19	15%
Community information exchanges (CIE)	7	6%

Nearly all sites use an EHR system.

1 in 4 sites uses shared care plans and external electronic referrals.

Both behavioral and primary care orgs use EHRs, but the relative use of other population health tools is significantly less at behavioral orgs.

Characteristics of Cohort 1 Responses

N = 126

- **What are the top three challenges your site faces in advancing integration? (select three)**

Type	Count	% Sites (count / N)
Workforce	115	91%
Financial Support	97	77%
Technology	74	59%
Partnerships with other clinical providers	60	48%
Other	20	16%
Leadership Support	12	10%

Workforce and Financial Support are the top challenges to advancing integration. These were the top challenges for both Behavioral Health and Primary Care sites.

Behavioral Health providers reported challenges with technology at almost triple the rate of Primary Care (59% vs 22%). This is reflective of historical underinvestment in Behavioral Health technology and EHR use.



ICA Framework Results

Foundational Domains & Opportunities for Improvement

Index of ICA Framework Domains

* **Foundational Domain.** Sites in preliminary stages can focus on these areas to establish a foundation for advancing integrated care.

ICA Framework Domains

1. Screening, referral to care and follow-up.*
2. Evidence-based care for preventive interventions and common general medical conditions.
3. Ongoing care management.*
4. Self-management support adapted to culture, local environment, and life experiences of patients.*
5. Multi-disciplinary team-based care (including patients) with dedicated time to provide general health care.
6. Systematic quality improvement.
7. Linkages with community/social services that improve general health and mitigate environmental risk factors.
8. Sustainability.

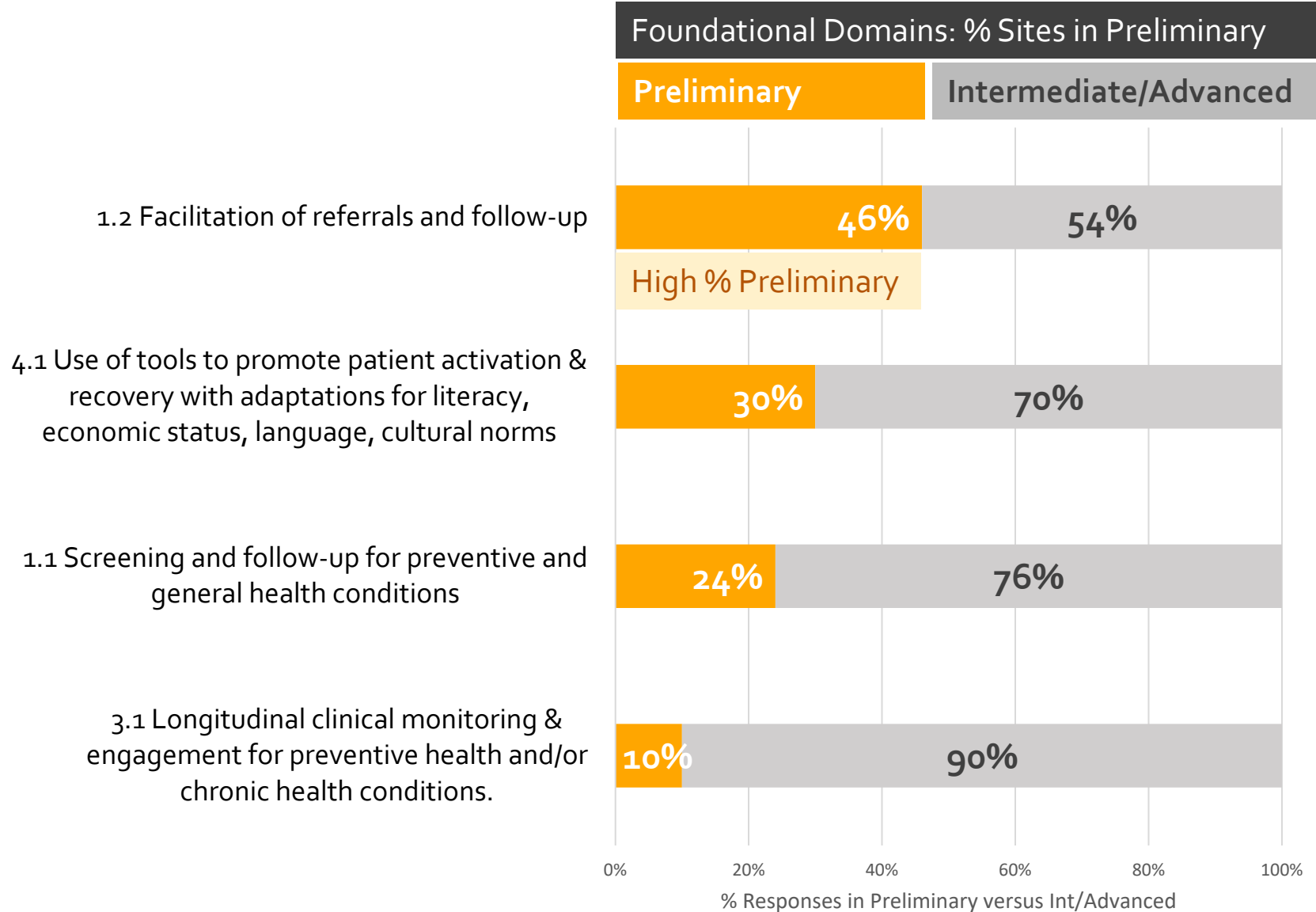
Foundational Domains* – Sites in Preliminary integration stage

N = 126

* **Foundational Domain.** Sites in preliminary stages can focus on these areas to establish a foundation for advancing integrated care.

