

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Successful Implementation of Integrated Behavioral Health

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Introduction: The Colorado State Innovation Model (SIM) initiative aimed to support primary care practices in implementing behavioral health integration and other aspects of advanced primary care. This project evaluated implementation of behavioral health integration and the Building Blocks of High Performing Primary Care in primary care practices.

Methods: A total of 334 practices participated in SIM in 3 cohorts for 1 year (cohort 3) or 2 years (cohorts 1 and 2). Practice transformation support for implementation of advanced primary care and behavioral health integration was provided. Measures included 1) Comprehensive Primary Care Practice Monitor, completed at baseline, 12, and 24 months to assess implementation of the building blocks of primary care and behavioral integration, and 2) Behavioral health clinical quality measures, reported quarterly.

Results: Practices improved on implementation of all building blocks, including leadership, data driven improvement, empanelment, team-based care, patient-team partnerships, population management, continuity of care access to care, care coordination, resource utilization, behavioral health integration, and general behavioral health improvement (all $P < .0001$). Onsite behavioral health integration was implemented by 78% of practices by the end of the intervention. Practices improved on depression screening and monitoring ($P < .0001$) and maternal depression screening ($P < .001$). Implementation of several building blocks mediated improvement in depression screening and monitoring and maternal depression screening ($P < .05$).

Discussion: Practices in the SIM initiative successfully implemented behavioral health integration and the building blocks of high performing primary care, yielding improved behavioral clinical quality measures. Implementation of the building blocks mediated improvements in clinical quality measures. (J Am Board Fam Med 2025;38:107–118.)

Keywords: Behavioral Medicine, Colorado, Evaluation Studies, Family Medicine, Integrated Health Care Systems, Medical Home, Mental Health, Organizational Change, Primary Health Care, Quality Improvement

Introduction

Behavioral health integration in primary care settings has been shown to improve outcomes and decrease costs associated with patients who have a

behavioral health condition or a chronic medical condition with behavioral health contributing factors.^{1,2} Systematic reviews have demonstrated the effectiveness of integrating behavioral health service delivery into the primary care setting.^{3–5} Collaborative care models for depression involving management in primary care practices with regular consultation from a psychiatrist have been shown in multiple projects to be effective.^{6–9} Behavioral integration in primary care practices has been put forth as a model for improving care and reducing costs by health policy makers and as part of national demonstration projects.^{10,11} However, implementation of new evidence-based interventions and models including behavioral health integration has been challenging for primary care practices.^{12,13} Practice

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facilitation has been shown to be effective in assisting practices with implementing new interventions and care models.^{14–19}

In 2015 Colorado was awarded a cooperative agreement by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) as part of the State Innovation Model (SIM) initiative.²⁰ CMMI's SIM program required states to develop and test innovative models for transforming health care payment and delivery systems in moving value-based payment systems forward. Colorado focused specifically on supporting primary care practices in integrating behavioral and physical health and to prepare for alternative payment models. Colorado SIM's overarching goal was to improve the health of Coloradans by expanding access to integrated primary care and behavioral health services in coordinated community systems with value-based payment structures. Integrated behavioral health was defined as “the care that results from a practice team of primary care and behavioral health clinicians, working together with patients and families, using a systematic and cost-effective approach to provide patient-centered care for a defined population. This care may address mental health, substance abuse conditions, health behaviors (including their contribution to chronic medical illnesses), life stressors and crises, stress-related physical symptoms, and ineffective patterns of health care utilization.”²¹ Behavioral integration models were seen on a continuum from coordination of care, to colocated behavioral and primary care, to full integrated, team-based care.²² The goal for the Colorado SIM project was to move practices along the behavioral integration continuum, but with recognition that not all practices would have the resources or circumstances to achieve a fully integrated model.

The Colorado Multi-Payer Collaborative and project leaders chose to use the Bodenheimer Building Blocks of High Performing Primary Care (building blocks) as a framework for assisting practices through practice facilitation and other supports in preparing for new alternative payment models in the project.²³ The building block framework draws concepts from the patient-centered medical home, the chronic care model, Starfield's 4 pillars of primary care, and other models of advanced primary care to delineate essential functions of high performing primary care in a tiered approach that provides guidance to practice regarding the sequencing of

implementation of these functions. For this project, the building blocks were modified slightly to include the focus on behavioral health integration.

