

Center of Excellence for Co-Occurring Autism and Behavioral Health Disorders (COE-ABHD): Questions for Response

The survey can be returned via email to Caitlin.Masters@Beaconhs.com under the subject line of COE-ABHD.

1. Respondent Characteristics: *This section asks basic questions about your organization and areas of specialty.*

This will give us a high-level picture of your practice with an emphasis on your service offerings and basic statistics on the population you serve.

- a. *Please describe the population you serve including but not limited to: age categories, languages, race and ethnicity, state agency involvement, severity of diagnosis, type of insurance, etc.*
- b. *Please describe your experience and expertise in treating patients with co-occurring conditions (behavioral health, substance use, medically complex).*
- c. *Please describe your experience and expertise in treating patients with co-occurring autism, pervasive development disability (PDD) and behavioral health (BH) conditions.*
- d. *For patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions, what services do you provide? What is the average duration of each service?*
- e. *For patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions, what services do you most frequently utilize for this population?*

2. Staff and Training: *This section will give us a sense of the make-up of your staff and the practices you follow for their continued development. Since the COE-ABHD is focused on those with both autism and co-occurring behavioral health conditions, there are questions around staff training and continued education. Please include anything that you may not yet be doing but is in your 1-5 year plan for implementation and note as such.*

- a. *Please describe the composition of your clinical staff.*
 - i. *If you employ non-licensed staff members, how do you address oversight and supervision?*
 - b. *Please describe your care team for patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions including credentials, roles and responsibilities.*
 - c. *Please describe your staff training specific to patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions.*
 - i. *Do you require prerequisite training or skills before hiring?*
 - ii. *Do you provide opportunities for continued education for treating those with co-occurring autism and BH conditions?*
 - iii. *Do you require annual competencies for staff that treat patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions?*
 - d. *What are your strategies to address staff retention and recruitment?*
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3. **COE-ABHD clinical delivery model for the treatment of autism and BH conditions:** *This section gives us a sense of the system you have in place for patient flow through your practice. As you likely know, there are many difficulties in treating those who autism and behavioral health co-morbidities; the care plan sets a roadmap for care and the coordination of care across the patient's life, which is vital for improved outcomes. Please include anything that you may not yet be doing but is in your 1-5 year plan for implementation and note as such.*

- a. *Please describe the clinical pathway from initial assessment to ongoing treatment for the patients you serve with autism and BH conditions. If you do not currently have a clinical pathway, please describe what you would envision for a best practice.*
- b. *What clinical treatment models or therapeutic framework do you employ in the treatment you provide to patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions?*
- c. *How do you incorporate family and/or caregiver involvement into the patient's treatment for patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions?*
- d. *Please describe how you coordinate service delivery and care with other entities such as residential schools, state, local, and social service agencies, other behavioral health providers, PCPs and other medical providers for patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions.*
- e. *Please identify gaps in the system of care for those with co-occurring autism and BH conditions.*
 - i. *What are the barriers to addressing these gaps?*

4. **Access:** *This section focuses on how a patient receives the right care at the right time. The questions concentrate on access. Please include anything that you may not yet be doing to improve access but is in your 1-5 year plan for implementation and note as such.*

- c. *What is your current wait time for initial therapy appointments for those with co-occurring autism and BH conditions?*
 - i. *What is your benchmark? If your current wait time is longer than your benchmark, what strategies are you undertaking to reduce the wait time?*
 - b. *What is your current wait time for a psychopharmacology appointment for those with co-occurring autism and BH conditions?*
 - i. *How does your current wait time compare with your benchmark? If it is longer than your benchmark, what strategies are you undertaking to reduce your wait time?*
 - c. *Are the services that you provide available on a 24/7/365 basis? If yes, please describe the services available 24/7/365.*
 - d. *What are the barriers to access?*
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5. **Data:** This section aims to help us understand your data collection methods, as well as the conditions you treat most frequently. Collecting and understanding data is vital to measure success from both a process and outcome perspective. Please include any data that you may not yet be collecting or analyzing but is in your 1-5 year plan for implementation and note as such.

a. Please describe the data you collect for the BH services you provide.

i. Please describe any data collection that is specific to those with autism and BH conditions.

b. What are the top five behavioral health conditions that you treat in your general patient population?

c. What are the top five behavioral health conditions for those you treat with co-occurring autism and BH diagnoses?

6. **Quality Measures and Outcomes:** This section focuses on the quality of care you deliver to your patients. Understanding the quality measures you focus on gives us a sense of the care you provide to patients. Please include anything that you may not yet be focusing on in terms of quality but is in your 1-5 year plan for implementation and note as such.

a. How do you measure the quality of care delivered to patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions?

ii. Please describe the multidisciplinary team approach including development and review of the care plan for patients with autism and BH conditions.

1. What processes do you follow to determine when to revisit a care plan

2. On average, how often are care plans updated?

b. What do you consider to be key outcome measures for behavioral health services delivered to those with autism and BH conditions?

c. What would you identify as the key areas of improvement needed in the system of care with those with co-occurring BH and autism conditions?

7. **Other:** This section contains questions not in in the previous sections that could be important for the COE-ABHD. Please include anything that you may not yet be doing but is in your 1-5 year plan for implementation and note as such.

a. Do you subcontract any of your services? If so, please describe?

b. What counties do you serve?

c. Based on the goals we outlined in the cover letter, is there anything else you would like to share that is relevant to the delivery of care to patients with co-occurring autism and BH conditions?

d. Are there any additional barriers that you would like to expand on when it comes to treating those with co-occurring Autism and BH conditions?

e. Please mention any additional comments or questions you may have.

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