### Description of Research

Project CLIMB (Consultation Liaison in Mental health and Behavior) provides integrated mental health, developmental, and behavioral services to pediatric primary care patients in an urban, residency-training clinic serving a low-income, ethnically diverse population. Using a large, multi-year electronic health record database, health care utilization data, and systems level data, the research characterizes and explores the impact of integrated behavioral health services in primary care settings on health outcomes and health system utilization for children (ages birth through 21), their caregivers, and families. Population studied includes pediatric patients who received integrated behavioral health services, including prevention and health promotion services and supports, and patients with a wide range of presenting problems and diagnoses. Comparative analyses are used to: evaluate the program; examine healthcare utilization patterns, health disparities, and health outcomes; provide best practice and policy recommendations; and develop the business case for behavioral health integration in primary care settings.

### Methodology

- Electronic health record data; health services, systems, and utilization data; quantitative and qualitative approaches; social network analysis

### Clinical and special developmental populations

- Pediatric primary care; child development (birth through 21); publicly insured populations; adversity factors; children with special health care and developmental needs

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### Mentor since

2004

### NIH Bibliography link