

## **POSTER ABSTRACT**

## Parent attitudes and perceptions of integrated behavioral health care delivery for pediatric patients

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**Introduction:** Patient access to high-quality behavioral health services has been a well-documented problem that has only been further complicated by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially within the pediatric population. Although integrated models of care have demonstrated efficacy for improving access, there is little research examining parents' preferences for key elements of integrated practice, which now include increased utilization of virtual care. Parent/caregiver perspectives are essential to understand and enhance behavioral health service delivery within an integrated model of care because they are largely responsible for initiating, facilitating, and intimately participating in their children's behavioral health care.

**Methods and Aims:** The Parent Acceptance of Pediatric Integrated Care Survey Revised (PAPICS-R) was developed by a multidisciplinary panel of integrated care experts to evaluate caregiver perceptions of behavior health care delivery models for pediatric patients. A major component of the revised survey was a focus on virtual care, which has become ubiquitous since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. Eight hundred thirty-four parents from diverse backgrounds across the United States who had children under 18-years old completed the revised survey online. Survey responses were analyzed using various statistical modeling techniques. Detailed demographic data was collected and associations of demographic variables with item responses were assessed using ANOVA and Chi-square tests.

**Results:** Results indicated parent support for core components of integrated care such as colocation of medical and behavioral health care, interactive communication between providers, and shared access to health records. Parents also tended to prefer to be involved in their child's therapy and indicated acceptability of virtual behavioral health care. Significant differences in parent responses were evident across several demographic variables such as race/ethnicity, parent age, child age, number of children and parent education. Notably, patient privacy and stigma were primary concerns for certain groups. These key findings will be shared to explore how specific demographic differences affect parent integrated care perspectives and how best to address these differences in practice.

**Conclusions:** Results from the PAPICS-R provide valuable insight into parent perceptions of integrated behavioral health care. Notably, parent attitudes toward the integrated model of care (including virtual healthcare delivery methods) are largely positive. The findings have directly impacted multiple key aspects of the IBH program including future format of care delivery, trainee education, program expansion, and quality improvement. These adaptations will be discussed along with broader implications.

**Future Directions:** Additional data are being gathered to examine the impact of various parent demographic variables on perspectives of an integrated primary care model. We are also currently working to disseminate results from the PAPICS-R survey to health care providers and organizations as the data are expected to provide valuable insight for those looking to establish integrated pediatric primary care clinics or improve their current model of care. Applicability of implementation within a diverse range of communities and regions will be discussed.