Research You Can Use

First Steps & Beyond: Incorporating Shared Decision Making (SDM) in Massachusetts Mental Health Services (Report & Recommendations from the 2009 Summit)

Shared Decision Making (SDM) is the process in which provider and consumers participate in all phases of the decision making process and together negotiate a treatment to implement.*

SDM – THE JOURNEY SO FAR

1990: M-POWER\(^1\) studies legal & ethical requirements to informed consent
1995: M-POWER and DMH reach a consensus to implement informed consent policy
2000: M-POWER joins DMH medical directors to meet statewide group of DMH psychiatrists to discuss informed consent
2005: DMH: Procures CBFS\(^3\) treatment model to use in outpatient services
2010: DMH and CQI\(^4\) hold a SDM summit in June
2008: MBHP\(^5\) selects CommonGround\(^6\) for use with psychiatrists at three outpatient clinics

Key Findings From The 2009 SDM Summit

- Providers have concerns that many consumers lack the resources and support to actively participate in SDM.
- Consumer's racial, ethnic and cultural background can affect his or her views about health conditions and treatments.
- SDM require new kinds of provider training.
- Peer specialists have the potential to serve as effective decision coaches.

Moving Forward

- State policy and opinion leaders should send clear message that SDM is critical to high quality care.
- SDM initiative should take into account racial, ethnic and cultural factors of SDM.
- A workforce training strategy should be developed.
- The roles of peer specialists should be formalized.

Additional Resources:

1. Massachusetts People/Patients Organized for Wellness, Empowerment, and Right (M-POWER), a grassroots organization
2. Department of Mental Health (DMH)
3. Community Based Flexible Supports (CBFS), a treatment model
4. Consumer Quality Initiatives (CQI)
5. Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership (MBHP)
6. CommonGround, a clinical decision support model created by Pat Deegan for use with patients seeing psychiatrists

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For more information on SDM visit: http://www.samhsa.gov/ConsumerSurvivor/shared.asp

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