

Newsletter

March, 2005



New Look for Web Site

The BPS web site has been re-vamped. If it has been some time since you have visited us, please do so at www.bpsys.org. The new look is intended to provide a more graphically appealing presentation and improved functionality. It will be easier for visitors to quickly see site highlights and move to the areas of greatest interest. We will also be adding new content more frequently. We hope you like the new design. Please let us know what you think!

AABH 2005 Ambulatory Continuum Survey

We want to remind you that the 2005 AABH Ambulatory Continuum Survey has been launched. Initial response has been very positive. It is hoped that 80% of all existing programs will participate. If your organization has a partial hospitalization or IOP program, please encourage their participation. The survey is very comprehensive in its scope. Benchmarks in at least 29 areas spanning the clinical, operational, and financial domains will be included. Programs will have the opportunity to receive individualized comparative benchmarking reports and participate in "process benchmarking" exercises where best practices can be identified. AABH will also glean important information that it will use to advocate on behalf of its constituents. To learn more about or participate in the survey, visit www.bpsys.org/aabh05.

Making Data More Meaningful

Most organizations report that performance data does not seem to be as helpful as it could be. A common experience is that most performance data is just overlooked and filed away. Why is this? BPS feels one of the principle reasons is that data is not often linked to key strategic issues.

An answer that lacks a question is not very meaningful. Such is the case with a great deal of data that is routinely generated by organizations. Unless something really stands out, the numbers tend to blur together. Data is most meaningful when it serves to answer a question of some significance. As an illustration, the nutritional characteristics of all prepared food products are required by law to appear on the package. Yet that "data" is pretty much overlooked by many consumers. However, if a person goes on a diet or must follow dietary restrictions due to a health condition, interest in this data suddenly increases and it becomes very meaningful. The same is true of data generated within organizations. It is easy to overlook data that is not tied to key performance issues. Matters of strategic importance should be directly linked to available performance data sources. In that way, data will become a more valued component of the decision-making process.

New JCAHO Recovery and Resiliency Standards

JCAHO is in the final stages of approving new standards in support of the recovery/resiliency model of care. The plan is for the new standards to be implemented as part of the 2006 Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care. The new standards fall into the following areas: employment services, vocational rehabilitation services, peer support, family support, case management or care coordination, and community integration.

Contact Us!

We want to create an active and vibrant community of individuals and organizations interested in performance measurement, outcomes, and benchmarking. If you have thoughts, ideas, suggestions, tips, or questions, we'd like to hear from you. Please feel free to contact us at info@bpsys.org.

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