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ACCEPTED ABSTRACTS

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## **Integrated care and pediatric mental health promotion: What, why and how**

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### **Statement of the Problem:**

Pediatric mental health conditions are prevalent, impactful, and all too often unidentified and/or untreated. As many as 1 in 5 children in the United States have a mental or behavioral health disorder, however only approximately half receive treatment. The traditional approach with physical and mental health in separate silos simply cannot meet the need. Integrated care must become the standard for pediatric primary care providers; however, the practical

considerations of practice and implementation can prove daunting. A new generation of tools, approaches and practice tools must be developed to support pediatric primary care providers in providing integrated care.

### **Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:**

Literature regarding the evidence-base for integrated care in pediatric primary care settings, with an emphasis on patient and provider perceptions as well as clinical outcomes was reviewed. Additionally, literature regarding interventions for commonly treated and encountered clinical issues in the pediatric primary care setting was reviewed. Finally, the practical considerations of billing and reimbursement and workflow issues were explored.

**Findings:** This information is

synthesized into a model for approaching integrated care in an evidence-based manner that is informed by pediatric primary care practice conditions. Though within medical literature, there are few sources that integrate research findings into action-oriented, practical clinical tools, there is ample information available to inform best practices for integrated care in pediatric clinical settings.

### **Conclusion & Significance:**

Pediatric mental illness is a major health concern and pediatric primary care providers are on the front line. The approach outlined in this presentation will serve as a clinically relevant, practical guide to implementation and execution of integrated care with information clinical resources for ongoing reference.

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