Foundational Domains

Subdomains with % Sites in Preliminary



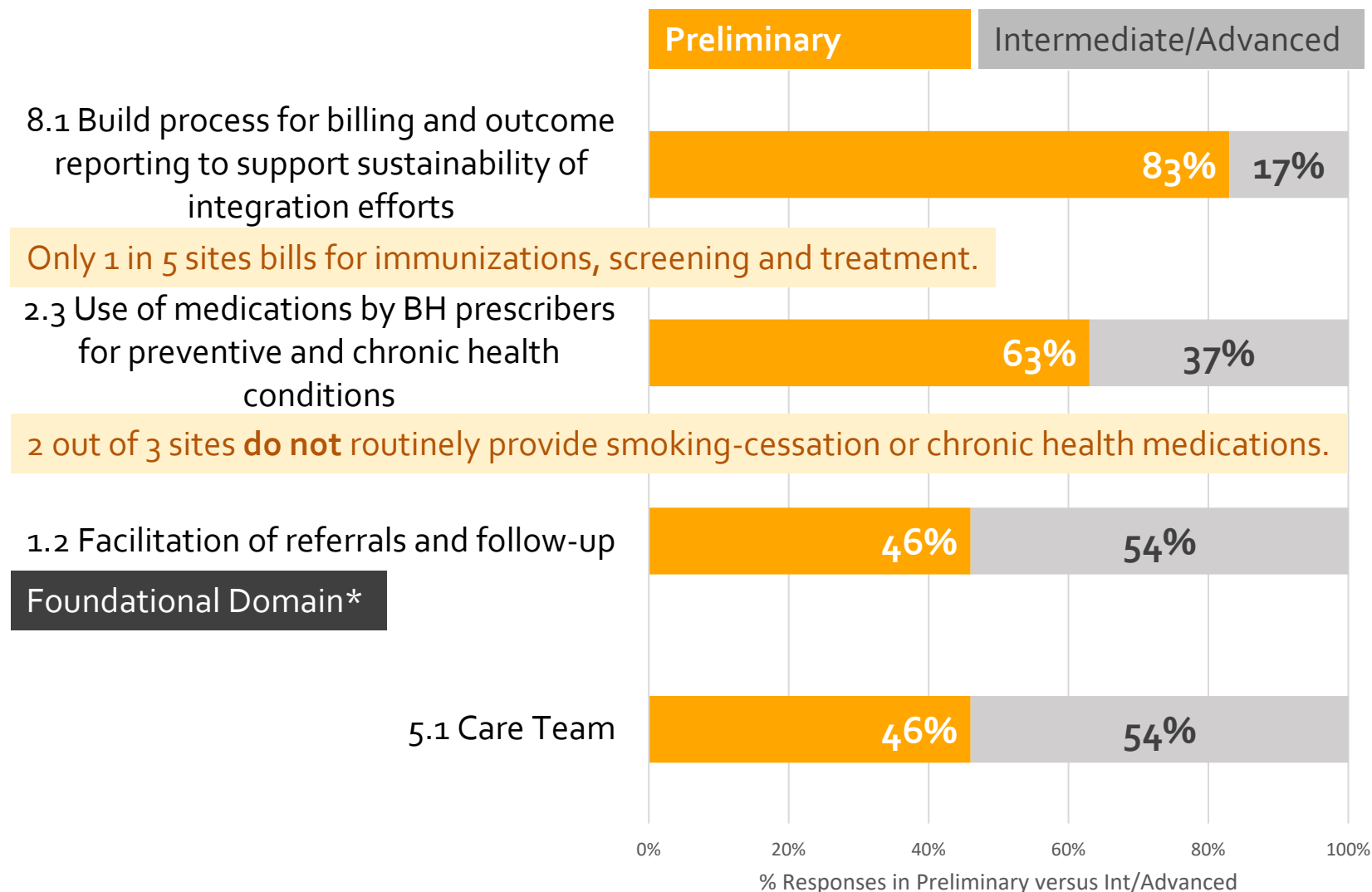
Opportunities for Improvement

Subdomains with Highest % Sites in Preliminary

Subdomains with 3 highest percentages of sites in Preliminary integration stage

N = 126

* **Foundational Domain.** Sites in preliminary stages can focus on these areas to establish a foundation for advancing integrated care.





Narrative Themes: Licensing, Reimbursement, Resources and Support

Summary of Narrative Themes

Cohort 1 Narrative Response Summary

-

N = 126

- What is working well in regard to staff/provider licensing and reimbursement structures for your integrated care efforts?

1. SUD/MH Integration
2. Capitated Contract Funding
3. Provider Relationships with ACHs and MCOs
4. Support from ACHs

- Where is there room for improvement?

1. Licensure Requirements and Timing
2. Payment Structures and Reimbursement

- What resources/support does your clinical site need to advance integration?

1. Support with EHR Technology
2. Payment Reform
3. Workforce Support
4. Shared Vision and Executive Buy-in
5. Clinical Partnerships
6. Technical Assistance for Integration

Discussion

Based on these results,

- What surprised you?
- What excited you?
- What questions does this raise?

- Upon completion of the integrated care assessment last year, did your site change or augment any integration strategies?



**For more information on the
WA – Integrated Care Assessment and for resources to
advance integrated care, visit:**

<https://waportal.org/partners/home/WA-ICA>





Appendix:

Results by ICA Framework Subdomains

(Distribution of Site Responses)

Screening

Foundational Domain

Domain

1. Screening , Referral to Care and Follow-up

Subdomain

1.1 Screening and follow-up for preventive and general health conditions

Behavioral Health

N = 126

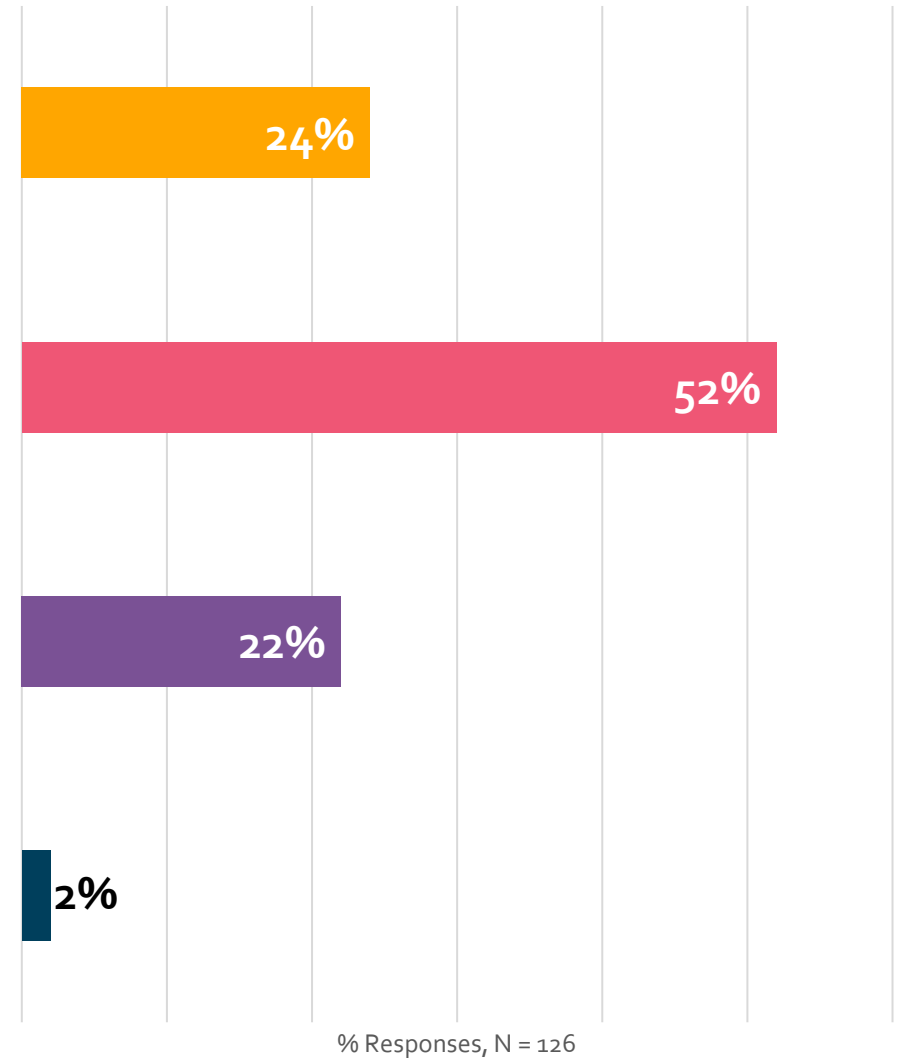
Question 11

Preliminary: Response to patient self-report of general health complaints and/or chronic illness with f/u only when prompted.

Intermediate I: Systematic screening for universal general health risk factors[iii] and proactive health education to support motivation to address risk factors.

Intermediate II: Systematic, screening and tracking of universal and relevant targeted health risk factors as well as routine f/u for general health conditions with the availability of in-person or telehealth primary care.

Advanced: Analysis of patient population to stratify by severity of medical complexity and/or high-cost utilization for proactive assessment tracking with in-person or telehealth primary care.



