Management of Pediatric Health in Primary Care: Autism Resources and Referrals for Pediatricians (CPAN) – How to connect families with community-based supports and services

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12:30 – 1:30 PM

Jessica H. Smith, LCSW
Behavioral Health Specialist
Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Baylor College of Medicine

Overview: Pediatricians and primary care providers (PCPs) are the first-line clinicians for children, adolescents, and young adults. The prevalence of psychiatric disorders within this population is high, with depression, anxiety and ADHD being most common. The morbidity and mortality of these disorders is significant, however they remain under-treated. Given the limitations of referral to specialty care, PCPs are tasked with managing these illnesses. Both in our experience working in a consultation center and based on the literature, PCPs face many barriers to doing so, including limitations in knowledge about and comfort in prescribing psychiatric medications.

Pediatricians do not consistently receive adequate training in mental health care during their formal pediatric training. Management of Autism Spectrum Disorders is a specific area of mental health care that is often asked of pediatricians, but for which they may not have adequate knowledge. The information regarding services for Autism changes frequently and even pediatricians who have received prior training may not be up to date.

Objectives: At the conclusion of the session, the participants should be able to:

- Summarize the recommended evidence-based therapies for children awaiting developmental evaluation or who are previously identified with Autism
- Outline the eligibility and accessibility of recommended therapies and community-based supports and services.
- List the state and federal programs available to children with developmental disabilities from birth through transition age
- Recommend appropriate community resources and services for children with developmental disabilities during clinical practice

Target Audience: Pediatricians and primary care providers (family practitioners, NPs, PAs) who treat children and adolescents in the outpatient setting.

Educational Methods: Lecture

Activity Evaluation: Participants may be asked to complete a session evaluation.

Accreditation/Credit Designation: Baylor College of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Baylor College of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

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