Colorado Medical-Dental Integration Project (CO MDI)

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Colorado Medical-Dental Integration

CO MDI

- Five-Year Initiative
- Launched in 2014
- $3.3 million in funding
- Integrates a dental hygienist in medical practices to provide preventive dental services
Delivering full scope of dental hygiene services
Dental hygienist is an integrated member of the care team
Care delivered in a familiar and comfortable environment
Extension of dental home
How are we accomplishing this?

Key Initiative Activities

- Provide grant funding to 16 organizations
- Provide individualized and group coaching and technical assistance during start-up and implementation
- Track and use data to refine integration strategies
- Evaluate impact and outcomes
- Identify promising models
- Expand the model in Colorado
Locations across Colorado

16 GRANTEES

- NW CO Visiting Nurse Assoc.
- Summit Community Care Clinic
- Marillac Clinic
- Peak Family Medicine
- Heart of the Rockies RMC
- Frisco
- Leadville
- Craig
- Steamboat
- Fort Collins
- Miramont Family Medicine
- Denver Health – School-Based HC
- Inner City Health Center
- CO Coalition for the Homeless
- Denver Health – Eastside Clinic
- Aurora
- Metro Comm. Provider Network
- Maria Mattias, RMYC
- Worthmore Dental Clinic
- Valley-Wide Health Systems
- Delta
- Salida
- Littleton
- La Junta
Grantee Practice Type

- Hospital Systems
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Private, non-profit medical clinics
- Private, for-profit medical clinics
- Independent Practicing Dental Hygienists
Services Offered

- Risk assessment & screenings
- Oral health instruction
- Fluoride varnish application
- Cleanings
- Sealants
- X-rays
- Scaling & Root Planing
- Referrals & case management
What we’re doing is different

16 GRANTEES
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coordinated Care</th>
<th>Co-Located Care</th>
<th>Integrated Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Separate facilities</td>
<td>- Same facility</td>
<td>- Same space/facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Separate systems, e.g. scheduling, billing</td>
<td>- Separate systems; may have some sharing</td>
<td>- Common systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Occasional communication</td>
<td>- Some communication</td>
<td>- Frequent Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- May never see each other</td>
<td>- May know who each other</td>
<td>- Agreed-upon screening processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Separate treatment plans</td>
<td>- Some shared knowledge</td>
<td>- Shared treatment plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Some collaboration of efforts</td>
<td>- EMR may talk with EDR</td>
<td>- Treating whole patient</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Autonomous decisions</td>
<td>- Better communication between providers</td>
<td>- Barriers to care removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Traditional—what we all are used to</td>
<td>- More successful referrals</td>
<td>- Patient-coordinated care plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Care teams becoming more aware of oral-systemic health relationships</td>
<td>- Completed treatment plans</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Providers get to know each other</td>
<td>- Better patient outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Systems gain efficiency</td>
<td>- Improved patient satisfaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Improved provider satisfaction</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
“We’re trying to look at the whole person in our centers, trying to integrate behavioral, dental, and medical health into one center to meet the needs of our patient population. Having dental down the hall isn’t enough.”
“We've struggled a little bit with integration. It does take a little more of the provider's time to get out of the room, go back into the suite and have a conversation.”
CO MDI Evaluation
Evaluation: Impact of CO MDI

Evaluation Plan

1. Leadership Interviews
2. Medical provider survey
3. Parent survey/dmfs measurement
4. Metrics (visits, services, dental disease, expenses, revenue)
Practice Leadership (Pre/Post Interviews)

Healthcare professionals (annual survey)

RDH & Clinic Team (quality improvement metrics)

3-5 year olds (320/year x 4 years) (Parent survey/Child dental exam)
Early Successes

Project & Practice Level

- Baseline evaluation data collected
- Leadership & providers engaged
- Practice coaching underway
- Strong relationships with dentists
- Demonstrating financial sustainability
- Planning expansion
CO MDI Patient Visits (Cumulative)

12 practices delivering care

7,876 patient visits
Insurance Status

- Medicaid
- CHP+
- Self Pay
- Other
4,446 fluoride varnish applications

998 sealants placed

3,489 risk assessments completed

2,704 referrals to dentists
Challenges & Barriers

Project & Practice Level

- Provider turnover (e.g., loss of pediatricians)
- Size of practice/system
- Length of start-up
- RDH satisfaction & retention
- Software systems
Contact

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