Domain
1. Screening , Referral to Care and Follow-up

Subdomain
1.2 Facilitation of referrals and follow-up

Behavioral Health

N = 126

Question 12

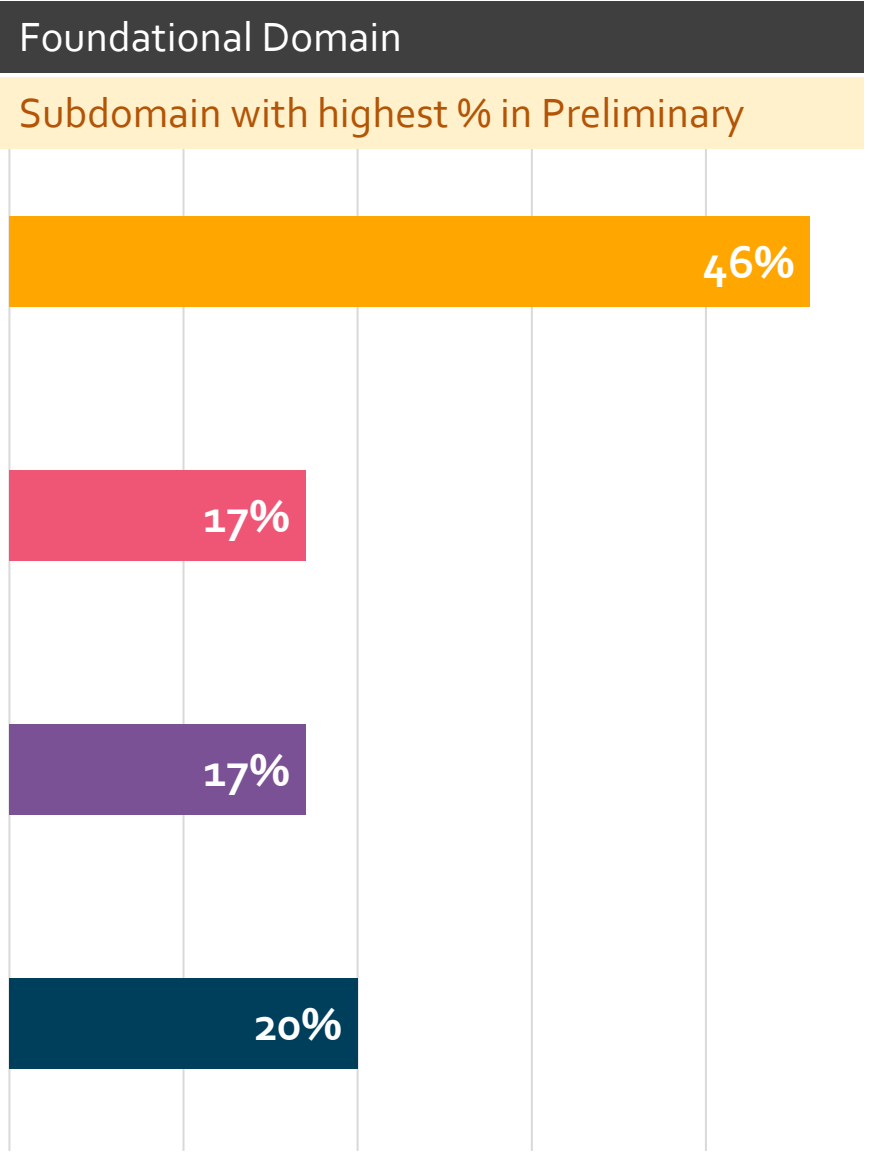
Referrals

Preliminary: Referral to external primary care provider(s) (PCP) and no/limited f/u.

Intermediate I: Written collaborative agreement with external primary care practice to facilitate referral that includes engagement and communication expectations between behavioral health and PCP.

Intermediate II: Referral to onsite, co-located PCP or availability of primary care telehealth appointments with assurance of "warm handoffs" when needed.

Advanced: Enhanced referral facilitation to onsite or closely integrated offsite PCPs, with electronic data sharing and accountability for engagement.



% Responses, N = 126

Evidence-based Guidelines for Prevention

Domain
2. Evidence based care for preventive interventions and common chronic health conditions

Subdomain
2.1 Evidence-based guidelines or treatment protocols for preventive interventions

Behavioral Health

N = 126

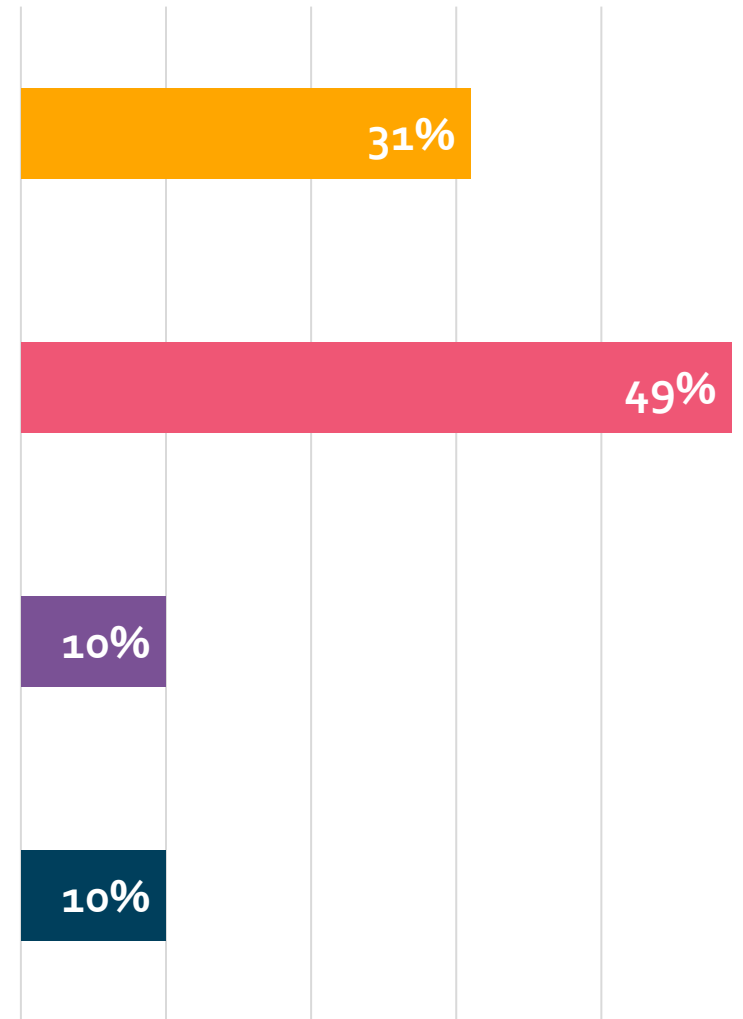
Question 13

Preliminary: Not used or minimal guidelines or protocols used for universal general health risk factor screenings care. No/minimal training for BH providers on preventive screening frequency and results.

Intermediate I: Routine use of evidence-based guidelines to engage patients on universal general health risk factor screenings with limited training for BH providers on screening frequency and result.

Intermediate II: Routine use of evidence-based guidelines for universal and targeted preventive screenings with use of standard workflows for f/u on positive results. BH staff routinely trained on screening frequency and result interpretation.

Advanced: Systematic tracking and reminder system (embedded in EHR) used to assess need for preventive screenings, workflows for f/u availability of EB and outcomes driven programs to reduce or mitigate general health risk factors (smoking, alcohol, overweight, etc.).



% Responses, N = 126

Evidence-based Guidelines for General Medical Conditions

Domain

2. Evidence based care for preventive interventions and common chronic health conditions

Subdomain

2.2 Evidence-based guidelines or treatment protocols for chronic health conditions

Behavioral Health

N = 126

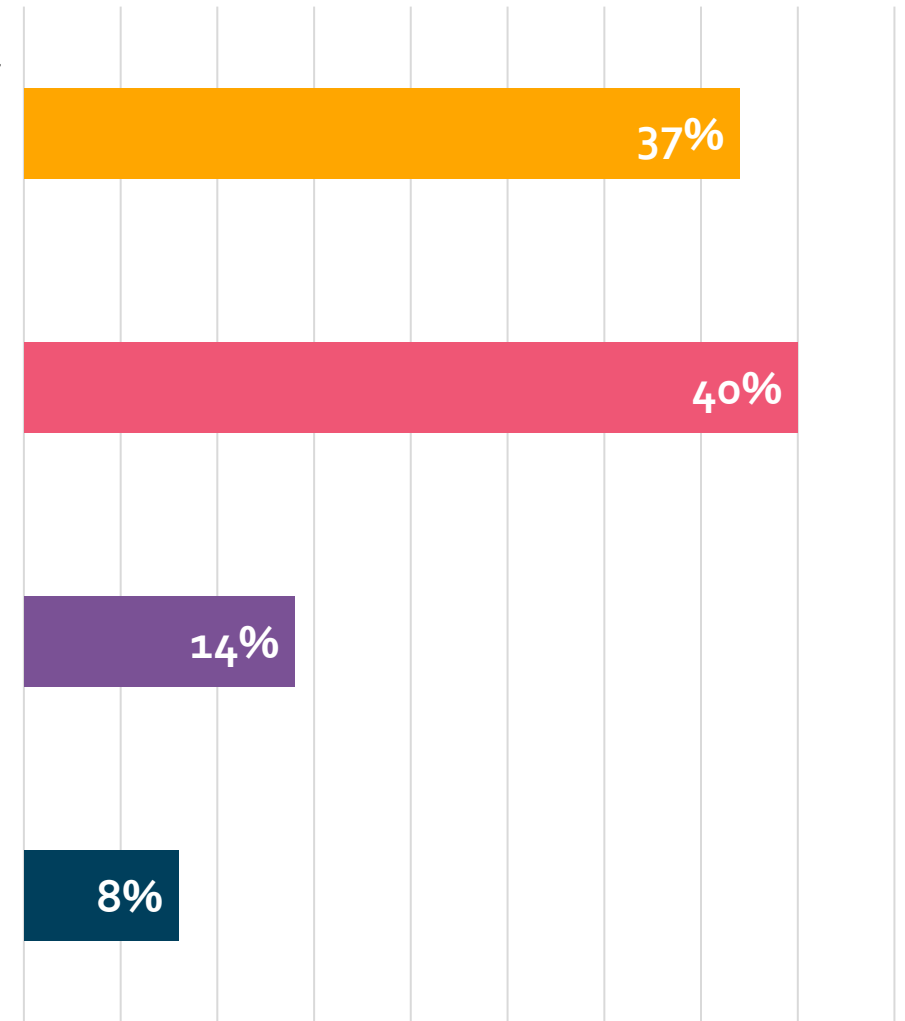
Question 14

Preliminary: Not used or with minimal guidelines or EB evidence-based workflows for improving access to care for chronic health conditions.