There were multiple elements involved in Colorado SIM, including efforts to build the health information technology infrastructure, pilot primary care integration into community mental health centers, and promote population health improvement across multiple sectors. The Colorado SIM final report provides a broader, detailed description of the goals and activities of the initiative, and the final process evaluation report details results from the program-wide evaluation, including practice outcomes broken out by practice cohorts, not reporting results across all practices.^{24,25} This analysis focuses on the impact across all practices of the efforts to support primary care practices in implementing integrated behavioral health as part of a model of advanced primary care on practice progression along the integration continuum and clinical quality measures.

Methods

Design

Intervention

The Bodenheimer 10 Building Blocks of High Performing Primary Care describes steps for practices to implement the concepts of the patient centered medical home and other advanced primary care models.²³ This framework, modified to include a stronger focus on integrated behavioral health, was chosen by project stakeholders to establish milestones for practices to accomplish during the project and beyond. The practice support intervention was designed and overseen by the Colorado Governor's Office, the Practice Innovation Program at the University of Colorado, the Colorado Multi-Payer Collaborative, and multiple other stakeholders and included:

- Practice facilitators provided assistance to practices in implementing the milestones, with monthly in-person meetings with a multidisciplinary improvement team at the practice and intermittent email and/or phone communications. The practice facilitators were trained professionals from various backgrounds who worked for various “practice transformation organizations” that provide practice transformation support to various groups of practices across Colorado. The practice facilitators were provided with additional training on advanced practice facilitation and

supporting behavioral integration, and their performance and practice advancement were closely monitored through a quality assurance process. An extensive implementation guide was provided to guide the training and assist the practices and practice facilitators in their work.

- Clinical health information technology support assisted practices for clinical quality measure reporting through their electronic health records and in using their data for population management.
- Collaborative learning sessions, bi-annual meetings of clinicians and staff members from the practices, were provided for collaborative learning.
- “Achievement payments” of up to \$13,000 were provided to practices based on their level of implementation of the building blocks.
- Small competitive grants of up to \$40,000 were given to a limited number of practices to support implementation of integrated care.
- Advanced payments to support integrated care that varied across the different health plans were also provided to practices. We were unable to track the amount or the specific framing of these payments due to anti-trust regulations.

Support was rolled out in cohorts of practices, with cohorts 1 and 2 receiving 2 years of support and cohort 3 receiving 1 year.

The project was reviewed by the Colorado Multiple Institutional Review Board (protocol #19 to 0598) and judged to be not human subjects research but a program evaluation of a quality improvement initiative.

Measures

Data collection as part of this project occurred from late 2016 through mid-2019. Each practice completed an application to participate in the project, which included extensive practice demographics, level of behavioral integration, participation in previous practice transformation efforts, and patient-centered medical home recognition.

The Comprehensive Primary Care Practice Monitor (the Monitor) is a validated instrument used in previous projects to assess implementation of elements of the patient-centered medical home (PCMH).²⁶ Items from the earlier version were modified and new items developed by a team of physicians, researchers, and practice facilitators to reflect key activities and milestones within the Bodenheimer building blocks framework. For this project, building block 10 of Bodenheimer’s original building blocks, dealing with a “Template of the Future,” was modified to focus on resource

utilization, and 2 additional building blocks were added to focus on general behavioral health improvement and behavioral health integration specifically. The Monitor tool is included as Appendix 1. The Monitor was completed at baseline and yearly by each practice improvement team, facilitated by the practice facilitator, to help practices in their self-assessment and planning in implementing the milestones, and to evaluate their progress. Each item was scored from 0 to 4 with zero indicating no activity implementation and 4 indicating complete implementation. The scores were then summed and converted to a scale of 0 to 100 for each building block.

The Integrated Practice Assessment Tool (IPAT) is a brief survey designed to assess the level of behavioral health integration in primary care practices as defined by the Standard Framework for Levels of Integrated Care.^{27,28} The IPAT defines a spectrum of increasing levels of collaboration and integration from level 1 (minimal collaboration) up to level 6 (full collaboration in a fully integrated practice). This self-assessment, 8-item instrument was administered to practices at baseline and yearly.

