

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO THE SHARING OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFORMATION

In 2019, Altarum partnered with MDHHS to increase information sharing between physical and behavioral health (BH) providers. With funding from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, we created new resources for navigating confusing legislation, updated MDHHS resources, held webinars, answered stakeholder questions, and used their feedback to uncover what could increase information exchange. Below are our recommendations.



WHY?

Sharing Protected Health Information (PHI) is an important part of delivering quality health care.

However, physical and BH providers in Michigan still struggle to navigate the laws that govern the exchange of PHI.

WHO?

Altarum's team of public health professionals, BH specialists, regulatory analysts, graphic designers, and implementation experts helps the State overcome these barriers.

WHAT?

Working with providers, payers, and MDHHS, we have created the tools and resources they need to increase information sharing.

We also uncovered and analyzed important data on what motivates them to share information electronically, what stops them from sharing, and what resources they need to increase sharing.

CONTACT US

Altarum is passionate about increasing the exchange of PHI Statewide. Contact us today to learn more about our work:

MI.consent.help@altarum.org

www.michigan.gov/PHIConsentTool

www.altarum.org/projects/breaking-down-barriers-sharing-behavioral-health-information



PRIORITIZE THE EXCHANGE OF PHI



To improve the quality of health care and reduce costs, prioritize the exchange of PHI at a State-level.

Maintain central website for tools, information & questions

- 1,196 PHI Consent Tool Downloads
- 519 PHI Consent Grids Downloads
- 672 Quick Tips Downloads



Prepare for legislative changes & Statewide e-consent system

Continue updating PHI CONSENT TOOL

LEVERAGE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND CHAMPIONS

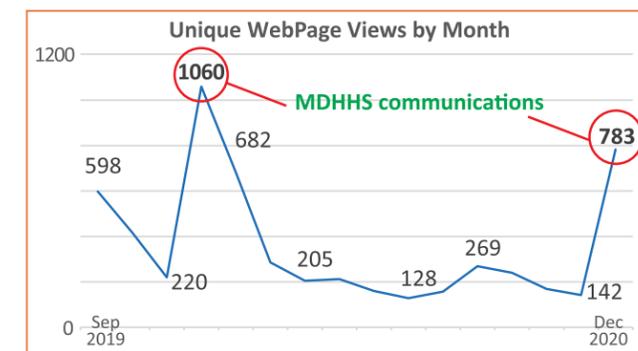


To accelerate exchange, focus on collaboration among information sharing champions, leaders, and stakeholders.



Create opportunities for peer-to-peer engagement

Leverage PARTNERSHIPS and champions

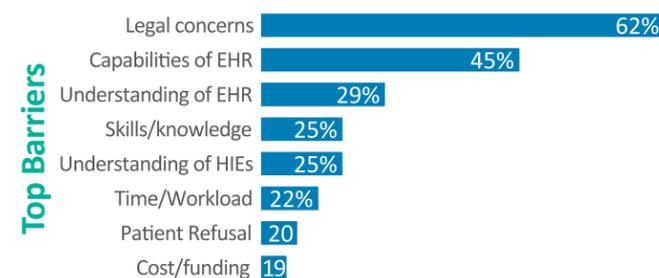


USE DATA TO DRIVE INVESTMENTS



To increase information sharing, leverage data to allocate resources where they are needed most.

Use top Motivators, Barriers, & Resource Needs to drive change



Prioritize TRAINING and EDUCATION on hot topics

Focus on physical health organizations, front line staff & Superior/North



ADDRESS LEGISLATIVE CHANGES, CONFLICTS, AND CONFUSION



To reduce confusion, amend conflicting legislation and keep stakeholders informed about changing regulations.

Align Michigan legislation with HIPAA

Explain CARES Act changes & impact on federal SUD law

Ensure understanding of Information Blocking rules

Title 42 CFR Part 2

Federal law protects PHI created by federal SUD treatment programs. **Confusion exists** around who is a "Part 2" facility.

MI Mental Health Code

Michigan law protects PHI involving SUD treatment. **Confusion exists** around who is subject to Chapter 2A.

MI Public Act

Michigan law requires that all agencies accept MDHHS-5515. **Confusion persists** around the use of the consent form.

