



COVID-19 Behavioral Health Task Force

September 24, 2021

Behavioral Health Task Force Agenda

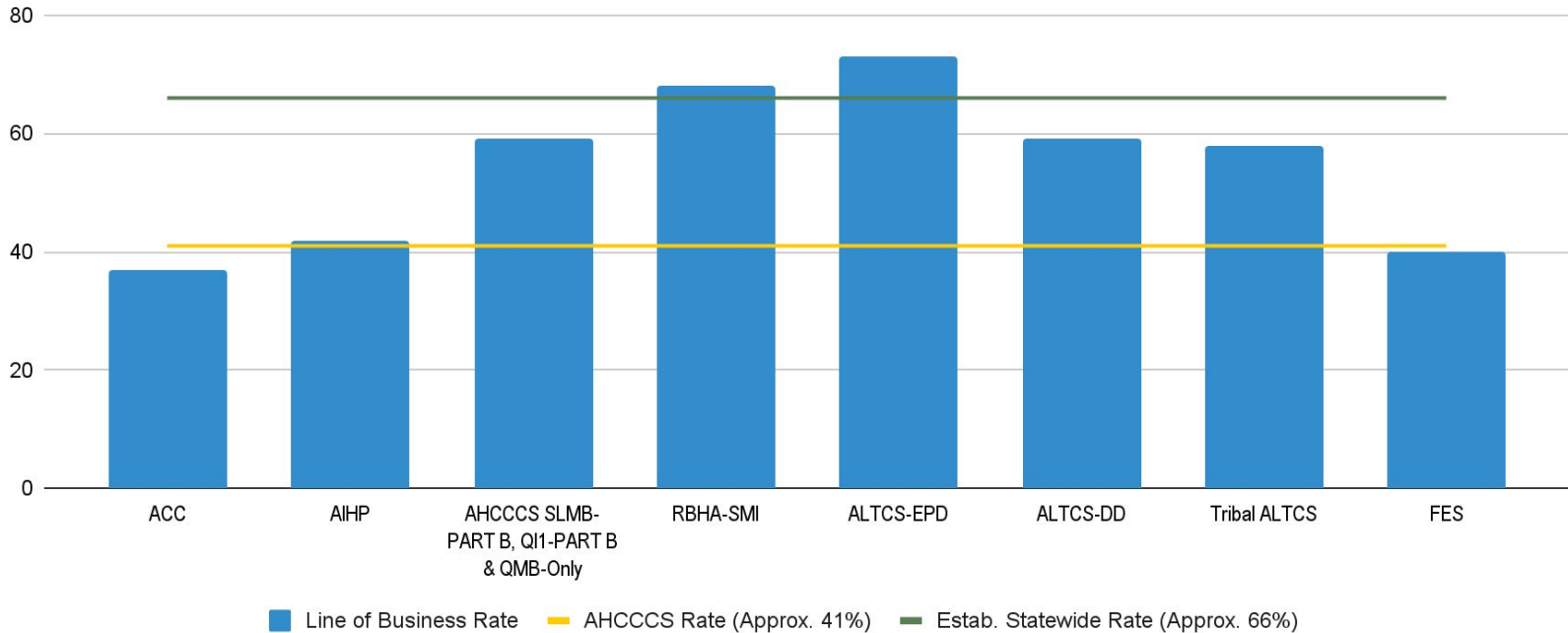
- Welcome: Dr. Sara Salek
- AHCCCS Update: Dr. Sara Salek
- ADHS Update: Teresa Ehnert
- Medical Board Rulemaking Update: Jasleen Chhatwal
- ADHS Connectedness Campaign Update: Teresa Aseret-Manygoats & Wayne Tormala
- Tribal Update: Amanda Bahe
- Questions, Open Discussion & Wrap-Up: All

AHCCCS Update

Sara Salek

AHCCCS Beneficiary Vaccination Rates

Vaccination Rates by Line of Business
Percentage of Individuals Ages 12+ Who Received at Least One Dose as of September 17, 2021



Opioid Services Locator



Are you looking for opioid use disorder services in the area?