Practice-level clinical quality measures were collected quarterly through reports generated by electronic health records across the period of practice participation. Each measure was based on patients seen in the practice within the preceding 12 months. Quality assurance strategies were imposed for all measures, and any data points that deviated from expected values were verified and corrected, if necessary, by the data manager and the clinical health information technology advisor. The primary mental health measures were

- Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan (NQF 0418): Percentage of patients aged 12 years and older screened for clinical depression using an age-appropriate standardized depression screening tool AND if positive, a follow-up plan is documented on the date of the positive screen.
- Maternal Depression Screening (NQF 1401): The percentage of children who turned 6 months of age during the measurement year who had a maternal depression screening for the mother at least once between 0 and 6 months of life.

Data Analysis

Initially, descriptive statistics were computed for baseline practice characteristics, testing for differences between cohorts. To assess improvement in practice implementation of the building blocks and clinical

quality measures over time, we employed general linear mixed effects models (practice random effect) that utilized all available data, assuming ignorable missingness. Outcomes for these analyses were building block scores over time and clinical quality measures over time. Practice-level covariates included cohort, organization type, specialty type, rural location, and practice size. In addition, we performed mediator analyses²⁹ to explore whether *change* in implementation of the building blocks was associated with improvement in clinical quality measures. In general, we hypothesized that practices that had greater improvement in the building blocks would have greater improvement in clinical quality measures. Outcomes for mediator analyses were change scores (from baseline) for some key clinical quality measures (maternal depression screening, depression screening and treatment). Baseline values of the clinical quality measure, baseline scores for building blocks, 12 month

change scores for building blocks (tested 1 at a time), and relevant covariates (cohort, rural/urban location, organization type, specialty type, and practice size) were included in the models. Hypothesis tests were 2-sided with $\alpha = 0.05$ or *P* values reported. All statistical analyses were performed using SAS version 9.4 (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, N.C.).

Results

Practice Engagement

The CONSORT diagram can be found in Figure 1. 448 practices initially applied for participation. A selection committee screened to make sure the applicants were actually delivering primary care and then rated practices according to their demographic characteristics (to assure a diversity of sites across the state) and their alignment with project goals, with limited capacity for practices during the first 2

Figure 1. CONSORT diagram. *Abbreviations:* PPA, Practice Participation Agreement; MOU, Memorandum of Understanding.