Intermediate I: Intermittent use of guidelines and/or evidence-based workflows of chronic health conditions with limited monitoring activities. BH staff and providers receive limited training on chronic health conditions.

Intermediate II: BH providers and/or embedded PCP routine use of evidence-based guidelines or workflows for patients with chronic health conditions, including monitoring treatment measures and linkage/navigation to medical services when appropriate. BH staff receives routine training in basics of common chronic health conditions.

Advanced: Use clinical decision-support tools (embedded in EHR) with point of service guidance on active clinical management for BH providers and/or embedded PCPs for patients with chronic health conditions.



% Responses, N = 126

Medication Management

Domain

2. Evidence based care for preventive interventions and common chronic health conditions

Subdomain

2.3 Use of medications by BH prescribers for preventive and chronic health conditions

Behavioral Health

N = 126

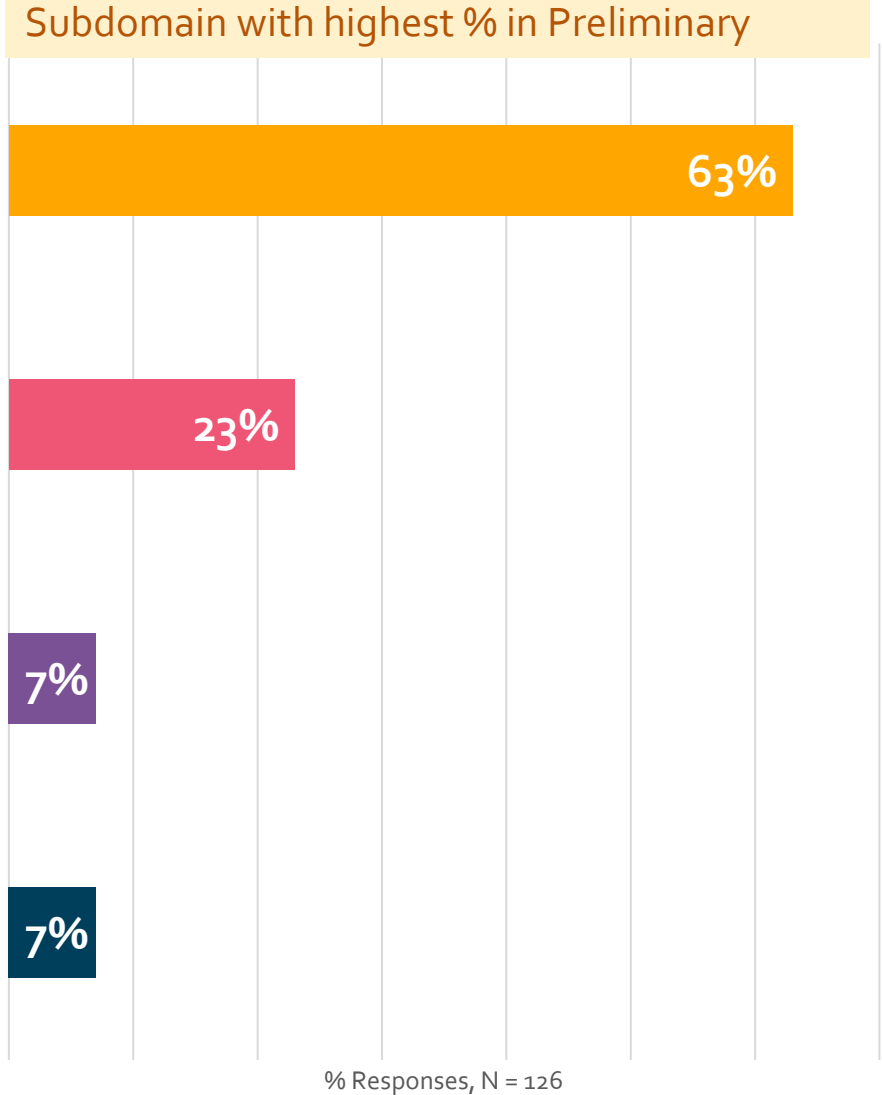
Question 15

Preliminary: None or very limited use of non-psychiatric medications by BH prescribers. Non-psychiatric medication concerns are primarily referred to primary care clinicians to manage.

Intermediate I: BH prescriber routinely prescribes nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) or other psychiatric medications for smoking reduction.

Intermediate II: BH prescriber routinely prescribes smoking cessation as previously. May occasionally make minor adjustments to medications for chronic health conditions when indicated, keeping PCP informed when doing so.

Advanced: BH prescriber can prescribe NRT as well as prescribe chronic health medications with assistance and consultation of PCP.



Trauma-informed Care

Domain
2. Evidence based care for preventive interventions and common chronic health conditions

Subdomain
2.4 Trauma-informed care

Behavioral Health

N = 126

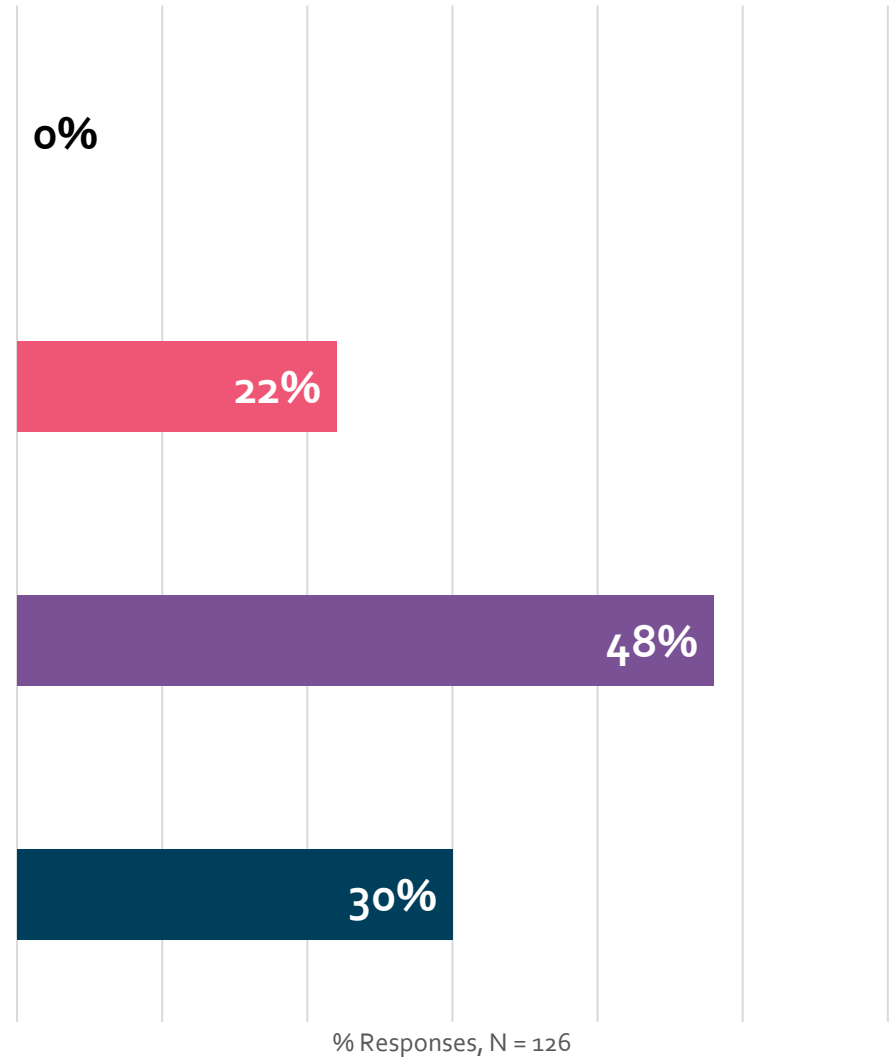
Question 16

Preliminary: BH staff have no or minimal awareness of effects of trauma on integrated health care.

Intermediate I: Limited staff education on trauma and impact on BH and general health care.

Intermediate II: Routine staff education on trauma-informed care model including strategies for managing risk of re-traumatizing. Limited use of validated screening measures for trauma when indicated.

Advanced: Adoption of trauma-informed care strategies, treatment and protocols by BH clinic for staff at all levels to promote resilience and address re-traumatizing and de-escalation procedures. Routine use of validated trauma assessment tools such as adverse childhood experiences (ACES) and PTSD checklist (PCL-C) when indicated.



