

Psychogenomic Quality Improvement Initiative at a Community Mental Health Center



Katie Halbmaier, BSN, RN, FNP-DNP Student
The University of Iowa College of Nursing



Introduction

- Patients with chronic mental illness are often unstable in the community, dependent, have poor appointment attendance, and cost the system a significant amount of money^{1,2,3,4}
- Treatment resistance and adverse medication effects are common challenges for patients with severe mental illness^{5,6}
- Pharmacogenomic clinical decision support systems (PGx-CDSSs) may be useful in psychiatric medication selection^{7,8}

Purpose

To improve clinical outcomes in patients with persistent mental illness

Objective 1	Decrease mental health symptoms
Objective 2	Increase stability in the community
Objective 3	Reduce the cost of care
Objective 4	Increase independence in taking medications while maintaining adherence
Objective 5	Increase psychiatric clinic visit attendance

Methods

Project was deemed not human subjects research by the IRB

Setting: Eyerly Ball community mental health center

Population: 52 patients with chronic mental illnesses⁹

PGx-CDSS selected: GeneSight Psychotropic PGx-CDSS

- Most published evidence¹⁰

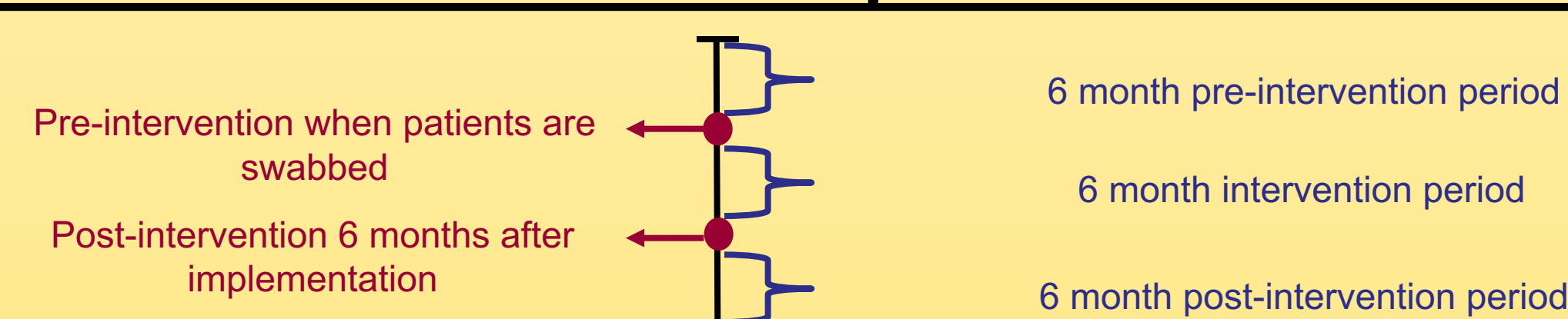
- Remission of depressive symptoms⁷
- Promote cost savings in amount spent on medications⁸
- Reduce polypharmacy⁸

- No cost to patients with Medicaid¹¹

Process to improve patient outcomes

- Havelock's Theory of Planned Change used to implement quality improvement project¹¹
- PGx-CDSS ordered and utilized for patients
- Nurse practitioner considered PGx-CDSS results when modifying medication regimens

Collected data in a retrospective chart review



Comparing Measurements Collected at Baseline to After the Intervention

- 1. Mental health symptoms: scores on Cross Cutting Symptom Measure (CCSM) from DSM-5