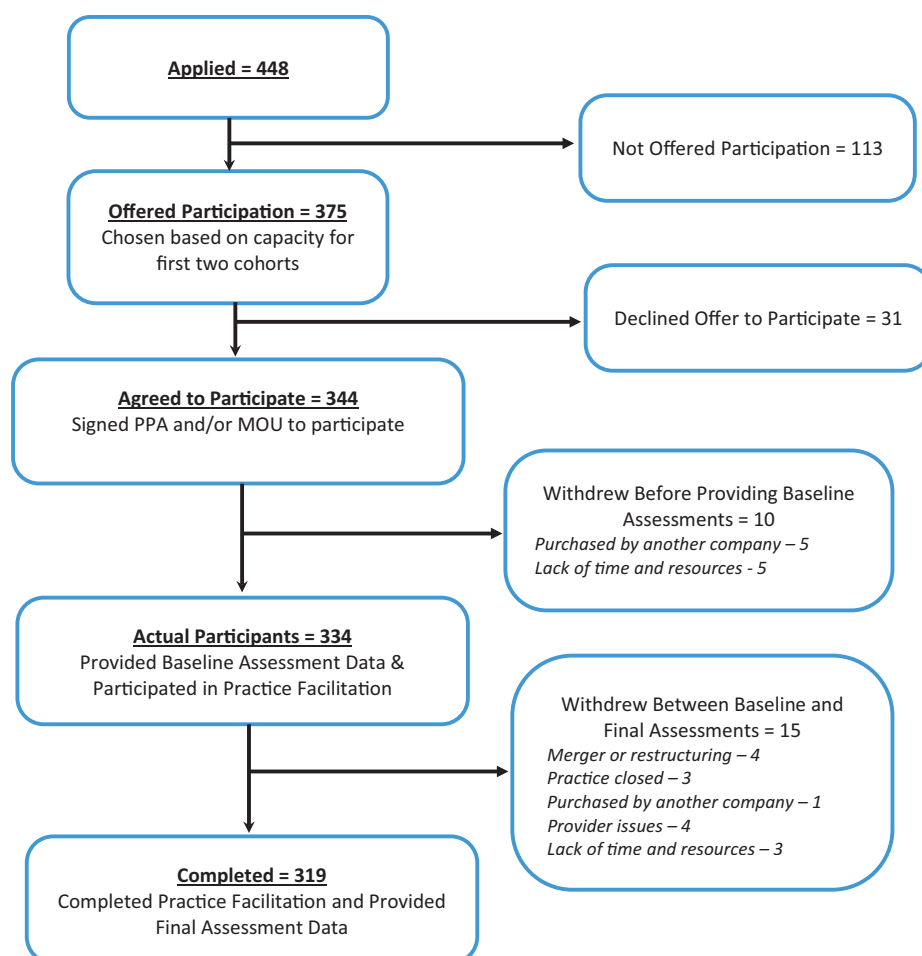


Table 1. Practice Characteristics

	Cohort 1 N = 95	Cohort 2 N = 155	Cohort 3 N = 84	Total N = 334	P-value
	N (%) or mean (SD)	N (%) or mean (SD)	N (%) or mean (SD)	N (%) or mean (SD)	
Organization type					<0.0001
FQHC	22 (23.2)	49 (31.6)	11 (13.4)	82 (24.6)	
HMO	1 (1.1)	0 (0)	3 (3.6)	4 (1.2)	
Hospital/system	25 (26.3)	24 (15.5)	12 (14.3)	61 (18.3)	
School-based clinic	3 (3.2)	19 (12.3)	4 (4.8)	26 (7.8)	
Private	44 (46.3)	63 (40.7)	54 (64.3)	161 (48.2)	
Ages served					0.0008
Adults only	11 (11.6)	5 (3.2)	17 (20.2)	33 (9.9)	
All ages	63 (66.3)	112 (72.3)	46 (54.8)	221 (66.2)	
Children only	21 (22.1)	38 (24.5)	21 (25.0)	80 (24.0)	
Size					<0.0001
Large	46 (48.4)	31 (20.0)	20 (23.8)	97 (29.0)	
Medium	27 (28.4)	51 (32.9)	25 (29.8)	103 (30.8)	
Small	22 (23.2)	73 (47.1)	39 (46.4)	134 (40.1)	
Visits per year	17,288 (13184)	10,843 (14119)	11,237 (11237)	12,773 (15007)	0.0024
Rural location	24 (25.3)	58 (37.4)	19 (22.6)	101 (30.2)	0.0271
Percent uninsured	10.0 (14.2)	11.4 (13.6)	6.9 (10.3)	9.9 (13.1)	0.0421
Percent medicaid	32.8 (26.8)	36.8 (25.8)	28.8 (23.3)	33.6 (25.6)	0.0651

Abbreviations: FQHC, Federally Qualified Health Center; HMO, Health Maintenance Organization; SD, Standard Deviation.

cohorts of the project. 344 practice sites were offered participation and initially enrolled for the project; 334 actually began the intervention and completed baseline surveys. Fifteen practices discontinued participation during the intervention, resulting in 319 practices completing the final 12- or 24-month interventions. Most practice characteristics were similar between dropouts and those that remained; hospital-based practices had higher dropout rates than other organization types ($P < .05$).

Practice characteristics for the 334 baseline practice participants can be found in Table 1. Most of the practices that withdrew did so due to the practice closing, being purchased, or merging with another practice. Practice engagement resulted in a good reach geographically, with almost a third of the practices in rural areas and the rest in urban areas, and with representation across the full range of primary care specialties serving various age groups.

Practice Implementation of Building Blocks

Practice Monitor subscales other than those addressing behavioral health had been previously mapped to the Bodenheimer building blocks in prior projects. Principal factor analysis was used to assess the new items addressing behavioral health in primary care,

resulting in 2 distinct subscales, 1 related to general improvement in behavioral health care and 1 more specific to behavioral health integration. Cronbach's α was computed for each subscale to confirm internal consistency as follows: Engaged Leadership ($\alpha = 0.83$), Quality Improvement Process ($\alpha = 0.93$), Data Driven Improvement ($\alpha = 0.83$), Empanelment ($\alpha = 0.77$), Team-based Care (0.82), Patient-Team Partnership (0.73), Population Management (0.74), Continuity of Care (0.43 (only 2 items)), Access to Care ($\alpha = 0.71$), Care Coordination ($\alpha = 0.64$), Resource Utilization ($\alpha = 0.74$), Behavioral Health Improvement ($\alpha = 0.88$), and Behavioral Health Integration ($\alpha = 0.90$).

Table 2 shows the practices' assessments of their implementation of core aspects of each building block using the Practice Monitor, with the number of points out of 100 possible. In addition to substantial improvement during the initial intervention year, improvement was sustained during the second year for all building blocks. Practices progressed across all areas, and change over time was highly significant at $P < .0001$ overall and for each subscale.