Domain
3. Ongoing care management

Subdomain
3.1 Longitudinal clinical monitoring & engagement for preventive health and/or chronic health conditions.

Behavioral Health

N = 126

Question 17

Care Management

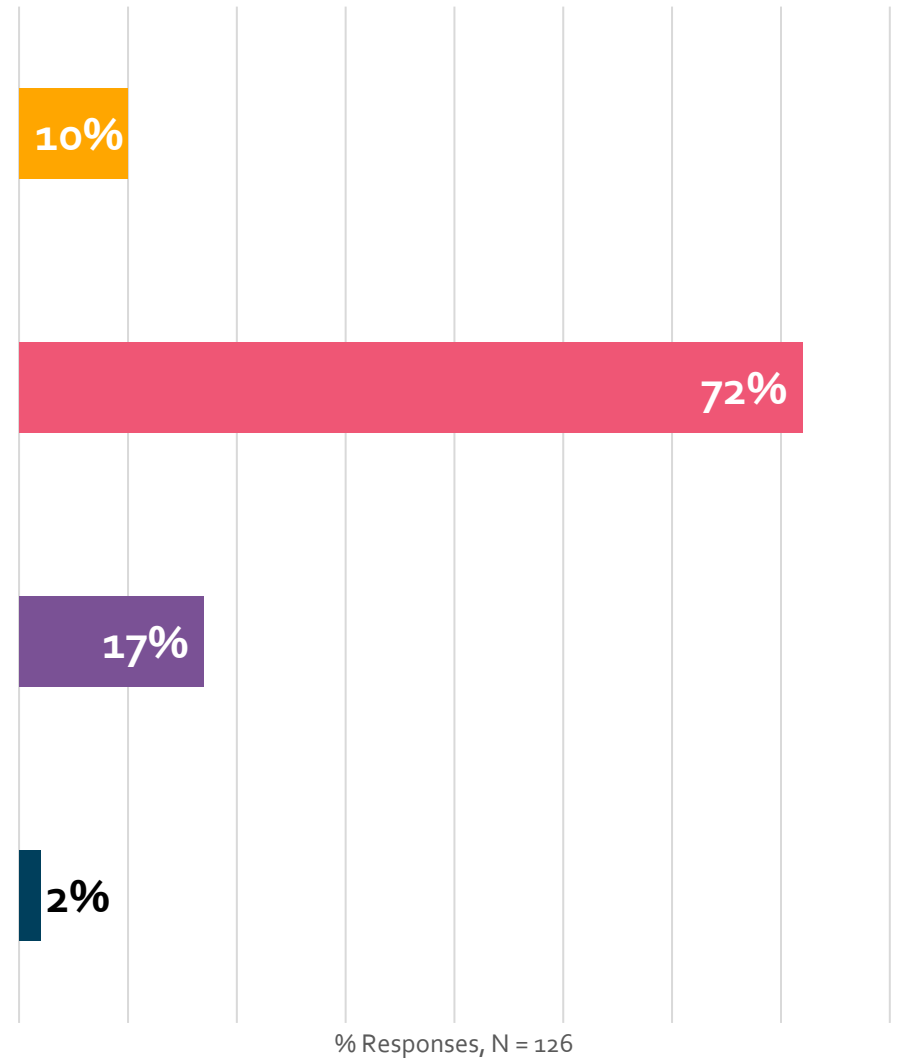
Preliminary: None or minimal follow-up of patients referred to primary and medical specialty care.

Intermediate I: Some ability to perform follow-up of general health appointments, encourage medication adherence and navigation to appointments.

Intermediate II: Routine proactive follow-up and tracking of patient medical outcomes and availability of coaching (in person or using technology application) to ensure engagement and early response.

Advanced: Use of tracking tool (e.g., excel tracker or disease registry software) to monitor treatment response and outcomes over time at individual and group level, coaching and proactive f/u with appointment reminders.

Foundational Domain



Self-management Support

Foundational Domain

Domain

4. Self-management support that is adapted to culture, socioeconomic and life experiences of patients

Subdomain

4.1 Use of tools to promote patient activation & recovery with adaptations for literacy, economic status, language, cultural norms

Behavioral Health

N = 126

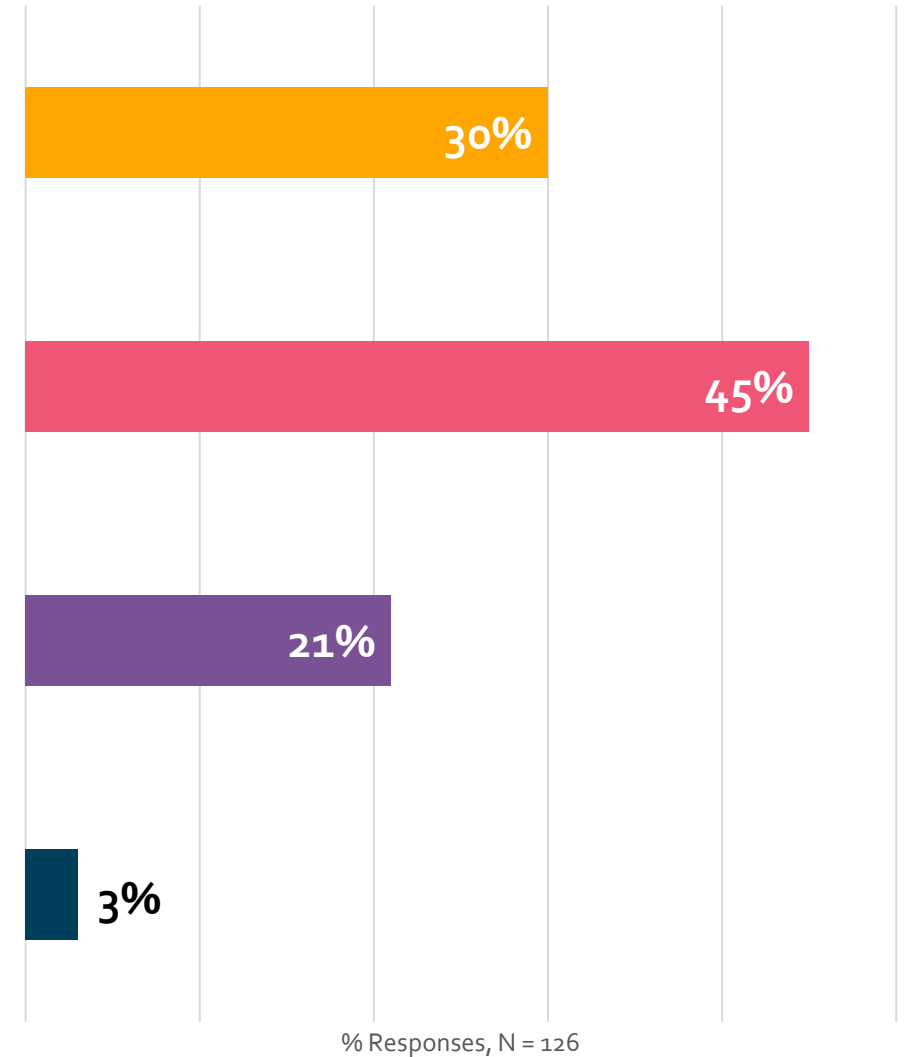
Question 18

Preliminary: None or minimal patient education on general medical conditions and universal general health risk factor screening recommendations.

Intermediate I: Some availability of patient education on universal general health risk factor screening recommendations, including materials/handouts/web-based resources, with limited focus on self-management goal-setting.

Intermediate II: Routine brief patient education delivered in person or technology application, on universal and targeted preventive screening recommendations and chronic health conditions. Treatment plans include diet and exercise, with routine use of self-management goal-setting.

Advanced: Routine patient education with practical strategies for patient activation and healthy lifestyle habits (exercise & healthy eating) delivered using group education, peer support, technology application and/or on-site or community-based exercise programs. Self-management goals outlined in treatment plans. Advanced directives discussed and documented when appropriate.



