



Government Category Winner

Behavioral Health Data Portal

Army Medical Command – Behavioral Health Division – Clinical Capability Management team

The current Army Behavioral Health (BH) system is comprised of about 2000+ providers located at more than 50 Army clinics and hospitals scattered throughout the world. The BH system performs more than one million patient encounters each year in its facilities. The existing electronic medical record, named the Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application (AHLTA), was never designed to track, sort or filter information about BH clinical encounters. Historically, this left the Army without a reliable, centralized location to store, collect and aggregate BH clinical information needed to screen, assess, treat and measure patient's BH outcomes. This made it extremely challenging for patients to receive consistent BH care as they transferred from one location to another and moved between different clinics and hospitals. Use of multiple, paper-based forms and different intake procedures at each BH clinic presented another obstacle to maintaining quality, standardized care. Additionally, none of the paper-based information was stored centrally for aggregate analysis and collaborative use.

In 2012, as part of a multi-year effort to build the structures and best practices needed to create a Behavioral Health System of Care, the Army decided to build a user-friendly, web-based BH data application called the Behavioral Health Data Portal (BHDP). The main intent of the BHDP is to standardize BH clinical data collection during the initial patient intake and, again, at every follow-up appointment. BHDP would also eliminate the need for paper-based forms, and allow for a common set of data to be collected and used to make initial diagnostic decisions and track treatment outcomes as patients progressed through treatment. BHDP is currently used for all active duty patients at all Army clinics and hospitals around the world. It is also currently under active consideration by Department of Defense (DoD) medical leadership to become the standard BH clinical data application for the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force, as well as for the U.S. Army.

This program benefits all active duty military service members and family members who seek behavioral health care.