Clinical Quality Measures

Although practice support did not especially focus on quality improvement of specific clinical quality

Table 2. Change in Building Block Implementation Over Time

Building Block	Baseline N = 333 Estimate (SE)	One-year N = 324 Estimate (SE)	Two-year N = 237 Estimate (SE)	P-value for change
Engaged leadership	73.9 (1.6)	85.4 (1.6)	88.0 (1.7)	0.0005
Data driven improvement	68.2 (1.7)	86.6 (1.7)	90.1 (1.8)	<0.0001
Empanelment	72.7 (2.1)	87.6 (2.1)	92.6 (2.3)	<0.0001
Team based care	70.7 (1.8)	85.0 (1.8)	89.0 (1.9)	0.0223
Patient team partnership	61.3 (1.8)	76.6 (1.8)	82.6 (1.9)	0.0420
Population management	67.0 (1.9)	82.1 (1.9)	89.2 (2.0)	<0.0001
Continuity of care	72.3 (2.4)	84.7 (2.4)	88.0 (2.5)	<0.0001
Access to care	80.8 (1.5)	88.3 (1.5)	90.4 (1.6)	<0.0001
Care coordination	64.2 (2.0)	79.9 (2.0)	89.3 (2.1)	<0.0001
Resource utilization	53.6 (1.9)	68.3 (1.0)	76.6 (2.1)	<0.0001
Behavioral health improvement	62.2 (1.7)	79.5 (1.7)	87.8 (1.8)	<0.0001
Behavioral health integration	56.9 (2.7)	77.4 (2.7)	88.1 (2.8)	<0.0001

Abbreviation: SE, Standard Error.

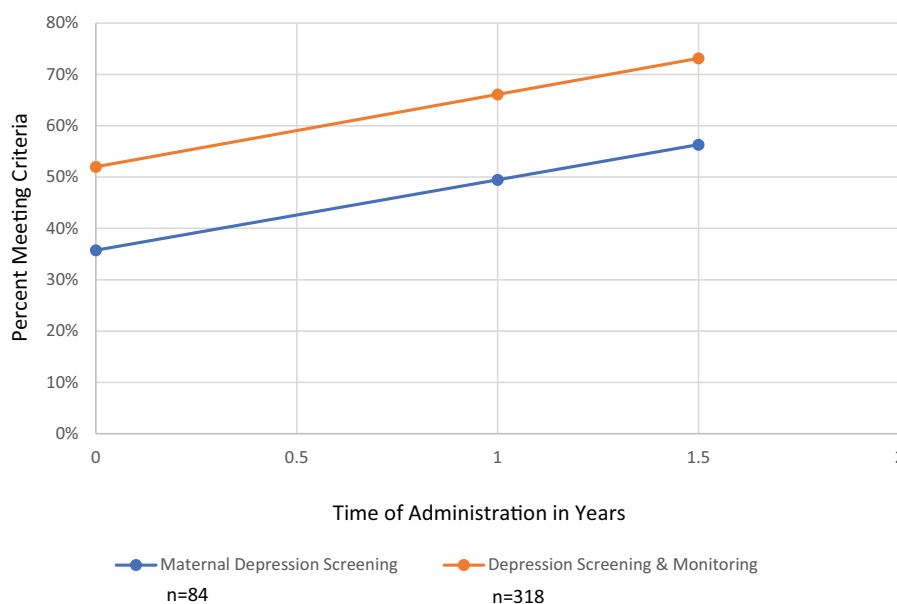
[†]P-value refers to overall change across all three timepoints; adjusted for rurality, size, cohort, ages served (children only, mixed, adult only), size.

measures, practices reported on a set of such measures across the duration of their practice facilitation to monitor the impact of the changes they were implementing on the clinical quality measures. The primary mental health clinical quality measure for practices providing care for adults or all ages was the percentage of patients screened for depression and having documentation of follow-up for positive screens. The mean percentages for this measure improved significantly across the project ($F(1306) = 89.04$, $P < .0001$), as

seen in Figure 2. Pediatric practices reported on the percentage of mothers of newborns screened for maternal depression (Figure 2), and the percentage of mothers screened increased substantially and significantly across the project ($F(1,67) = 19.82$, $P < .0001$).

