Program and Practice Standards for Intensive In-Home Behavioral Health Treatment (IIBHT)

National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) Children, Youth, and Families Division

October 15, 2019





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This webinar is hosted by the National TA Network for Children's Behavioral Health, operated by and coordinated through the University of Maryland.

This presentation was prepared with partial support from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) under contract number HHSS280201500007C with SAMHSA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The views, opinions, and content of this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions, or policies of SAMHSA or HHS.

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Acknowledgements

Special Thanks to the Original Informants:

Lucy Berliner, University of Washington

Leslie Schwalbe, Optum Health

Kelly English, Mass DMH Children's Health Knwl. Center

Christopher Bellonci, Harvard University

Liz Manley, University of Maryland

Dan Edwards, Evidence-Based Associates

Tim Marshall, CT Depart. of Children and Families

Jack Simons, Mass Behavioral Health Partnership

Joe Woolston, Yale University

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Intensive In-Home Behavioral Health Treatment (IIBHT)

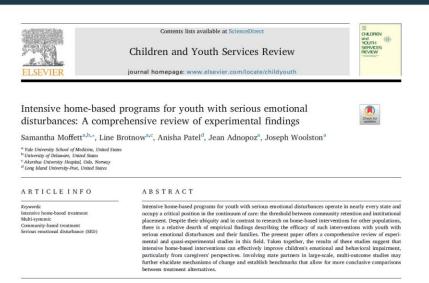
- IIBHT services occupy a critical place in the children's behavioral health continuum of care.
- They exist in some form in most states.
- The IIBHT workforce consists mainly of entry level, Master's level clinicians who are asked to serve the most complex and highest risk youth and families.

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Intensive In-Home Behavioral Health Treatment (IIBHT)



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Why Focus on IIBHT?

- Substantial state-level variation in IBHT definition, operationalization, and presence of implementation and practice standards
- Evidence-based practices (EBPs) such as Multisystemic Therapy (MST) require adherence and outcome data, but do not represent the majority of IBHT services provided.
- "IBHT generally lacks the data generation, data collection, data analysis and data feedback capability that would allow for basic quality assurance and improvement"

(Moffett et al., 2016, p. 3).

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Overall Goal for the Project

Review, compile, and synthesize existing literature and information in order to define evidence-based standards for Intensive In-Home Behavioral Health Treatment (IIBHT) at the practitioner, organizational, and system levels:

- *Produce materials* (e.g., informational briefs, quality frameworks, recommended standards and indicators) to guide the field
- Inform future quality improvement efforts (e.g., learning or quality collaboratives, state/MCO contracting, workforce development models, national interest or trade groups)
- Support future research on IIBHT implementation and outcomes

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The Project: Phases of Effort

Literature Review

Expert Interviews (N=16)

Initial standards developed (49 practice, 30 program)

IIBHT Decision Delphi Learning Community (LC) – Ratings of:

- Importance to include
- · Language / wording

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Literature Review

- Relevant manualized EBPs and promising practices (13 models)
- Peer reviewed literature (24 articles and 18 book chapters/monographs/manuals)
- Program (n=14) and Practice (n=27) elements from:
 - Lee et al. (2014) literature review on prevention of out-ofhome placement
 - 2 IHBT models (OH IHBT; and Connecticut IICAPS)
- Materials from 35 states (AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, LA, ME, MA, MD, MI, MO, MN, MS, MT, NE, NC, NM, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, more now being solicited)

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Relevant Manualized IBHT Models

MST	Multisystemic Therapy and MST Adaptations
HOMEBUILDERS- IFPS	HOMEBUILDERS- Intensive Family Preservation Services
IICAPS	Intensive In-Home Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Services (CT)
ESFT	Eco-structural Family Therapy (PA)
FCT	Family Centered Treatment
ICT	Integrated Co-Occurring Treatment
IHBT	Intensive Home Based Treatment (OH)

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Manualized Family Therapies: Delivered in Multiple Settings or Modalities with Varying Intensity

MDFT	Multidimensional Family Therapy
I-FAST	Integrative Family and Systems
	Treatment
SFBT	Solution-Focused Brief Therapy
FFT	Functional Family Therapy
TST	Trauma Systems Therapy
BSFT	Brief Strategic Family Therapy

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Main Practice Focus Areas (from Literature and Model Review)

- Culturally mindful partnerships (youth and family)
- 2. Youth and family supports
- 3. Crisis stabilization and safety planning
- 4. Skill building (youth, parent, family)
- 5. Cognitive and trauma-focused interventions
- 6. Systemic and relational interventions (family and ecological)
- 7. Resiliency promotion
- 8. Cross-system collaboration and coordination

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Main Practice Focus Areas, Cont.

