Implementation of Telehealth in School Based Clinics

Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Department of Psychiatry



- Vanderbilt School Based Program has partnered with MNPS to provide evidence-based treatment to students on-site at schools for over 28 years
- We serve about 870 children and adolescents in 34 elementary and middle school sites across Davidson County

Program Staffing

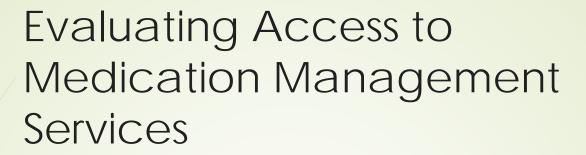
- Masters Level Therapists (27 FTE)
- Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurse (0.4 FTE)
- Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows (0.4 FTE)
- Supervising Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist (0.1 FTE)
- Clinical Director (1 FTE)

Stage 1: Initial Medication Management Model

Multiple site visits per month. All visits completed in person

Initial evaluations and ongoing medication management

Additional NP time added to program



- Travel to school sites can be inefficient
- Telepsychiatry would allow for greater access and efficiency

Stage Two: Telehealth

- Telehealth pilot begins
- In person visits continue for remaining schools
- Use of telehealth highlighted barriers



- Fall of 2017, vision for telehealth program wide developed
- Full implementation January May 2018

Current - Revision stage

New platform

Standardized expectations of all participants

Standard appointment

- Therapist schedules (30 min time slot)
- Parent comes to school
- Call is made, provider talks with parent
- Child participates last 15 min
- Treatment plan created or revised
- Follow up scheduled

Reimbursement for Telepsychiatry

- Specifier is added to CPT code for medication management
- TN Care case rate
 - No additional revenue generated by the visit
 - Particular amount per patient per month that covers all services patient needs

Future Directions

- Data gathering
- Modifications based on data

Type of school served