Implementation of Integrated Behavioral Health Provider

Although our goal was full behavioral integration with a behavioral health provider available onsite, we

Figure 2. Improvement in depression screening and treatment quality measures.

knew going into the project that some practices would not be able to implement full behavioral integration due to a shortage of behavioral health professionals (especially in rural areas), lack of funding or other resources, and a variety of other issues. Even for those practices unable to achieve full integration, there were multiple things that they could implement to improve their care of behavioral health issues, including implementation of collaborative care. However, helping practices accomplish having an integrated behavioral health professional was a goal of the project. The mean scores on the Integrated Practice Assessment Tool (IPAT), used as one measure to assess the practices' level of integration, increased significantly from 3.48 (out of a maximum of 6) to 4.76 across the intervention ($F(1554) = 132.07$, $P < .0001$). Furthermore, out of the 319 practices completing the intervention, 248 or 78% reported they had an onsite behavioral health provider at the end of their participation. In addition, 12 practices reported full-time access to a behavioral health provider through telehealth.

Mediator Analyses

Mediator analyses were conducted with each building block separately to better understand the mechanism of improvement and to eliminate concerns about collinearity among subscales. We estimated how much

additional change per year in outcomes was associated with a 10-point improvement in each of the building blocks as well as the overall score for all building blocks. Results are shown in Table 3. Improvement in resource utilization was significantly associated with improvement in maternal depression screening ($P = .0194$). Improvement in improvement in multiple building blocks was associated with depression screening and treatment, including Data Driven Improvement ($P = .0159$), Patient Team Partnership ($P = .0187$), Population Management ($P = .0207$), Continuity of Care ($P = .0135$), Access to Care ($P = .0472$), Care Coordination ($P = .0051$), Resource Utilization ($P = .0115$), Behavioral Health Improvement ($P = .0071$), and Behavioral Health Integration ($P = .0001$).

Discussion

In summary, the practice transformation support resources provided in this intervention were very successful in supporting practices in implementing behavioral health integration and other components of improved behavioral health care, and in achieving the milestones that were set out for them for other aspects of advanced primary care as delineated by the Bodenheimer building blocks. Practices also improved their care of patients with behavioral health issues, as demonstrated through

Table 3. Additional Change per Year by 10-point Improvement in Building Block Implementation*

	Maternal Depression Screening N = 84		Depression Screening and Follow-up N = 318	
	Coef (SE) [±]	P-value	Coef (SE) [±]	P-value
Total score	0.1372 (0.0309)	<0.0001	0.1409 (0.0149)	<0.0001
Leadership	0.0004 (0.0100)	0.9705	−0.0045 (0.0057)	0.4286
Data driven improvement	−0.0036 (0.0176)	0.8381	0.0168 (0.0070)	0.0159
Empanelment	0.0143 (0.0105)	0.1759	0.0095 (0.0054)	0.0824
Team-based care	0.0007 (0.0106)	0.9473	0.0070 (0.0059)	0.2299
Patient team partnership	−0.0080 (0.0101)	0.4283	0.0127 (0.0054)	0.0187
Population management	0.0055 (0.0093)	0.5518	0.0119 (0.0052)	0.0207
Continuity of care	0.0063 (0.0078)	0.4173	0.0101 (0.0041)	0.0135
Access	−0.0080 (0.0149)	0.5915	0.0128 (0.0064)	0.0472
Coordination of care	0.0047 (0.0113)	0.6751	0.0139 (0.0050)	0.0051
Resource utilization	0.0216 (0.0092)	0.0194	0.0109 (0.0043)	0.0115
Behavioral health improvement	0.0137 (0.0118)	0.2470	0.0162 (0.0060)	0.0071
Behavioral health integration	0.0119 (0.0067)	0.0777	0.0150 (0.0039)	0.0001

Abbreviation: SE, Standard Error.

*General linear mixed model with adjustments for location (rural/urban), organization type, ages served, cohort, and size. Statistically significant results are bolded and italicized.

[±]Per 10 point improvement in Building Block.

improvements in clinical quality measures related to behavioral health. Most practices were able to implement some level of behavioral health integration, while others worked on other aspects of improving behavioral health care delivery.