Caregiver-Focused

- Natural consequences
- Praise
- Response cost
- Rewards
- Support network
- Goal setting
- Problem solving
- Supervision and monitoring
- Safety planning

Youth-Focused

- Skill Building: Anger management; emotional regulation; problem solving; communication, conflict resolution, social and relational skills, etc.
- Crisis management
- Exposure
- Functional analysis
- Cognitive interventions: (CBT; DBT; TF-CBT, etc.)
- Rapport
- Youth support
- Goal setting
- Pro-social peers and activities

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State Scan of Intensive In-Home Behavioral Treatment Coding Categories: Program Elements

Category	Definitional Criteria
Location of Service Delivery	Average % of time service delivered in the: 1) home; 2) school; 3) community; 4) office
Intensity	Frequency: sessions per week Duration: hours per session
Crisis response & availability	On-call availability: 24/7; 24/5; agency business hours; Type of response: phone vs. on-site; Who provides the response: IBHT team vs on-call system (Agency; community)
Safety planning & monitoring	Requirements for safety planning;
Caseload Size	Caseload size limits per FTE/team
Flexibility of scheduling	Appointment times that are convenient to family: including evenings and weekends
Treatment duration	Length of stay criteria; time-limits; treatment brevity
Staffing and Provider Credentials	Individual vs Team model Level of credentials required to provide service: Paraprofessionals, Peer Support; BA QMHP; MA Licensed Behavioral Health Professional
Supervisory support	Intensity and availability: 24/7 availability; field support; weekly team meetings; hours of supervision per week

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State Scan of Intensive In-Home Behavioral Treatment Coding Categories: Program Elements

Category	N states w/req'mt	Preliminary Results
Location of Service Delivery	24 State Rules 11 MST EBP	24/35 states require services delivered in the home, school; and community; range >60 to >90%. (MST provided in 11 states without supporting state rule evidence.)
Intensity	15 State Rules 9 MST EBP	Range: 2 to 5 sessions; 2 to 20 hours per week Average: 3 sessions per week; 4 to 6 hours per week. (MST provided in 9 states without supporting state rule evidence.)
Crisis response & availability	17 States 12 MST	24/7 on-call availability required for 17 states. Three others require the provider to have a plan unique to each youth/family served.
Safety planning & monitoring	10 states	While included in most models, only required in 1/3 of the state rules
Caseload Size	14 States 11 MST	2 to 15 for one person teams (average 4 to 6): 8 to 12 for two person teams; 16 for three person team.
Flexibility of scheduling	12 States	Appointment times that are convenient to family: including evenings and weekends are part of most models, but referenced in minority of states
Treatment duration	13 States 12 MST	13 states have specified time duration. Typical Range: 3 months to 7 months; Several states have no time limit.
Staffing and Provider Credentials	21 States 12 MST	Individual vs Team model; Wide range of credentials: Paraprofessionals, Peer Support; BA QMHP; MA Licensed Behavioral Health Professional.
Supervisory support	17 States	Intensity and availability: 24/7 availability; weekly team meetings Wide range of hours of supervision per week

State Scan of Intensive In-Home Behavioral Treatment Coding Categories: Practice Principles and Elements

Category	Definitional Criteria
Comprehensive service array:	Services included in model: Crisis stabilization, Safety planning, Resiliency & support-building interventions, Family/system therapy Behavior management/parenting Cognitive interventions: (CBT/DBT) Skill building: (problem solving, emotional regulation, etc.) Cross-system teaming Substance use treatment; integrated treatment Trauma-focused interventions: Social services for basic needs
Systemic engagement and community teaming	Child and family teaming; Wraparound; care coordination System level advocacy;
Evidence-based practice (EBP) or integration of EBP into the IBHT model	Use of EBP (s); level of evidence of the program
Family partnerships	Youth and family engagement and culturally mindful partnerships Person-centered planning

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State Scan of Intensive In-Home Behavioral Treatment Coding Categories: Practice Principles and Flements

