

# **Advancing Behavioral Health**

# Improving identification of depression and alcohol misuse in primary care and care transitions

Depression and alcohol misuse are common behavioral health conditions in adults that impact health, yet they are often underidentified in primary care settings.

Additionally, challenges in effective care coordination for these and other behavioral health conditions contribute to high hospital readmission rates and problems with treatment adherence. Untreated depression and/or alcohol misuse has a significant negative impact on healthcare quality and costs.

We are determined to change this, but we need your help to do it.

atom Alliance is actively seeking to partner with primary care providers (PCPs) and inpatient psychiatric facilities.

# What We'll Accomplish

- Increase the identification of adults with depression or alcohol misuse in primary care settings
- Reduce the 30-day hospital readmission rate
- Increase outpatient follow-up for psychiatric discharges

# How We'll Accomplish It

atom Alliance will

- Provide technical assistance and support to primary care providers, inpatient psychiatric facilities and associated providers and communities
- Monitor and evaluate the success of assistance and interventions
- Invite and involve providers and patients in Learning and Action Networks (LANs)
- Engage with organizations, agencies and other entities working to advance the same goals



**Care Coordination** 

and quality of care

Significantly affects the

risk of hospital readmissions

Hospitals and providers will strive to

- Successfully transmit discharge information to follow-up practitioners
- Follow-up with patients through visits or calls
- Communicate with the next level practitioner to coordinate discharge plan and maintenance of follow-up appointment
- Actively engage and educate patients, families and caregivers in discharge planning and treatment goals
- Monitor and continuously improve performance

#### **Who We Are**

atom Alliance is a multi-state alliance for powerful change, comprised of three non-profit, healthcare quality improvement consulting companies — AQAF (Alabama), IQH (Mississippi) and Qsource (Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee). We share expertise to advance the goals of the National Quality Strategy and support the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) in efforts to transform the course of healthcare in our nation for the better. Learn more at www.atomAlliance.org/behavioralhealth

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