This project is important as one of the largest, if not the largest, initiatives supporting the integration of behavioral health services in primary care practices. It further demonstrates the effectiveness of practice facilitation and other supports in assisting practices in implementing behavioral health integration and other key aspects of advanced primary care. Interestingly, implementation of various activities associated with advanced primary care, as delineated by the building blocks and measured by the Practice Monitor, were associated with greater improvements in the depression screening and follow-up clinical quality measure, which was the measure most consistently reported across practices, although not with maternal depression screening as reported by the pediatric practices. The results with depression screening and monitoring replicates similar findings in EvidenceNOW Southwest³⁰ and provides further evidence that implementation of foundational activities aligned with advanced primary care models as framed by the building blocks can improve care in multiple specific clinical areas as measured by clinical quality measures and support sustainable change.

Limitations include practice self-reporting of key data, including the Practice Monitor, the IPAT, and the reporting of the presence of integrated behavioral health professionals. Practice facilitators were trained to hold practices accountable for their reporting, but some bias certainly could have influenced results. This project was designed as a real-world implementation project without a control or comparison group. Furthermore, practices participating in the project may not be representative of the broader group of primary care practices, despite the diverse characteristics of those that participated.

With increasing focus on behavioral health integration in primary care as part of advanced payment models, further study of the impact of behavioral health integration on patient outcomes and utilization patterns, the key elements of such integration, and the cost and necessary reimbursement for practices implementing behavioral health integration are needed.

To see this article online, please go to: <http://jabfm.org/content/38/1/107.full>.

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Appendix

Comprehensive Primary Care Practice Monitor

Version – 12-5-19

Please consider how fully each item has been implemented or functions in your practice. Fill in the circle that best reflects the completeness of implementation in your practice. If you rate something as a 4, it means it is now routine across the entire practice. A rating of 1, 2, or 3 means that the statement is only done sometimes, or only in part, or not by everyone in the practice.

1. ENGAGED LEADERSHIP	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. Practice leaders support innovation and are willing to take risks and tolerate occasional failures in order to improve	① ② ③ ④	
b. A culture of shared leadership has been created, with everyone sharing responsibility for change and improvement in the practice	① ② ③ ④	
c. The practice has a shared vision for practice transformation that everyone understands and supports.	① ② ③ ④	
d. Practice leaders proactively remove organizational barriers to change and improvement	① ② ③ ④	
2. DATA DRIVEN IMPROVEMENT	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. Our practice has a sustainable, effective quality improvement team that meets regularly and deals effectively with challenges	① ② ③ ④	
b. QI team meetings are well-organized, with agendas, meeting summaries, prepared leaders and members.	① ② ③ ④	
c. The QI team uses QI tools effectively – AIM statements, process mapping, PDSA.	① ② ③ ④	
d. QI team members reliably follow-up on assignments and tasks, with good team accountability.	① ② ③ ④	
e. Staff members are actively and regularly involved in QI team meetings	① ② ③ ④	
f. Clean and accurate quality measurement data are available for targeted conditions.	① ② ③ ④	
g. We are able to extract data from our medical record systems for an unhealthy alcohol use registry	① ② ③ ④	
h. Workflows for maintaining accurate registry data have been reliably implemented.	① ② ③ ④	
i. Quality measures and other data are used as a central area of focus for the practice's improvement activities.	① ② ③ ④	
3. EMPANELMENT	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. Our practice has an ongoing, reliable system for empanelment and panel management within our data systems and practice processes.	① ② ③ ④	
b. Each patient is assigned a personal clinician, with a small team to serve as back-up when the personal clinician is unavailable	① ② ③ ④	
c. Patient panels are used as a foundation for population health management	① ② ③ ④	
4. TEAM-BASED CARE	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. Care teams have been designated and have regular team meetings	① ② ③ ④	
b. Standardized protocols and standing orders have been created to maximize the efficiency of the practice workflow	① ② ③ ④	
c. Team members have defined roles that makes optimal use of their training and skill sets	① ② ③ ④	
d. Team huddles are used to discuss patient load for the day and to plan for patient visits	① ② ③ ④	