County Categories. Fractice Frinciples and Elements		
Category	N states w/req'mt	Preliminary Results
Service array	24 (+11 more follow expectations as per 1 or more specific EBPs*)	Most states/programs required a comprehensive set of behavioral health services including many of the following: Individual and Family Therapy Crisis stabilization and safety planning, Resource & support-building interventions, Behavior management/parenting Skill building: (problem solving, emotional regulation, etc.) Trauma-focused interventions: Social services for basic needs Cross-system coordination Some programs/states address substance use treatment provision (MST; FFT; MDFT; ICT; NC; ME; DC; OH)
Systemic engagement and community teaming	10	Cross-system collaboration and coordination included in most models; Care coordination and/or Child and Family Teaming specifically referenced in 29% of the state rules
Evidence-based practice (EBP)/Evidence-Informed or integration of EBP into the IBHT model	34	31 states utilize MST Other EBP and Promising Practices also utilized: FFT; ICT; MDFT; DBT; MI; Homebuilders; IICAPS: Family Centered Treatment; I-FAST EBP's and promising practices have manualized treatment protocols;
Family partnerships	10	Youth and family engagement and culturally mindful partnerships in most models; referenced in 29% of state rules

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State Scan of Intensive In-Home Behavioral Treatment Coding Categories: Quality and Outcomes

Category	Definitional Criteria
Training Requirements	Core training requirement: Booster trainings required/offered: Length of trainings: (i.e. 3 day; 5 day core training) Trainings offered: Family/system therapy Crisis Intervention and safety planning Behavior management/parenting IBHT Ethics IBHT Supervision Cognitive interventions: (CBT/DBT) Skill building: (problem solving, emotional regulation, etc.) Resiliency promotion System of care principles Cultural Competency Cross-system partnerships Youth and family engagement and partnerships Youth with co-occurring disorders (SU; DD; Health) Trauma-focused interventions:
Fidelity	Fidelity tool developed Frequency of fidelity/adherence reviews Independent review

State Scan of Intensive In-Home Behavioral Treatment Coding Categories: Quality and Outcomes

Category	N states w/req'mt	Preliminary Results
Training Requirements	12 state rules; All EBP's require training	Some states require the provider to have certification and training in an EBP. Others require training/competencies in a combination of the following: Family/system therapy Crisis Intervention and safety planning Behavior management/parenting IBHT Ethics IBHT Supervision EBPS': e.g., (CBT;DBT; MI; etc.) Skill building: (problem solving, emotional regulation, etc.) Resiliency promotion System of care principles Cultural Competency Child and Family Teaming Youth and family engagement and partnerships Youth with co-occurring disorders (SU; DD; Health) Trauma-focused interventions
Fidelity		All EBP's require fidelity or adherence reviews Minority of states with "home grown" IBHT (e.g., CT, DC, GA, MT, PA, OH) require fidelity reviews to their state models

State Scan of Intensive In-Home Behavioral Treatment Coding Categories: Quality and Outcomes

Outcomes		
Outcome Tools (vary by state)	CANS; CAFAS; CBCL, Ohio Scales; trauma scales	
Outcomes measured (vary by state and by EBP)	 Psychiatric Hospitalizations/ED visits: # of admissions, # of days School functioning; Truancy: Expulsions, Attendance, Passing Juvenile justice involvement: new misdemeanor, felony, PV Child welfare involvement: DV; abuse and neglect Successful treatment completion Decreased symptomatology Youth and family statement and rating of the problem Increase in social supports Decrease in frequency and intensity of crises Improved family functioning Satisfaction with services Placement prevention; successful reunification Employment Decreased substance use Decreased safety 	
Measurement timeframe: Pre-post; every 3 months; post discharge	 Pre-and-post-treatment administration and scoring of standardized assessment tools Quarterly to Yearly evaluation of adherence to model One state requires one year post treatment placement data; school functioning, juvenile justice and child welfare involvement, and need for involvement with IBHT service. 	

