



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Mental Hygiene Administration

Spring Grove Hospital Center – Dix Building

55 Wade Avenue – Catonsville, Maryland 21228

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – John M. Colmers, Secretary

Brian M. Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director

TO: PMHS Providers

FROM: Brian Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director, MHA

DATE: April 12, 2010

RE: Outcomes Measurement System (OMS) Update – April 2010

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The Outcomes Measurement System (OMS), in operation since September 2006, was developed to collect information on individuals, ages 6-64, who are receiving outpatient mental health treatment services from outpatient mental health centers (OMHCs), Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and hospital-based mental health centers. The OMS questions cover several life domains, including living situation, employment, school attendance, substance use, legal system involvement, symptoms, functioning, somatic health, etc. The information is collected in order to understand more about the individuals who are receiving services from the Public Mental Health System (PMHS) and to begin to understand the outcomes of those services. Information is collected at the beginning of treatment and approximately every 6 months while receiving treatment.

This update provides information on some current activities surrounding the OMS:

- With the transition to ValueOptions, there were a number of changes made to the OMS questionnaires themselves. These changes were based on feedback received from a variety of sources, including consumers and providers, and were implemented in September 2009.
- Outcomes analyses have continued to progress. Through a collaborative effort, the University of Maryland Systems Evaluation Center (SEC) and the Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) have developed analytical structures for comparing individual consumer progress over time (e.g., definitions for increase, decrease, and maintenance of scores have been developed). At the individual consumer level, responses from the first OMS interview are compared to responses from the most recent OMS interview and change-over-time scores are calculated. Data is then aggregated to the State level. Even though work to refine these analyses continues, a power point presentation of the change-over-time analyses of Statewide OMS data that have been completed thus far is available. (Click here to view [http://maryland.valueoptions.com/provider/clin\\_ut/OMS\\_Change\\_Over\\_Time\\_Analysis.pdf](http://maryland.valueoptions.com/provider/clin_ut/OMS_Change_Over_Time_Analysis.pdf)). These analyses include Statewide OMS data through June 2009.
- **Providers may request provider-specific OMS reports that parallel the Statewide OMS reports. To do so, please complete the attached OMS provider report request form and e-mail it to the University of Maryland Systems Evaluation Center as directed at the bottom of the form. Requests must be received by May 14, 2010 and will be answered in the order in which they are received.**

If you have any questions regarding the OMS, contact Sharon Ohlhaber, [SOhlhaber@dnhm.state.md.us](mailto:SOhlhaber@dnhm.state.md.us)).

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