5. PATIENT-TEAM PARTNERSHIP	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. A system has been implemented for including patient and family input in ongoing improvement activities (such as patient advisory groups or patients and family members on QI teams)	① ② ③ ④	
b. A patient experience survey is administered regularly (monthly or quarterly) and the data used to monitor and improve practice performance	① ② ③ ④	
c. Patients and families are actively linked with community resources to assist with their self-management goals.	① ② ③ ④	
d. Patients and families are provided with tools and resources to help them engage in the management of their health between office visits	① ② ③ ④	
e. Personalized shared care plans are developed collaboratively with patients and families	① ② ③ ④	
f. Personalized shared care plans are regularly reviewed to monitor patient progress in accomplishing their goals and adjusted when appropriate	① ② ③ ④	
g. Our practice has implemented and regularly uses shared decision making tools or aids for at least two health conditions, decisions, or tests	① ② ③ ④	
6. POPULATION MANAGEMENT	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. Our practice uses a standardized method or algorithm for identifying its high risk patients	① ② ③ ④	
b. Patients with care or outcomes falling outside of guidelines are identified for more intensive care	① ② ③ ④	
c. Our practice has a patient recall system to identify and bring in patients for needed care	① ② ③ ④	
d. Our practice provides care management services for patients and families identified as being high risk or needing additional assistance and/or contact between visits	① ② ③ ④	
e. Our practice links patients to community resources to address social determinants of health (such as housing, food security, transportation, legal assistance, help paying bills, personal safety)	① ② ③ ④	
f. Our practice engages with public health or community organizations to make improvements in mutual population health goals	① ② ③ ④	
7. CONTINUITY OF CARE	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. Our practice has a system to insure that patients are able to see their own clinician as often as possible	① ② ③ ④	
b. Our practice tracks the percentage of patient visits that are with the patient's personal clinician	① ② ③ ④	
8. PROMPT ACCESS TO CARE	Not at all Completely ▼	▼
a. Patients and families can reliably access care from our practice after hours or on weekends	① ② ③ ④	
b. Patients and families can reliably and quickly access their personal clinician or a care team member to answer questions or deal with problems	① ② ③ ④	
c. Patients can reliably make an appointment with their personal clinician or a care team member within defined and acceptable time periods	① ② ③ ④	
9. CARE COORDINATION	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. A structured system is in place for assuring appropriate follow-up and care planning for patients undergoing transitions of care (such as discharge from hospital or NICU, ER visit, etc.)	① ② ③ ④	
b. Collaborative agreements such as care compacts have been developed with key specialists and community resources for communication, coordination of care, and handoffs	① ② ③ ④	
c. Our practice communicates actively with specialists and community resources to coordinate care based on the patient's personalized shared care plan	① ② ③ ④	

10. RESOURCE UTILIZATION	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. The cost of care is discussed with patients and families as a factor in choosing between care options	① ② ③ ④	
b. The practice uses cost of care data in QI activities to improve patient resource utilization	① ② ③ ④	
c. Our practice can track payments from various sources, including those not from fee for service, and allocate the revenues to the services provided	① ② ③ ④	
d. Our practice regularly compares and reconciles payer attribution lists with our patient panels	① ② ③ ④	
e. Our practice considers cost and quality of care when choosing where to refer our patients	① ② ③ ④	
11A. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
Note: "Behavioral health" includes mental health, health behavior change, and substance abuse services		
a. We have defined the types of patients who we will particularly target for behavioral health services	① ② ③ ④	
b. We educate all patients and their family members on the benefits of integrated behavioral health and primary care	① ② ③ ④	
c. A system has been implemented to screen or otherwise identify patients with behavioral health conditions, concerns, or contributing factors	① ② ③ ④	
d. Reliable registry data are used in our practice to identify and manage specific populations of patients with behavioral health concerns	① ② ③ ④	
e. We have an effective system for identifying and assisting patients with mental health issues who are not improving with treatment	① ② ③ ④	
f. We have an effective system for identifying and following up with patients with behavioral health issues who do not follow through with planned visits	① ② ③ ④	
g. A referral system is in place for those identified as needing specialty behavioral health services	① ② ③ ④	
h. We have defined the types of patients who we will particularly target for behavioral health services	① ② ③ ④	
i. We systematically collect data to track the reach and outcomes of our behavioral health care services	① ② ③ ④	
11b. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INTEGRATION	Not at all ▼	Completely ▼
a. Protocols and work flows have been implemented for coordination between primary care and behavioral health clinicians	① ② ③ ④	
b. Our staff and primary care clinicians work closely as a team with the behavioral health clinicians in our practice to provide integrated care	① ② ③ ④	
c. Behavioral health clinicians in our practice are readily available for warm handoffs and collaboration	① ② ③ ④	
d. Training on behavioral health care is provided to all clinicians and staff joining our practice	① ② ③ ④	
e. We have developed collaborative agreements such as care compacts with specialty behavioral health clinicians, covering timely access, communication, handoffs, and coordination of services	① ② ③ ④	