



National Assembly
ON SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CARE

Beta Test of a CQI Tool for SBHCs

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HEALTH CARE IN SCHOOLS

Funding Source: US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Primary Health Care and George Washington University, Center for Health and Health Care in Schools

Objectives

To describe use, validity and reliability of a CQI tool developed to assess quality of clinical services in SBHCs.

Study Design of Beta Test

- Selected 20 sites from larger group of volunteers
- Spread among the age groups served by SBHCs
- Geographic diversity
- Computer, Internet access, MIS system, scheduled chart reviews
- Sites: CT, NY, GA, IL, TX, CA, OR, AZ, TN, IN, MI, AL, CO, NM

Beta Test Sites (N=15)

- 80% in urban areas
- 100% open for > 2 years
- 73.4% school enrollment > 1,000
- 86.6% primary care staff > 30 hrs/week
- 66.6% mental health staff > 30 hrs/week
- 53.3% report that 26-50% students use SBHC as PCP
- 13.3% had primary care staff (NP, PA, MD) 8-30 hrs/week

Additional Findings

- Sites reported:
- CQI tool easy to use
 - Process was rated moderately to highly useful
 - Time spent not excessive

Implications

- Assessment of the quality of clinical care in SBHCs needs to consider the unique opportunities offered by this model of primary care as well as accountability to generally recognized standards of care.
- The SBHC field is motivated and interested to examine the quality of the clinical services. This support and the manageable size of the programs, make this an excellent environment for developing and implementing a program to assess and improve clinical services.

The SBHC CQI Tool - Characteristics

- Six sentinel conditions per age group
- References for each condition
- Resources necessary to provide quality care for each condition
- Markers of care
- Measurement of markers (scale 1-5, with threshold at 3)

CQI Sentinel Conditions

- Elementary School**
- Annual risk assessment & biennial physical exam, chronic asthma, incomplete immunizations, risk for unintentional injuries, poor school performance, and mental health.
- Middle School**
- Annual risk assessment & biennial physical exam, tobacco use, risk of pregnancy, poor school performance, parent child conflict and mental health
- High School**
- Annual risk assessment & biennial physical exam, alcohol use, risk of personal violence, risk of STI, poor school performance, and mental health

Results

- 17 sites completed data entry: 7 elementary, 4 middle, 6 high school
- 1,563 records included: 627 elementary, 281 middle, and 655 high school
- Gender: 56.6% female and 43.4% male

Chart Audits

- Beta test chart audits done on site visits to 4 SBHCs corroborated the data entered on the web.
- The beta test revealed points of confusion and inaccuracy, e.g. what constitutes a complete physical exam.

Conclusions

- Tool is understandable and a good organizer of quality measurements.
- Staff in SBHCs report that tool is easy to use, time efficient and useful.
- Tool has informed programs about potential problem areas in their practice.
- The beta test revealed that established programs with annual risk assessment forms and data collection systems performed better and had an easier time selecting charts and entering data.

Mean Scores- Elementary Schools

Condition	Mean	Range of Scores
RA & PE (n=7)	2.71	1-4
Asthma (n=7)	3.57	1-5
Immunization (n=7)	3.71	1-5
Injury (n=4)	4.0	3-5
School (n=7)	2.33	2-3
ADHD (n=4)	4.43	3-5
Abuse (n=3)	2.75	2-3

Mean Scores - Middle Schools

Condition	Mean	Range of Scores
RA & PE (n=4)	3.25	1-5
Tobacco(n=4)	3.75	3-5
Pregnancy (n=4)	2.75	1-5
School (n=4)	2.75	2-4
Parent-Child (n=4)	4.00	1-5
ADHD (n=4)	3.50	1-5
Depression (n=4)	3.25	3-4

Mean Scores - High Schools

Condition	Mean	Range of Scores
RA & PE (n=6)	3.33	1-5
Alcohol (n=6)	4.50	2-5
Violence (n=6)	2.67	2-3
STI (n=6)	2.67	2-4
School (n=6)	3.17	2-4
ADHD (n=0)	0*	0*
Depression (n=6)	3.17	3-4

Principal Findings - Elementary Schools

- At or above threshold for asthma, immunization, injury prevention, and ADHD.
- Below threshold for annual risk assessment and biennial physical examination, school performance and child abuse.

Principal Findings - Middle Schools

- Annual risk assessment and biennial physical examination, tobacco use, parent child conflict, ADHD and depression were at or above threshold
- Pregnancy and school performance were below threshold

Principal Findings - High Schools

- Annual risk assessment and biennial physical examination, alcohol, school performance, and depression were at or above threshold.
- Violence and STI were below.
- *No data was reported for ADHD.