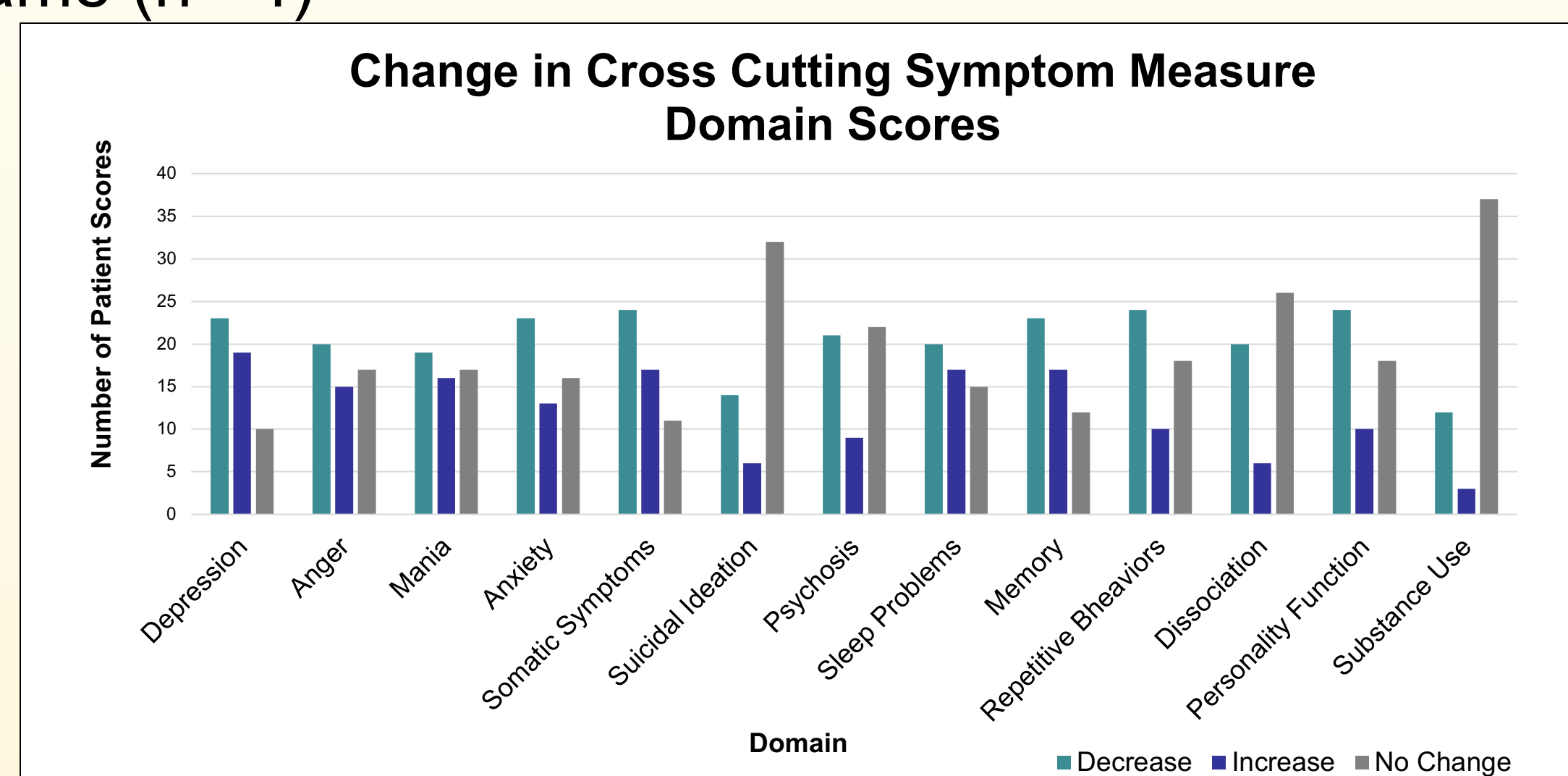
Comparing Pre- and Post- Intervention Periods

- 2. Stability in the community: # of days of incarcerations and # of days of psychiatric hospitalizations
- 3. Cost: money spent on incarcerations and psychiatric hospitalizations
- 4. Medication adherence: % of neuropsychiatric medications taken as prescribed
- 4. Level of independence with taking medications: # of days in each category— independent, partially independent, dependent—based on method of administration
- 5. Clinic visit attendance: % of psychiatric appointments attended as scheduled

