Integrated Care Systems

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For new psychiatrists entering the field, understanding the key role of systems of care has never been more important. Research published each month in *Psychiatric Services*

will help residents play a vital role in the systems of care where they work, which is why the American Psychiatric Association provides psychiatric residents who are APA Members-in-Training full-text online access to Psychiatric Services content as a benefit.





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Integrated Care: What Does It Mean for You?

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"Integrated care" is everywhere-in theory, at least, and increasingly in practice. The concept is a feature of the delivery-system improvements in the new health care reform law, and policymakers and many clinicians have converged on the idea that general medical and behavioral health services should be brought together in a patient-centered manner. Today, a small but dedicated and growing cadre of psychiatrists is advancing the cause of integrated care and the participation of psychiatrists in collaborative-care models.

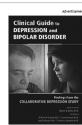
do to improve the take care of."

APA has established a number of initiatives in this area Integrated care "is headed up by the Work Group on Integrated Care of the the right thing to Council on Healthcare Systems and Financing, chaired by Lori Raney, M.D., medical director of Axis Health System in Durango, Colo.; and the Board of Trustees Health Care Reform care and quality of Strategic Action Work Group, chaired by Howard Goldman, life for people we M.D., director of the Network on Mental Health Policy Research (funded by the MacArthur Foundation) and editor of the APA iournal Psychiatric Services. Work group members include Jürgen Unützer, M.D., who is director of the Center for

Advancing Integrated Mental Health Solutions (AIMS) at the University of Washington and one of the pioneers of integration. Along with Wayne Katon, M.D., Unützer began developing models

ating mental health and primary care and testing them in diverse primary he country. Previously working on these issues was the APA Board of p on Psychiatry and Healthcare Reform, chaired by Paul Summergrad elect and chair of psychiatry at Tufts University.

ated care system is a new opportunity for psychiatrists-another option on ev can use their license to care for people-but it is not a requirement, and it ne. Moreover, psychiatrists can work part time in an integrated care ntaining whatever kind of traditional inpatient or outpatient practice they uestion 6). There are degrees of integrated care ranging from the original -liaison psychiatry practiced in the hospital setting; to co-located care, in nd mental health services are offered in the same location; to a modelr and colleagues-that involves a psychiatrist working in consultation with r specialists to manage the behavioral health of a defined population of sometimes referred to as "collaborative care," and the two terms collaborative care-are often used interchangeably. However, for the etter, the term "integrated care" will be used



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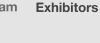




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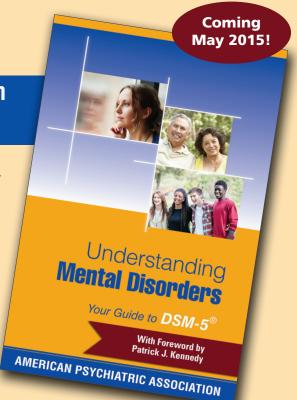
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