State Scan of Intensive In-Home Behavioral Treatment Coding Categories: Funding and State Standards

Category	Preliminary Results
State Rules and Standards	Rule or standard in statute: 30 states have an identifiable standard or rule on Intensive In Home Treatment or MST
Funding mechanisms	 Medicaid 1915i; 1915C; Rehabilitation Option; State funding: Grants: Federal funding Regional and County Boards Private insurance Child Welfare Juvenile Justice: Example- Ohio's RECLAIM and BHJJ initiatives
Coverage	 HCPC: H2033 (MST); H2015; H2022; H2019; H0036; S5145 HE; H0040; H0039; H0004; H2014; Psychotherapy; Family therapy
Reimbursement rates and methodology	 Hourly and Day rates Range: \$64 per hour to \$207.84 (psychotherapy/MST/IHBT); Mean hourly rate: \$127.90 Non-licensed staff rates range: \$40 to \$88 with average \$66.04
Typical Service Limitations	 Individual Counseling; Group Counseling; and Family Counseling Day Treatment; Group Therapy Certified Peer Services Psychiatric inpatient or residential treatment Psychosocial rehabilitation; Therapeutic Behavioral Service
Prior Authorization	Most states require prior authorization with hourly limits and time frames

Translating the Literature into Guidance

Initial Standards and Review by Learning Community

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Example From Program Standards

Intensive In-Home Behavioral Health Treatment (IIIBHT) **Program Standards**

Clinical Program Categories	Description	
To achieve the most positive outcomes possible for youth with serious emotional and behavioral needs and their families,		
	an effective IIBHT Program must:	
1) Competent staff	1.1. Role clarity: Regardless of composition of teams (i.e., solo practitioners; two or three-person teams), there are clear roles and responsibilities for the IIBHT practitioners, including detailed job description for each role [e.g., therapists, other qualified mental health professionals (QMHPs), peer support workers, supervisors]. 1.2 Practitioner credentials: All members of IIBHT teams (i.e., therapists, QMHPs, peer support workers,	
	supervisors) have a clear set of credentials (i.e., relevant degree and training) appropriate to their role. Moreover, regardless of composition of teams (i.e., solo practitioners; two or three-person teams), IIBHT teams as a whole have credentials that allow them to provide the complete array of services included in IIBHT (i.e., if the program utilizes a single practitioner model, staff need to have the necessary credentials to provide the full continuum of IIBHT services). 1.3 Qualified personnel: Practitioners have prior experience and training working with youth with intensive needs and their families, demonstrate the ability to engage and build relationships with youth and families, and demonstrate skills appropriate to their role (e.g., therapists, QMHPs, peer support workers, supervisors).	
	1.4 Stable workforce: Turnover among staff is maintained at a level that does not detrimentally affect the performance of the IIBHT program (e.g., below 25% per year) and average tenure of practitioners is a a level that ensures effective provision of IIBHT by the program or organization (e.g., greater than tw years).	
	1.5 Rigorous hiring processes: The IIBHT provider organization has written interviewing and hiring protocols for each of the relevant positions. Interview and selection protocols are rigorous, and include, for example, behavioral questions, direct observation of skills, and/or written exercises (e.g., progress notes, treatment plan).	
hillian I Bariania (I Edia I Barra)	1.6 Effective training: IIBHT staff and supervisors are required to participate in initial and booster training relevant to their roles and responsibilities. There https://example.com/resources/bes/ There https://example.com/resources/be	

Example From Practice Standards

Intensive In-Home Behavioral Health Treatment (IIBHT) **Practice Standards**

	Clinical Practice Categories	Description		
	Engagement			
<u> </u>		ve outcomes possible for youth and families, an effective IIBHT Practitioner (or team) must:		
1)	Engagement	1.1 Describes the process of IIBHT treatment for youth and families, detailing roles, boundaries, and limitations, particularly as they differ from other treatment settings and modalities.		
		1.2 Explains confidentiality (and limitations of confidentiality) specific to the IIBHT model, including how and why information may be shared with individuals within the team and outside the team (e.g., for supervision).		
		1.3 Engages the youth/family utilizing evidence-based techniques. These include: A. Promotes youth/family voice and choice in decision-making.		
		Identifies potential future barriers to attending treatment and actively brainstorms solutions. C. Reframes or clarifies youth/family perspectives in a way that avoids criticism or judgement. D. Utilizes strengths-based language.		
		1.4 Implements motivational interviewing strategies based on the youth and family's change readiness.		
2)	Cultural competence	2.1 Actively seeks to understand and demonstrate respect for the unique and diverse roles, values, beliefs, race, ethnicity, culture and gender of the youth, family, and their community. 2.2 Avoids using expert or medically-based jargon		
		Risk Identification, Safety Planning, & Crises Response		
	To achieve the most positive outcomes possible for youth and families, an effective IIBHT Practitioner (or team) must:			
3)	Risk identification	3.1 Identifies risk and safety concerns and situations across life domains that may lead to dangerous or potentially harmful consequences.		
4)	Safety planning	4.1 Completes a safety plan, when clinically indicated, that includes identification of safety concerns, potential crises, triggers, actionable stabilization steps, means reduction steps, de-escalation and coping strategies, and family identified supports. 4.2 Regularly monitors and updates safety plan as needed.		
5)	Crisis response and stabilization	5.1 Serves as the lead crisis responder, responds to calls immediately, and is available for on-site stabilization as necessary. 5.2 Uses crisis de-escalation skills and demonstrates ability to effectively stabilize <u>crisis situations</u> .		
		Transport of Control o		