Outcomes

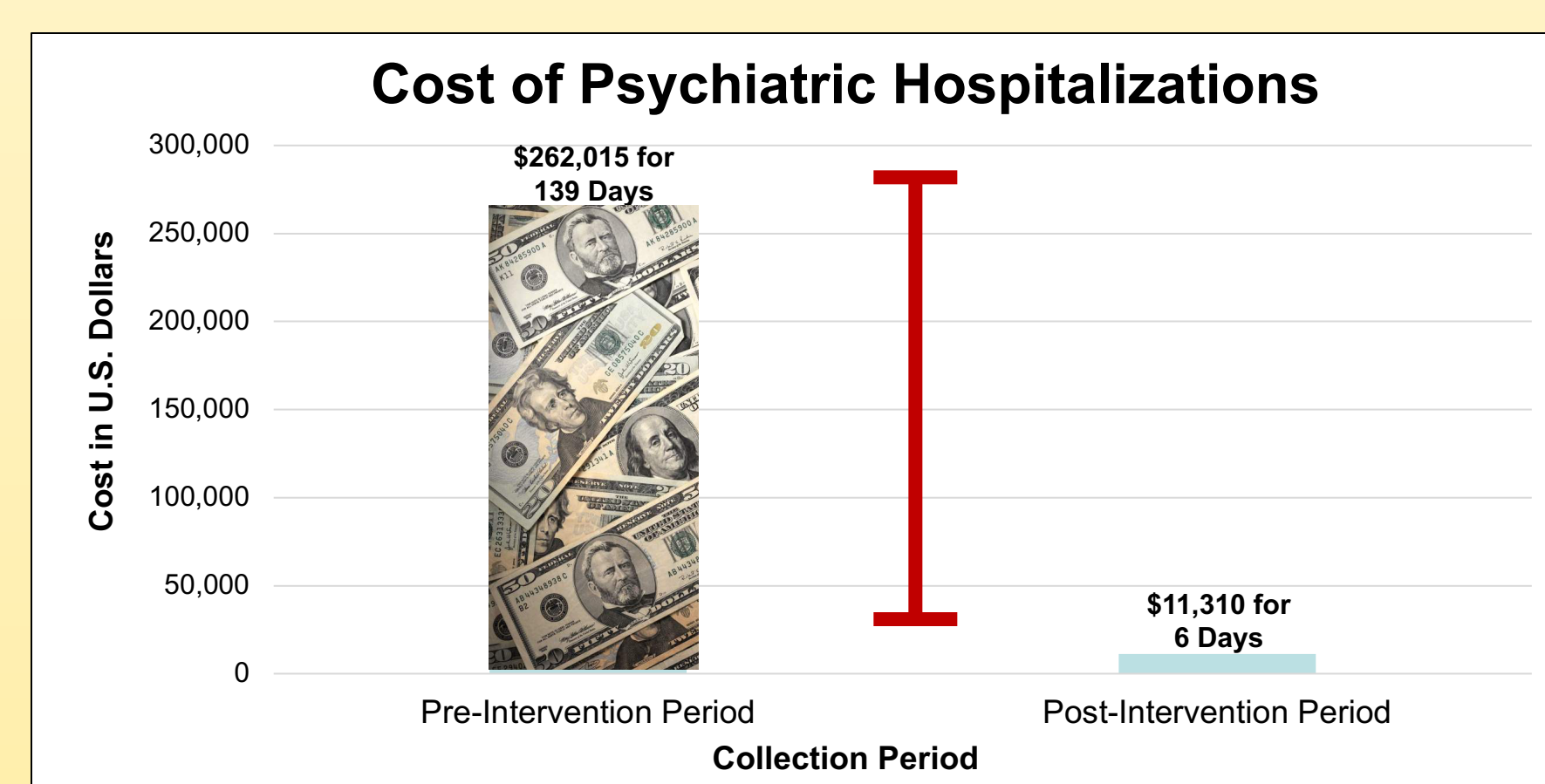
Objective 1

- Average change in total scores of CCSM was significant from 26.6 ± 14.0 (4-62) to 22.6 ± 14.3 (0-76) ($p = 0.0457$), but domain scores were not
- Trends in change for each domain tended to mostly reduce in symptom severity ($n = 9$), while the others remained the same ($n = 4$)



