

Policy Improvement in the ABCD States: What and How

Presented by:

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ABCD Initiative Goals

- to strengthen states' capacity to deliver care that supports young children's healthy development
- by identifying and implementing policy and systems changes that support the provision of preventive and early intervention care by Medicaid providers

Four State-based ABCD-related Projects

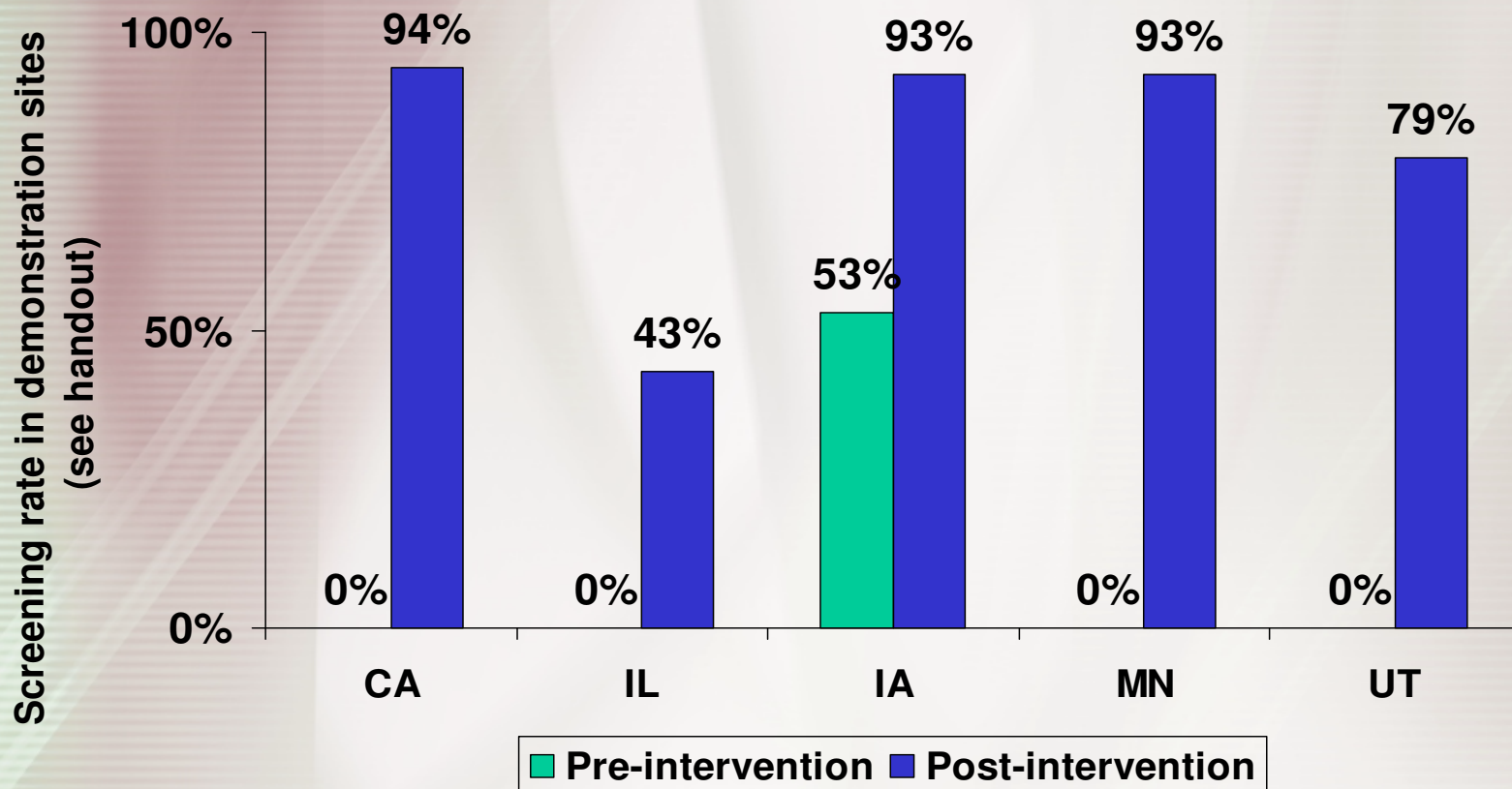
- ABCD I Consortium
- ABCD II Consortium
- Setting the Stage for Success
- ABCD Screening Academy

Common State Goals

1. Increase appropriate, effective screening by pediatricians
2. Ensure providers and families have information they need to identify, treat, and refer
3. Ensure that referrals are effective

Results by the numbers

Improved identification by incorporating a formal screening tool into well-child care



Documented difficulties in accessing/tracking follow-up services

	# ID'ed by screen as potentially 'at-risk'	# referred	# received follow-up from PCP or PCP staff	# received follow-up from source other than PCP/PCP staff ¹
CA	67	27	32	13
IL ²	12	9	45-59	NR
IA ³	64-137	25-66 (incl. in-office follow-up)	Included in # referred	NR
MN	Rural: 32 Urban: 18	Rural: 41 Urban: 4	NR	Rural: 27 Urban: 3
UT ⁴	Infants: NR Toddlers: 22	Infants: 13 Toddlers: 17	Infants: NR Toddlers: 14	54 of 216 charts documenting referral

[1] Includes services from resource agency or mental health staff co-located w/PCP

[2] Illinois results from practice-based demo and reported as a range as they took separate counts for 3 types of follow-up services

[3] Iowa results reported as a range as they took separate counts for four domains

[4] Utah data on follow-up outside the PCP is from sample of children referred; other data from sample of children w/well-child visit

Policy Improvements in the ABCD States

Levers for improving policy

- Documents that define expectations
 - State statutes and regulations
 - Contracts and provider manuals
 - Web sites
- Systems that determine eligibility and pay for services
- Quality improvement projects to assess performance and foster change

Programs that can be improved

- Medicaid
 - EPSDT
 - Managed care
- Early intervention (Part C)
- Maternal and child health

Three categories of policy improvement

- *Coverage*: What services the program will cover for which people
- *Reimbursement*: How much the program will pay for a qualified service
- *Performance, including assessing performance*: How services are delivered

Coverage

*What services the program will cover
for which people*

- Eligibility and benefits
- Create new coverage or clarify existing coverage
- Often builds on EPSDT
- Examples:
 - *Part C*: Clarify that children are eligible if parent diagnosed with severe mental disorder (IL)
 - *Medicaid*: Encourage use of standardized developmental screening tool(s) in provider manuals (IA, IL, MN, UT)

Reimbursement

*How much the program will pay
for a qualified service*

- Fee-for-service and contracts
- Amount and requirements for payment
 - Types of providers
 - Relation to other services provided
- Examples
 - Pay financial incentive to HMOs (MN) and PCCM providers (IL) for increasing use of screening tools
 - Implemented billing code modifier to differentiate developmental and s/e screening (MN)

Performance

How services are delivered

- Broad range of possible improvements
- Includes assessing performance
- Often builds on managed care
- Examples
 - Created common standards for screening across agencies (MN)
 - Measure screening performance and feedback results to providers (Many)
 - Require contracted plans to conduct Performance Improvement Projects (IL, UT)

Elements that contributed to success

- Clarity (and agreement) on goals, objectives, and priorities (strategic plan)
- Actively engaging stakeholders from the start
 - Multiple state agencies
 - Participation by private sector, especially physician leadership
- Grounding proposed improvements in
 - Experience
 - Evidence
- Creating opportunity by building on complementary state and local initiatives
- Provider training on new/clarified policies

For More Information

www.nashp.org

www.abcdresources.org

www.cmwf.org