Care Team

Domain

5. Multidisciplinary team (including patients) with dedicated time to provide general health care

Subdomain

5.1 Care Team

Behavioral Health

N = 126

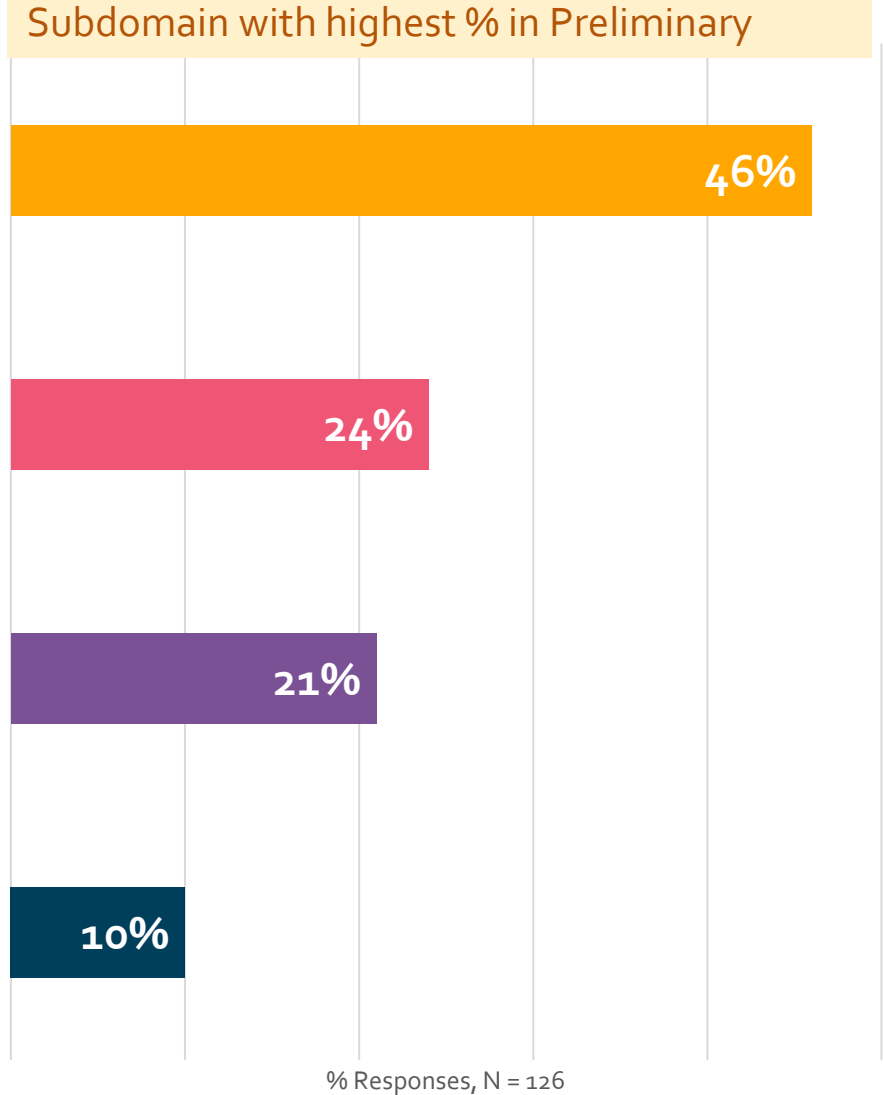
Question 19

Preliminary: BH provider(s), patient, family caregiver (if appropriate).

Intermediate I: BH provider(s), patient, nurse, family caregiver.

Intermediate II: BH provider(s), patient, nurse, peer, co-located PCP(s), (M.D., D.O., PA, NP), family caregiver.

Advanced: BH provider(s), patient, nurse, peer, PCP(s), care manager focused on general health integration, family caregiver.



Sharing Treatment Info

Domain

5. Multidisciplinary team (including patients) with dedicated time to provide general health care

Subdomain

5.2 Sharing of treatment information, case review, care plans and feedback

Behavioral Health

N = 126

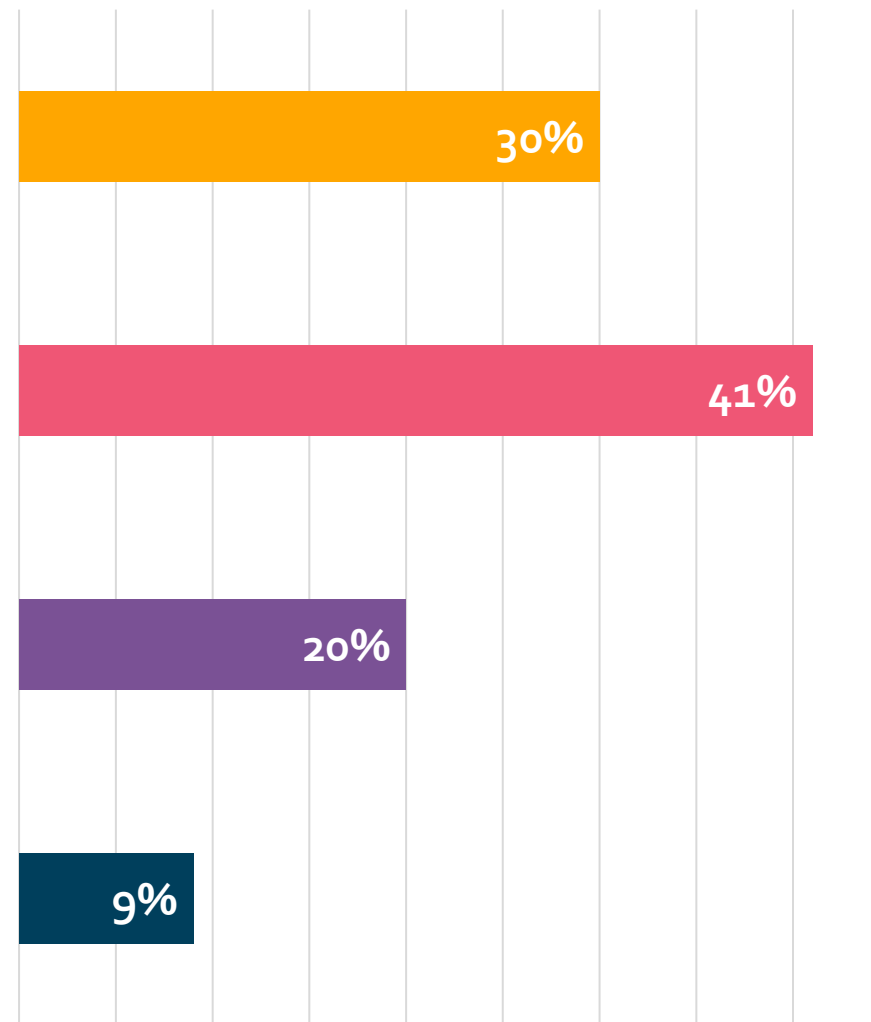
Question 20

Preliminary: No or minimal sharing of treatment information and feedback between BH and external PCP.

Intermediate I: Exchange of information (phone, fax) and routine consult retrieval from external PCP on changes of general health status, without regular chart documentation.

Intermediate II: Discussion of assessment and treatment plans in-person, virtual platform or by telephone when necessary and routine medical and BH notes visible for routine reviews.

Advanced: Regular in-person, phone, virtual or e-mail meetings to discuss complex cases and routine electronic sharing of information and care plans supported by an organizational culture of open communication channels.