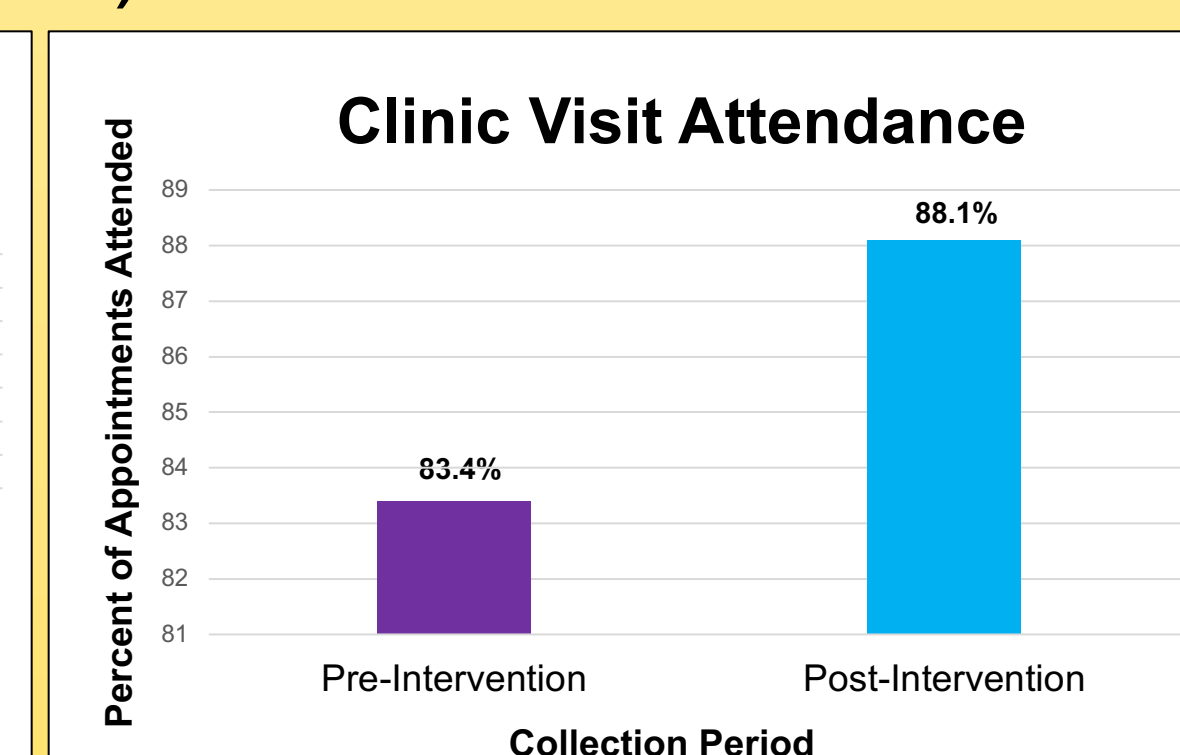
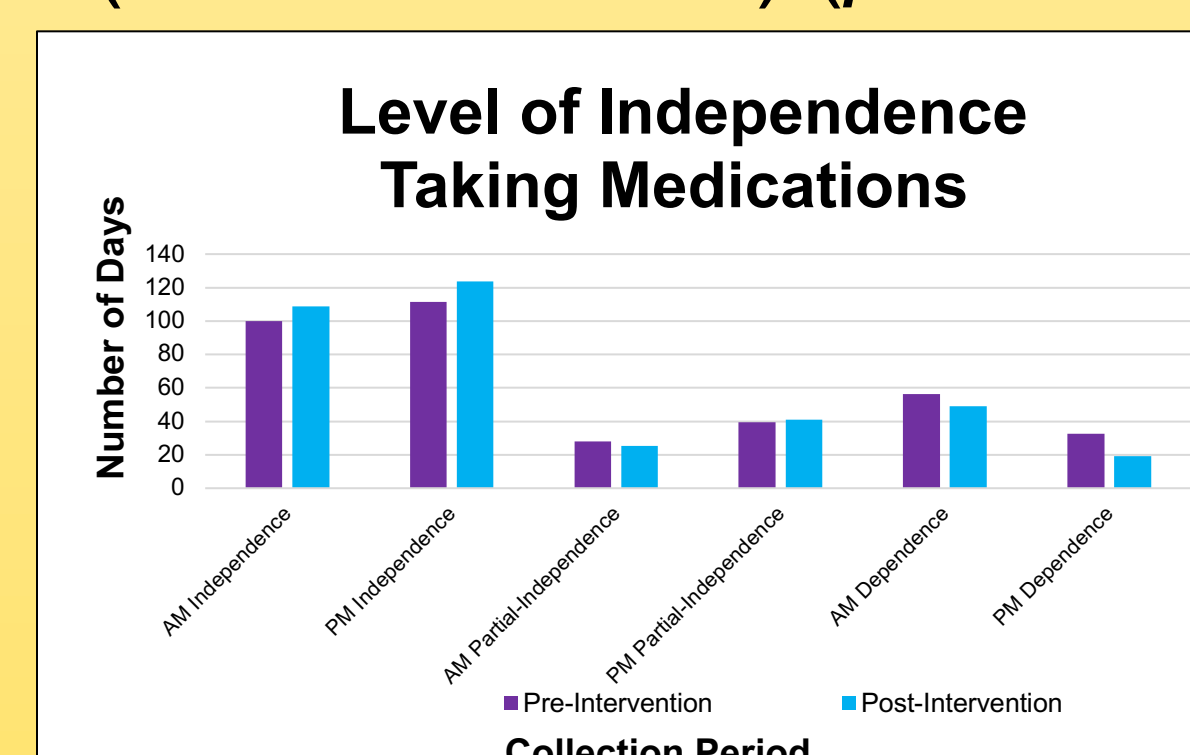
Objectives 2 and 3

- Average change days of psychiatric hospitalizations was significant from 2.7 ± 9.2 (0-38) to 0.1 ± 0.8 (0-6) ($p = 0.0505$)
- Reduced total cost from \$262,015 for five patients hospitalized for 139 days pre-intervention period versus \$11,310 for one patient hospitalized for 6 days post-intervention period
- Not enough incarcerations to comment on



