

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: Quality Improvement Project

The Partners For Kids Quality Improvement (QI) Coaching Program offers a QI project to assist community primary care providers in assessing, diagnosing, and managing children of all ages with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). As of 2016, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention¹ study estimated that 6.1 million children aged 2-17 years had been diagnosed with ADHD. This study also found:

- Six out of 10 children were taking medication for their ADHD, and represent one out of every 20 U.S. children
- Just under half (47%) had received behavioral treatment for their ADHD in the past year; the number increased to over half (60%) among children 2-5 years of age
- Nearly two-thirds (64%) of children diagnosed with ADHD were also diagnosed with another mental, emotional, or behavioral disorder, such as conduct disorder, anxiety, depression, autism and Tourette syndrome.

This project focuses on education and training for community providers and healthcare staff on assessing, diagnosing and managing patients with ADHD, along with education and resources for behavioral modification, behavioral therapy and pharmacologic treatments.

Resources available to support the QI project:

- Support from PFK QI staff to develop operational processes for the identification, assessment and diagnosis of ADHD in the clinic
- Training from NCH-affiliated pediatric specialists for healthcare providers on a variety of ADHD management resources
- Consultation from a PFK pharmacist, including education on the Behavioral Health Prescribing Guidelines and Preferred Drug List (both updated quarterly)
 - These resources can be found at: <https://PartnersForKids.org/resources>
- Access to PFK administrative claims data to identify rate of preferred ADHD medications prescribed versus non-preferred medications, based on coverage by Ohio Medicaid Managed Care Plans

For more information about PFK QI projects, please contact PFK QI Coaching at PFKQICoaching@NationwideChildrens.org

¹ Prevalence of Parent-Reported ADHD Diagnosis and Associated Treatment among U.S. Children and Adolescents, 2016. Melissa L. Danielson, MSPH; Rebecca H. Bitsko, PhD; Reem M. Ghandour, DrPH; Joseph R. Holbrook, PhD; Michael D. Kogan, PhD; Stephen J. Blumberg, PhD. Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology. Published online before print January 24, 2018.