% Responses, N = 126

Integrated Care Training

Domain

5. Multidisciplinary team (including patients) with dedicated time to provide general health care

Subdomain

5.3 Integrated care team training

Behavioral Health

N = 126

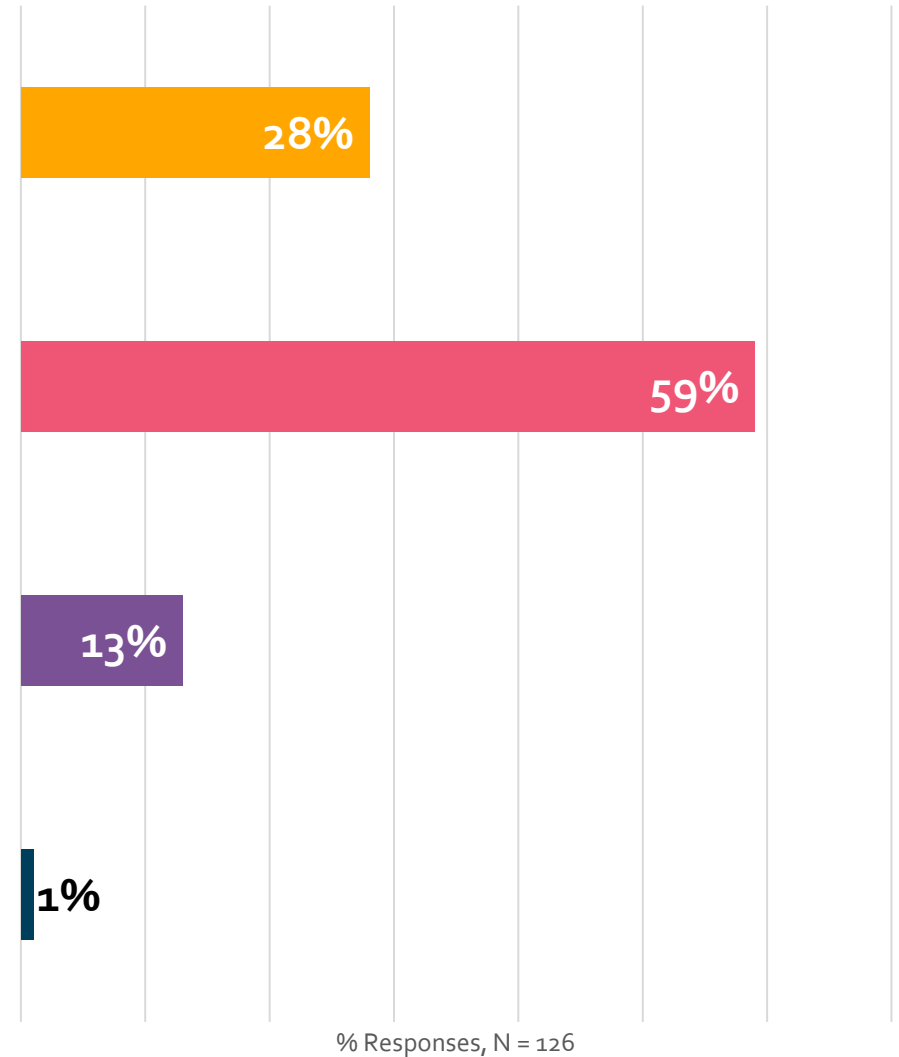
Question 21

Preliminary: None or minimal training of all staff levels on integrated care approach and incorporation of whole health concepts.

Intermediate I: Some training of all staff levels on integrated care approach and incorporation of whole health concepts.

Intermediate II: Routine training of all staff levels on integrated care approach and incorporation of whole health concepts with role accountabilities defined.

Advanced: Systematic annual training for all staff levels with learning materials that targets areas for improvement within the integrated clinic. Job descriptions that include defined responsibilities for integrated behavioral and physical health.



Quality Improvement

Domain
6. Systematic Quality Improvement (QI)

Subdomain
6.1 Use of quality metrics for general health program improvement and/or external reporting

Behavioral Health

N = 126

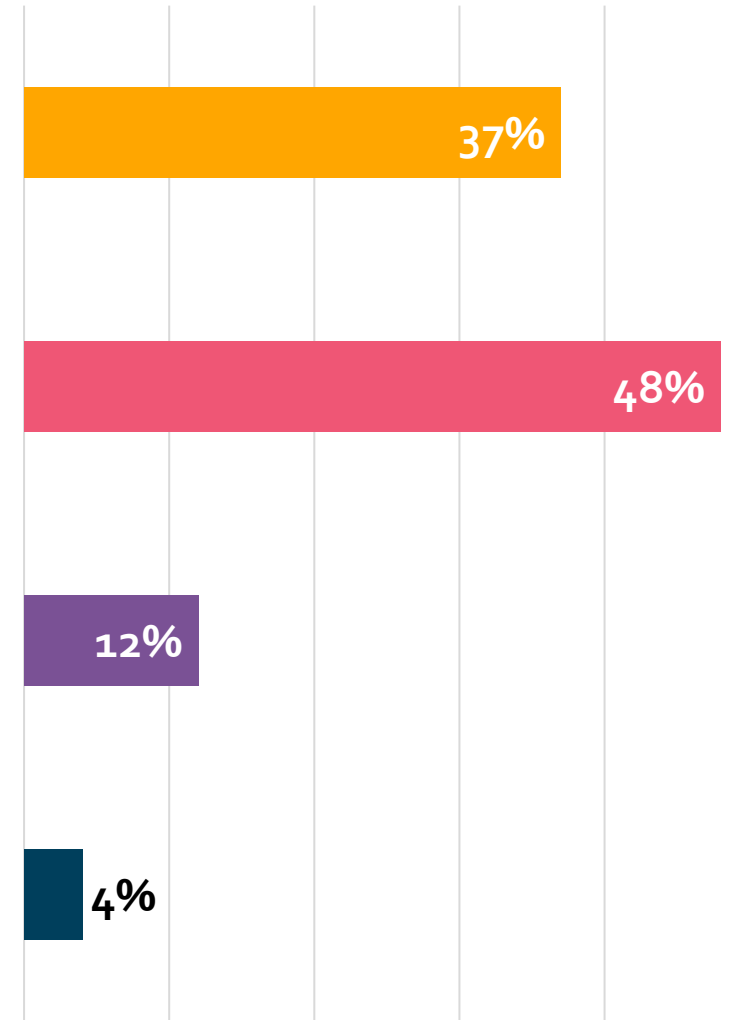
Question 22

Preliminary: None or minimal use of general health quality metrics (limited use of data, anecdotes, case series).

Intermediate I: Limited tracking of state or health plan quality metrics and some ability to track and report group level preventive care screening rates such as smoking, SUD, obesity, or HIV screening, etc.

Intermediate II: Periodic monitoring of identified outcome and general health quality metrics (e.g., BMI, smoking status, alcohol status, annual wellness visits, medications and common chronic disease metrics, primary care indicators) and ability to regularly review performance against benchmarks.

Advanced: Ongoing systematic monitoring of population level performance metrics (balanced mix of PC and BH indicators), ability to respond to findings using formal improvement strategies, and implementation of improvement projects by QI team/champion.



% Responses, N = 126

Social Service Links

Domain
7. Linkages with community/social services that improve general health and mitigate environmental risk factors

Subdomain
7.1 Linkages to housing, entitlement, other social support services

Behavioral Health

N = 126

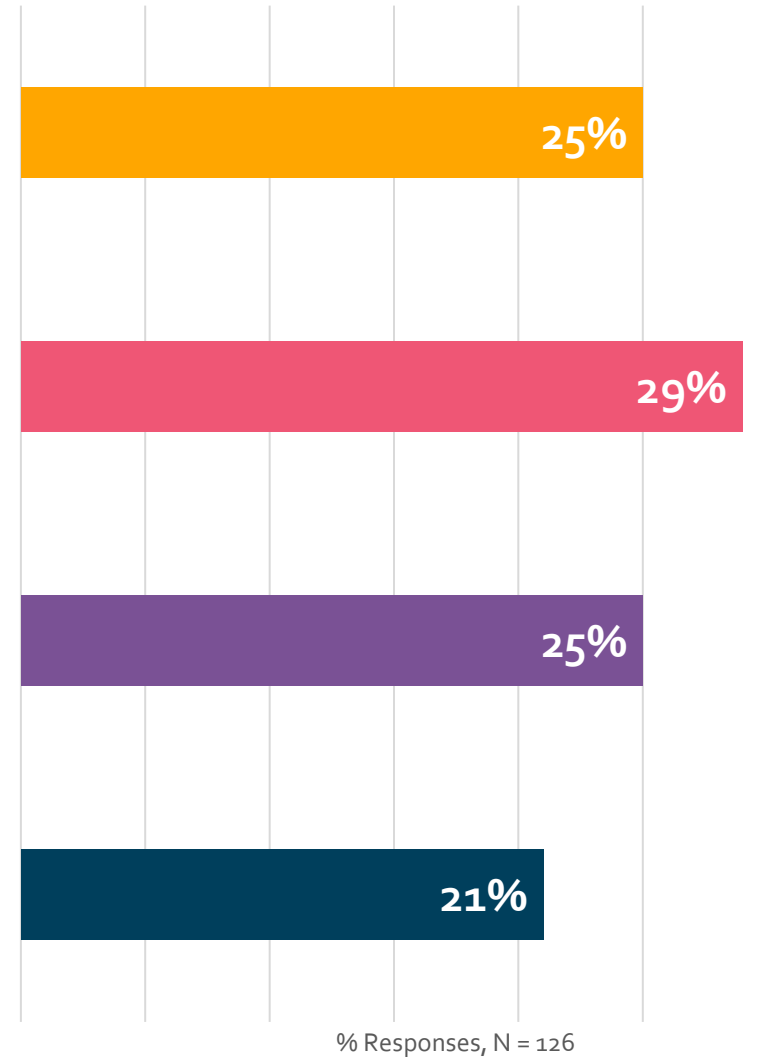
Question 23

Preliminary: No or limited/informal screening of social determinants of health (SDOH) and linkages to social service agencies, limited information exchange or follow-up.

