

Accountable plan partners

INTEGRATED MANAGED CARE

SYNOPSIS

Having a single payer be responsible for an individual's whole person health (physical health and behavioral health) allows for better care and, in turn, better outcomes.

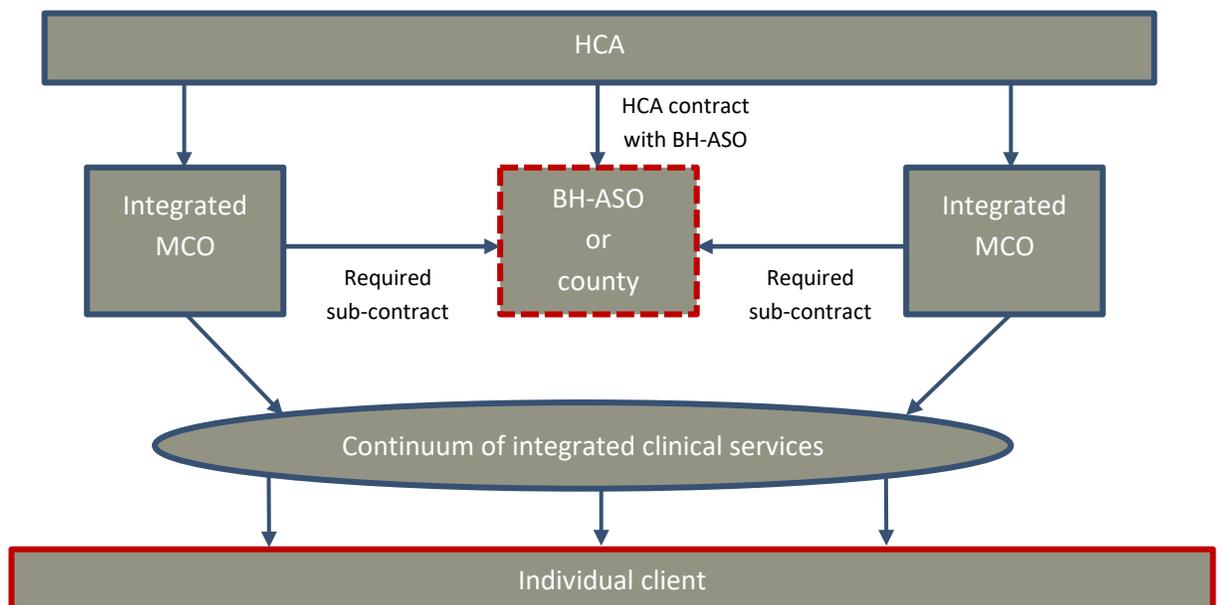
GOAL

To set the foundation that will lead to more integrated care at the clinical level, leading to lower costs and improved health outcomes for Washington residents.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Increase access to needed behavioral health services
- Reduce potentially avoidable utilization of emergency departments, psychiatric inpatient, and crisis services
- Improve quality and coordination of physical health and behavioral health

HOW IT WORKS



THE CHALLENGE

Within the current system, behavioral health services are bifurcated. No single entity is accountable for an individual's health, nor are data and information available to manage the whole person, leading to missed opportunities and poorer health outcomes for clients. In particular, research shows that individuals needing treatment for more than one condition of mind and body die on average 25 years earlier than those without. The integrated managed care approach seeks to close this gap.

DESCRIPTION

The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA), supported by legislation, will implement integrated managed care in all regions across the state by January 1, 2020. In integrated managed care regions, MCOs will become responsible for the full continuum of physical and behavioral health services for Apple Health (Medicaid) clients. Services will include specialty behavioral health services, outlined in the Medicaid (Title XIX) State Plan, that are currently covered by Behavioral Health Organizations (BHO). A Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (BH-ASO) will be identified in each region to administer crisis services and non-Medicaid funding source.

HOW WE GET THERE

The transition takes place in phases: April 1, 2016 (one region), January 1, 2018 (one region), January 2019 (five regions), and January 1, 2020 (three regions).

HCA used a request for proposals (RFP) process to select the MCOs for each region. Plan selections and the number of plans per region were determined based on population and region size, network adequacy, and responses provided in the bids. New integrated managed care contracts were developed inclusive of both the physical health benefits and behavioral health benefits.

BH-ASOs were procured using the RFP process, or have been identified using legislative direction that provides county authorities the right of first refusal to transition their BHO to the BH-ASO. HCA will contract with a BH-ASO in each region.

RESULTS

As of October 2018, the state has implemented integrated managed care in two of the 10 regions across the state. An additional five regions will transition on January 1, 2019. The remaining three regions will transition on January 1, 2020. Preliminary data show encouraging results in the first year of integrated managed care in Southwest Washington, our first integrated region.