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Results Summary From LC Round 1

Approval Statistics 30 28 25 20 15 13 12 10 Program Standards Practice Standards ■ High Approval ■ Medium Approval ■ Low Approval

157 people invited to participate:

- 58 people fully completed program standards (39% response rate)
- 74 people fully completed practice standards response rate)



LC Results Round 1 Program Standards: High Approval

15. Commitment to flexibility and accessibility: IIBHT sessions are delivered at times and in places that are flexible, accessible, and convenient to the family youth and caregivers, including evening and weekend appointment times, and sessions at the location of the youth's/family's and caregivers' choice.

Inclusion Mean Score	Language Mean Score	Theme 1 (# comments)	Theme 2 (# comments)	Theme 3 (# comments
0.100	0.91	None		
Inadvisable: 0% Optional: 0%	Unacceptable: 0% Minor Revisions: 9%			
Essential: 100%	Acceptable: 91%			

Revised Standard:

15. Commitment to flexibility and accessibility: IIBHT sessions are delivered at times and in places that are flexible, accessible, and convenient to the youth and caregivers, including evening and weekend appointment times, and sessions at the location of the youth and caregivers' choice.

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LC Results Round 1 Program Standards: Medium Approval

25. Review of care treatment plans: Each youth /family's and caregiver's initial treatment plan of care is reviewed by an expert (i.e., supervisor or EBP consultant) in the IIBHT practice model (ideally external to the supervisor or coach). Updated plans of care should also be regularly reviewed no less than bi monthly.

Inclusion Mean Score	Language Mean Score	Theme 1 (# comments)	Theme 2 (# comments)	Theme 3 (# comments
0.78	0.51	Impractical: (7 comments)	Supervisor should fill this	Define bi-monthly: (4 comments)
Inadvisable: 0%	Unacceptable: 13%	-Undue burden	role:	-Twice a month or
Optional: 22%	Minor Revisions: 24%	-May not have	(6 comments)	every two
Essential: 78%	Acceptable: 64%	access to someone who can do this and may not be funds available	-They are the ones that review plans already	months?

Revised standard:

25. Review of care plans: Each youth and caregiver's initial plan of care is reviewed by an expert in the IIBHT practice model. Updated plans of care should also be regularly reviewed.



LC Results Round 1 Program Standards: Low Approval

4. Stable workforce: The organization or team will make every effort to ensure that turnover among staff is maintained at a level that does not detrimentally affect the performance of the IIBHT program (ideally, <25%) and average tenure of practitioners is at a level that ensures effective provision of IIBHT by the program or organization (e.g., greater than two years).

Inclusion	Language	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3
Mean Score	Mean Score	(# comments)	(# comments)	(# comments
0.57 Inadvisable: 3% Optional: 36% Essential: 60%	Unacceptable: 9% Minor Revisions: 27% Acceptable: 64%	Not practical or enforceable due to high turnover rates (12 comments)	Turnover rates are not under the program's control (6 comments)	Remove timeframe: (3 comments)

Revised standard:

4. Stable workforce: The organization or team will make every effort to ensure that turnover among staff is maintained at a level that does not detrimentally affect the performance of the IIBHT program (ideally, <25%).

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LC Results Round 1 Practice Standards: High Approval

2. Explains confidentiality (and its limitations of confidentiality) specific to the IIBHT model, including how and why information may be shared with individuals within the team (e.g. caregivers) and outside the team (e.g., for supervision).

Inclusion Mean Score	Language Mean Score	Theme 1 (# comments)	Theme 2 (# comments)	Theme 3 (# comments
0.99	0.88	Mention confidentiality with		
Inadvisable: 0% Optional: 1%	Unacceptable: 0% Minor Revisions: 12%	respect to youth and caregivers		
Essential: 99%	Acceptable: 88%	(2 comments)		

Revised standard:

2. Explains confidentiality (and its limitations) specific to the IIBHT model, including how and why information may be shared with individuals within the team (e.g., caregivers) and outside the team (e.g., for supervision).