Intermediate I: Routine SDOH screening and referrals made to social service agencies, with limited information exchange or follow-up.

Intermediate II: Routine SDOH screening, with information exchange with social service agencies, with limited capacity for follow-up.

Advanced: Detailed psychosocial assessment incorporating broad range of SDOH needs patients linked to social service organizations/resources to help improve appointment adherence (e.g., childcare, transportation tokens), healthy food sources (e.g., food pantry), with f/u to close the loop.



Billing Sustainability

Domain
8. Sustainability

Subdomain
8.1 Build process for billing and outcome reporting to support sustainability of integration efforts

Behavioral Health

N = 126

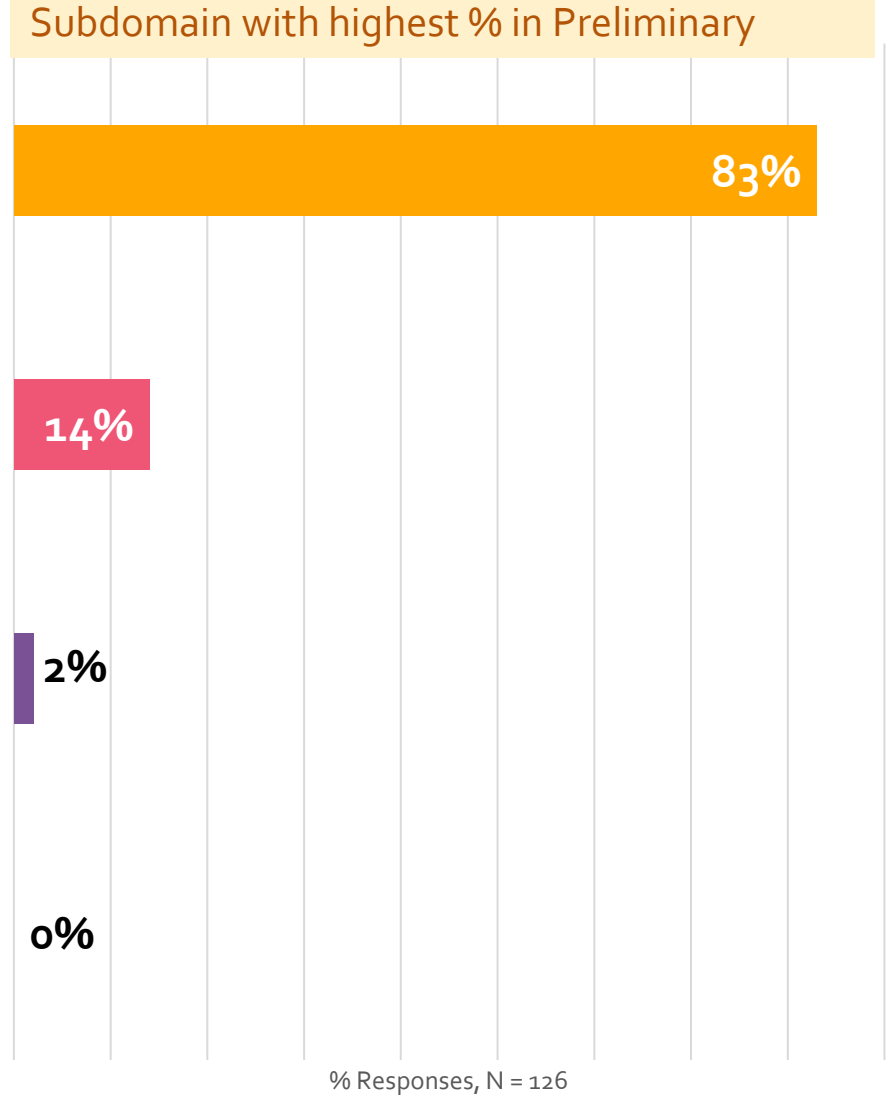
Question 24

Preliminary: No or minimal attempts to bill for immunizations, screening and treatment. Services supported primarily by grants or other non-reimbursable sources.

Intermediate I: Billing for screening and treatment services (e.g., HbA1c, preventive care, blood pressure monitoring) under fee-for-services with process in place for tracking reimbursements for general health care services.

Intermediate II: Fee-for-service billing as well as revenue from quality incentives related to physical health (e.g., diabetes and CV monitoring, tobacco screening). Able to bill for both primary care services and BH services.

Advanced: Receipt of value-based payments (shared savings) that reference achievement of BH and general health outcomes. Revenue helps support integrated physical health services and workforce.



Regulatory/Licensure

Domain
8. Sustainability

Subdomain
8.2 Build process for expanding regulatory and/or licensure opportunities

Behavioral Health

N = 126

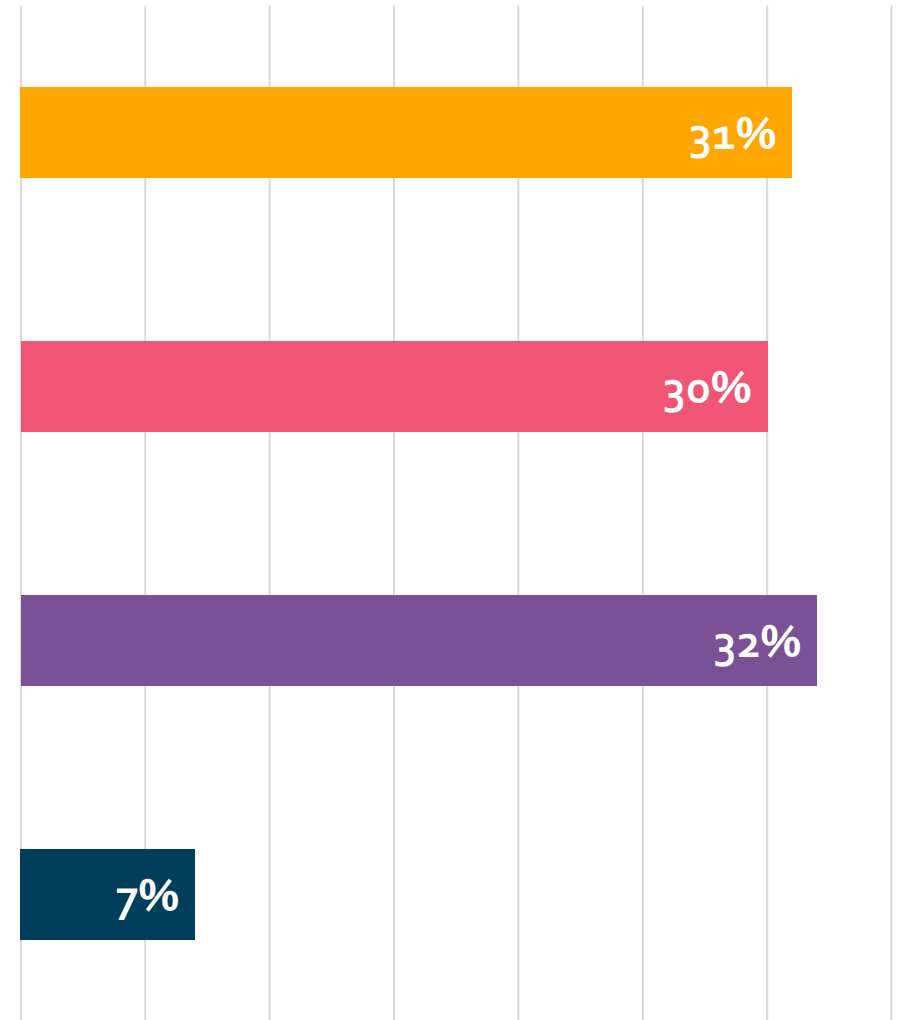
Question 25

Preliminary: No primary care arrangements that offer physical health services through linkage or partnership.

Intermediate I: Informal primary care arrangements that incorporate the basic array (e.g. appointment availability, feedback on engagement, report on required blood work) of desired physical health services.

Intermediate II: Consistent availability of primary care access, internal or external, with telehealth if appropriate that incorporate patient centered home services.

Advanced: Maintain appropriate dual licensure (WAC chapter 246-320 & RCW 70.41 and RCW 71.24 & WAC 246-341) for integrated physical and behavioral health services in a shared services setting and regularly assess the need for administrative or clinical updates as licensure requirements evolve.



% Responses, N = 126