



CMS/SAMHSA Client-Centric Data Systems Initiative

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CMS/SAMHSA Client-Centric Data Systems

- The CMS/MITA vision provides a framework for data system transformation
 - Patient-centric view not constrained by organizational barriers
 - Promotes shared system architecture
 - Encourages systems that work across boundaries
 - Supports the integration of public health data





CMS/SAMHSA Client-Centric Data Systems

- In addition to helping States integrate behavioral health claims data from different systems, the project team also works with States to improve **interoperability** in systems.
- We provide support for States interested in creating a single system or a series of systems that can easily exchange and combine behavioral health information.



CMS/SAMHSA Client-Centric Data Systems

- CMS and SAMHSA decided to jointly sponsor an initiative based on data system transformation - working with States to manage behavioral health services across multiple agencies
- Goal is to help States create new systems that will improve:
 - Program monitoring
 - Accountability
 - Service quality



Background

- This work started almost ten years ago when the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency (SAMHSA) sponsored a unique **integrated database project**; Thomson Medstat was selected as the contractor
- The goal was to have a **more complete** picture of the healthcare services and outcomes for clients with mental health and substance abuse disorders
 - Clients may be served by multiple State agencies
 - Their information is frequently not shared or linked



Integrated Database Project (IDB)

- The Integrated Database Project (IDB) worked with three states – Oklahoma, Delaware, and Washington - linking Medicaid, Substance Abuse Agency, and Mental Health Agency health administrative and service records into an integrated database
- The database tracks individuals across multiple data systems, capturing nearly-total service utilization



Integrated Database Project (IDB)

- The database includes:
 - Three years of services data from the three States;
 - Created both a broad data warehouse and narrowly-focused analytic files
- The project surmounted difficult challenges of confidentiality, disparate data structure, and person-level linking





Integrated Database Project (IDB)

- Our current IDB project builds on our experience from the first project to provide support for States working to integrate behavioral health claims data from multiple sources.
- In the first project, we built the integrated database; in the current project we provide technical assistance and tools for States who are creating their own databases.





Integrated Database Project (IDB)

- The tools and technical assistance we provide includes:
 - **Probabilistic linking programs** – code that can be used to link clients and/or providers; guidance on customizing the programs
 - Consulting on integrated **database design and development**
 - Helping States **identify behavioral health data** using Medicaid data
 - Assisting States with **intra-agency data sharing** agreements



CMS/SAMHSA Client-Centric Data Systems

- We introduced this idea to several states and....
- **Oklahoma** agreed to be our “pilot” state
 - Launched the joint effort with Oklahoma in 2005
 - Piggy-backed on existing State collaborations
 - Received strong support from senior State officials
- **Maryland** has just started their initiative