LC Results Round 1 Practice Standards: Medium Approval

8. Works with the youth and caregivers to completes an individualized safety plan (if not completed by another provider, such as a care coordinator). , when clinically indicated, that Safety plans should includes the identification of safety concerns, potential crises, triggers, actionable stabilization steps, means reduction steps, de-escalation and coping strategies, actionable stabilization steps, prevention measures, and family youth- and caregiver-identified supports.

Inclusion Mean Score	Language Mean Score	Theme 1 (# comments)	Theme 2 (# comments)	Theme 3 (# comments
0.96 Inadvisable: 0% Optional: 4%	0.50 Unacceptable: 1% Minor Revisions: 47%	Safety plans should not be optional (9 comments) -Remove "when	Family empowerment: (5 comments) -Families should be	Jargon: Means- reduction steps? (2 comments)
Essential: 96%	Acceptable: 52%	clinically indicated"	involved in this process	

Revised standard:

8. Works with the youth and caregivers to complete an individualized safety plan (if not completed by another provider, such as a care coordinator). Safety plans should include the identification of safety concerns, potential crises, triggers, de-escalation and coping strategies, actionable stabilization steps, prevention measures, and youth- and caregiver-identified supports.

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LC Results Round 1 Practice Standards: Low Approval

6. Avoids using expert or medically-based jargon. Uses language that is accessible to the youth and caregivers and, where necessary, translates clinical terminology (e.g., diagnoses and acronyms) used by professionals into content that is understandable.

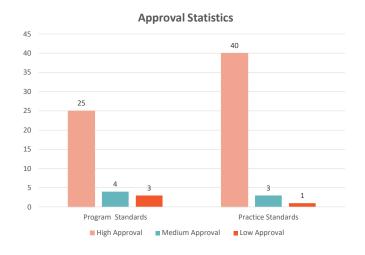
Inclusion	Language	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3
Mean Score	Mean Score	(# comments)	(# comments)	(# comments
0.55 Inadvisable: 8% Optional: 28% Essential: 64%	Unacceptable: 10% Minor Revisions: 28% Acceptable: 62%	Sometimes, medical jargon is necessary (10 Comments) -Does not need to be avoided as long as explained.	Give examples of what you mean by jargon (3 comments)	

Revised standard:

6. Uses language that is accessible to the youth and caregivers and, where necessary, translates clinical terminology (e.g., diagnoses and acronyms) used by professionals into content that is understandable.



Results Summary From LC Round 2



74 people (all round 1):

- 38 people fully completed program standards (51% response rate).
- 38 people fully completed practice standards (51% response rate).

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Utilization of Standards

We hope that the IIBHT standards will be utilized by:

- States, jurisdictions, and managed care entities
 - to inform contracting, financing strategies, investments in workforce development, and accountability efforts
- Provider organizations
 - to inform training, coaching, supervision, and continuous quality improvement (including fidelity) efforts
- Practitioners
 - to inform their work with youth and families, enhance practice, and aid in matching protocols and practices appropriately to youth and families' needs and populations that may benefit from receipt of IIBHT



Next Steps for the Project

- Translate the "practice standards" into "clinical guidelines"
- Develop and validate measures for assessing IIBHT quality/ standards adherence
- Convene a state learning community interested in using the standards to support their IIBHT agenda
- Convene and run a quality collaborative of states and/or IIBHT provider organizations that use the measures of IIBHT quality/adherence as the basis for quality improvement
- Submit a federal (NIMH? AHRQ?) grant to evaluate impact of using a state/local QC with these standards/clinical guidelines to improve quality and outcomes

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Questions for State Children's MH Directors!

- What states currently have (or might have in the near future) an agenda for IIBHT specification, implementation support, or quality improvement in the next 1-2 years?
- What does/will your IIBHT agenda consist of?
- Would materials such as this be supportive to your agenda? How?
- Would your state be interested in joining (immediately) a state IIBHT learning community
- Might your state join a quality collaborative (6-12 months) that emphasizes measurement of standards/guideline adherence?
 - How about a randomized study?
- What else can we do with these materials to help improve quality and outcomes?



THANK YOU!

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