



RESOURCE SNAPSHOT

INTEGRATING PHYSICAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

For over a decade AHA has been working to help hospitals and health systems integrate physical and behavioral health services. As part of this support AHA has developed and shared a variety of resources to inspire and help hospitals and health systems implement integrated services.

The Big Picture

ISSUE BRIEF

Integrating Physical and Behavioral Health: The Time is Now

The Time is Now issue brief provides evidence-based research on six positive impacts of integrated care:

- Improved patient outcomes
- Reduced total cost of care
- Increased access to behavioral health services
- Enhanced patient satisfaction
- Better workforce productivity and satisfaction
- Reduced health care disparities and stigma

Integration in Action

PEDIATRICS

Pediatric Integrated Care Model Handles ‘Unprecedented’ Behavioral Health Needs

Learn about Rady Children’s Hospital in San Diego’s initiative to place mental health professionals in primary care practices established to deal with an “unprecedented” surge of children coming into its emergency department with behavioral health needs.

AGE-FRIENDLY

Successfully Integrating Age-Friendly Care in a Geriatric Emergency Department

Find out how Sharp Grossmont Hospital’s efforts to integrate age-friendly care in its busy emergency department have improved care and health outcomes for older adult patients, decreased readmissions and improved job satisfaction and retention of nurses.

HEALTH EQUITY

Integration of Care: Reducing Barriers to Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment

Mary Thompson, president at Trillium Place and member of AHA’s Committee on Behavioral Health, shares her experience working in the largest mental health and addiction recovery organization in central Illinois.

Lessons from Leadership

PERSPECTIVE

Integrating Physical and Mental Health to Better Support Patients and Communities

AHA president and CEO Rick Pollack shares his views on the value of integrating physical and mental health.

VIDEO

Behavioral Health Solutions with Lifepoint Health’s Jeremy Musher

AHA’s 2024 Board Chair Joanne M. Conroy, M.D., and Jeremy Musher, M.D., chief behavioral medical officer at Lifepoint Health, discuss behavioral health solutions, including integration.

PODCAST SERIES

The Value of Integration

Features hospital leaders discussing the real-world impact of integration.

VIDEO

Why Integrating Behavioral and Physical Health Care Matters to Trustees

Greg Bentz, board chair of BJC HealthCare, shares the benefits of integrating behavioral and physical health care, and why it matters to hospital and health system boards.

TRUSTEE INSIGHT

Mental Health and Boards: Focusing on People, Patients and Community

Dr. Arpan Waghray shares how boards can make behavioral health a priority.

For more integrated behavioral resources, visit
www.aha.org/behavioral-health-physical-behavioral-health-integration-resources.