

Chase Brexton Health Care
Questions from June 17, 2014 Data Panel to Planning Council

Chase Brexton has sites in Baltimore City, Randallstown, Columbia, and Easton.

1. In 2015 will the collapse of RW Part D into Part C increase or decrease access to care?

Chase Brexton does not have a Part D contract, but as long as the funds are not cut access should be the same. Good management of these grants requires that the program as funded under Part C (in this instance), will meet all the quality performance standards for the services. From the patient's perspective there should be no decrease in access or in quality of service. Only decrease in funding would directly affect access because the time of providers available for the program would be reduced. Quality would not be affected.

2. Percentage of MSM patients retained in care? Retention in care is high at about 87% with about 05 % as lost to care and returning and 5 % transferring to other providers for various reasons (moving) We can identify patients who transfer care by tracking requests to transfer medical records are processed. Patients who are not transferring care but are lost to care are followed by Outreach workers to return to care.

3. Outreach to minorities in the surrounding counties? Outreach is limited in the surrounding counties where staffing for support services is limited. Nevertheless Chase Brexton participates in community affairs (like Health Fairs) and the Public Relations Department has a schedule of contacts. On an individual basis, patients who are "lost to care" get special Outreach attention through a Patient Adherence program especially on the Eastern Shore out of the Easton clinic. As the Randallstown, Columbia and Easton sites grow the outreach effort will also expand. Given the impact of HIV in the counties on the minority population, Chase Brexton is pursuing funds whenever possible to expand the HIV services in the county sites. One example of an application for available federal funds is a proposal to expand accessibility of HIV services on the Eastern Shore by implementing a tele-medicine program. Maryland DHMH already has a telemedicine program which if extended to HIV patients on the Easter Shore would make a real impact on maintaining health care and medication counseling services.

4. How many transgender in Baltimore City and Howard County? There are about 450 at the Baltimore City site and only about 12 currently in Columbia. This information is somewhat "ballpark" from the providers since it had not been captured from the confidential medical records as a "measure" through our official record system.

5. How many of 75 newly diagnosed were retained in care? Case management reported that 56 were retained in care at Chase Brexton. This means at least a second visit. The Outreach program workers follow those who do not keep first or second appointments.

6. What is the viral suppression rate? Overall our VL suppression rate is at 76%. There is a problem because the statistic varies from month to month depending on which patients have been seen. New patients lower the count; established patients raise the number to 85%. The average is high because this has been the goal of Chase Brexton medical care since medications made it

possible. In addition Chase Brexton has a very strong Medical Case Management and Intensive Case Management program to help patients adhere to their visits and medications schedules.

7. Follow-up plan for clients diagnosed through our testing program? Chase Brexton offers universal testing. Any positive outcome receives confirmatory testing and counseling. Medical Case Managers immediately are available to open a case to assure linkage to medical treatment on the basis that early treatment will help suppress the virus and help prevent transmission. First medical visits are high priority and are scheduled within a week or at the patient's earliest convenience.

8. Have PAC patients transitioned to Medicaid had any issues? No, the Chase Brexton PAC patients were given Case Management and "Assister" attention in order to remain with their providers. I am not aware of any new former PAC patients who had issues. The Medical Case Managers have been monitoring the PAC transition for the past year...making sure that all PAC patients remained eligible for PAC until the transition. This new health care security is very significant for the patients.

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