Objective 4 & 5

- Number of days of independence increased, partial-independence remained essentially the same, and dependence decreased, while adherence was high (> 99%)
- Average change in clinic visit attendance was significant from $83.4\% \pm 16.7$ (40.0%-100.0%) to $88.1\% \pm 17.8$ (37.5%-100.0%) ($p = 0.0565$) with fewer scheduled visits



Evaluation

Objective 1	Mental health symptoms were decreased
Objective 2	Patients were more stable in the community
Objective 3	Money saved on psychiatric hospitalizations
Objective 4	Independence in taking medications improved while adherence remained high
Objective 5	Psychiatric clinic visit attendance increased

Limitations

- Small sample size
- Short-term outcomes

Conclusions

- PGx-CDSS in psychiatry appears to offer a more objective approach to psychiatric medication selection and improve overall mental health and the stability in the community
- There is potential for PGx-CDSS to have significant cost savings and reduced utilization of healthcare resources
- Results of can be used to guide future studies

Dissemination:

- International Society of Nurses in Genetics poster (2016)
- International Society of Nurses in Genetics podium presentation (2017)
- Journal manuscripts in progress

References

1. Clarke, G.N., Herinckx, H.A., Kinney, R.F., Paulson, R.I., Cutler, D.L., Lewis, K., & Oxman, E. (2000). Psychiatric hospitalizations, arrests, emergency room visits, and homelessness of clients with serious and persistent mental illness: Findings from a randomized trial of two ACT programs vs. usual care. *Mental Health Services Research*, 2(3), 155-164.
2. Dieterich, M., Irving, C.B., Bergman, H., Khokhar, M.A., Park, B., & Marshall, M. (2017). Intensive case management for severe mental illness. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, 1. doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD007906.pub3
3. Defife, J.A., Conklin, C.Z., Smith, J.M., & Poole, J. (2010). Psychotherapy appointment no-shows: rates and reasons. *Psychotherapy Theory, Research, Practice, Training*, 47(3), 413-417. doi: 10.1037/a0021168
4. Soni, A. (2015). Trends in the five most costly conditions among the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population, 2002 and 2012 [Database file]. Retrieved from https://meps.ahrq.gov/data_files/publications/st470/sta470_shtml
5. Weiss, E.L., Longhurst, J.G., Bowers, M.B., & Mazure, C. (1999). Olanzapine for treatment-refractory psychosis in patients responsive to, but intolerant of clozapine. *Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology*, 19(4), 378-380.
6. Rush, A.J., Trivedi, M.H., Wisniewski, S.R., Nierenber, A.A., Stewart, J.W., Warden, D., ..., Fava, M. (2006). Acute and longer-term outcomes in depressed outpatients requiring one or several treatment steps: A STAR*D report. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 163(11), 1905-1917. doi: 10.1176/ajp.2006.163.11.1905
7. Hall-Flavin DK, Winner JG, Allen JD, Carhart JM, Proctor B, Snyder KA, Drews MS, Eisterhold LL, Geske J, Mrazek DA. (2013). Utility of integrated pharmacogenomic testing to support the treatment of major depressive disorder in a psychiatric outpatient setting. *Pharmacogenetics and Genomics*. 2013;23(10):535-548.
8. Winner, J., Allen, J.D., Altar, C.A., & Spahic-Mihajlovic, A. (2013a). Psychiatric pharmacogenomics predicts health resource utilization of outpatients with anxiety and depression. *Translational Psychiatry*, 3, e242. doi: 10.1038/tp.2013.2
9. Eyerly Ball. (n.d.). Program for assertive community treatment. Retrieved from <http://www.eyerlyball.org/node/36>
10. Bousman, C.A. and Hopwood, M. (2016). Commercial pharmacogenetic-based decision-support tools in psychiatry. *Lancet Psychiatry*, 3(585-590). doi: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366\(16\)00017-1](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366(16)00017-1)
11. AssureRx Health, Inc. (2016). *Clinicians*. Retrieved from <https://genesight.com/clinicians/>
12. Havelock, R.G. & Zlotolow, S. (1995). *The change agent's guide* (2nd ed.). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Education Technology.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to acknowledge Dr. Virginia Conley, Dr. Sandra Daack-Hirsch, Dr. Teresa Judge-Ellis, and Dr. Lisa Shah for their contributions to this project. Family and friends have also been supportive and instrumental. There are no conflicts of interest.