Enter a zip code to find a program that is right for you or for your loved one.

Zip Code

Within

Service Type(s)

Accepting Clients

Disclaimer: The Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Service Locator is made available by the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to assist the public in locating general information about medication assisted treatment and opioid use disorder services. The OUD Service Locator is intended solely to provide convenient electronic access to possible resources for medication assisted treatment and opioid use disorder services. It can be used as a helpful tool in finding providers by zip code that may be available to provide these services. The inclusion of providers in the OUD Service Locator is not an endorsement of the quality or competence of the listed provider.

AHCCCS strives to offer the most current, correct, and complete information in the OUD Service Locator. Please keep in mind that this information is subject to change. Therefore, the information in the OUD Service Locator may not reflect the most current information. Note that the OUD Service Locator includes links to websites maintained by other entities. AHCCCS is not responsible for those websites or for the information or opinions expressed in those websites.

To ensure that you have the most up to date provider information, it is very important that you contact the provider and health plan directly to verify details. We recommend that you check provider participation status and whether the provider is registered with AHCCCS. Health plans will be able to inform you whether a provider is part of a particular health plan's network. We also recommend that you verify availability and whether the provider is accepting new patients.

The AHCCCS Administration does not provide individual advice or counseling. If you would like specific advice or counseling, please contact a licensed practitioner or professional, a social services agency representative, or an organization in your local community.

To report inaccurate information found in the OUD Service Locator, please contact opioidservicelocator-support@azahcccs.gov

Telehealth: Post-Pandemic Planning Highlights

- Evaluating and weighing the following variables for audio-only coverage:
 - Member preference
 - Clinical appropriateness of audio-only coverage
 - HCPCS code description/availability
 - Healthcare access for in-person care
 - Broadband access for A/V healthcare delivery
- House Bill 2454 Provisions including Telehealth Advisory Committee

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

 A small glass vial labeled 'VACCINE COVID-19 CORONA VIRUS' is surrounded by red, spiky virus particles. A white plus sign is positioned to the right of the vial.	 A white van is shown in motion, with a blurred background suggesting speed.	 A pile of white, oval-shaped pills is spilling from an orange pill container onto a US one hundred dollar bill.	 A wide-angle view of a city skyline with mountains in the background under a clear sky.	 A woman with long dark hair is sitting at a table, looking at a blue folder, while a young girl sits across from her, also looking at the folder.	 A black and white photograph of a woman in profile, looking down thoughtfully, with her hand near her face.	 A person wearing a dark hooded jacket is sitting on a stone ledge, looking away from the camera.
Vaccine COVID-19 Administration	Mobile Crisis Services	Elimination of Medicaid Drug Rebate Cap	100% FMAP for Urban Indian Health Program	10% Increase to FMAP for HCBS	Twelve Months Postpartum Coverage	SAMHSA Block Grants to Address Addiction, Mental Health Crisis

ADHS Update

Teresa Ehnert

Medical Board Rulemaking Update

Jasleen Chhatwal, MBBS, MD, FAPA

Behavioral Health Taskforce Presentation



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Background

- Rising concern among the health care community and the public about physician and medical student depression, burnout, and suicide.
- Long-standing and deeply ingrained stigma endured by physicians seeking care for either physical or mental health issues, partly due to concerns of career and licensure implications.
- [Chicago Tribune](#) (2/26, Schoenberg) reported the medical profession traditionally “celebrates stamina at the expense of self-care,” and many physicians are concerned about seeking mental health services because of “state medical boards that ask intimidating questions about mental health.”

Chicago
Tribune



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Data

Studies have shown that physicians who took their lives were less likely to be receiving mental health treatment compared with non-physicians who took their lives even though depression was found to be a significant risk factor at approximately the same rate in both groups.

- Suicide rate among male physicians is 1.41 times higher than the general male population.
- Among female physicians, the relative risk is even more pronounced — 2.27 times greater than the general female population.
- Unfortunately, physicians have been hesitant to seek mental health treatment during the pandemic specifically because of the negative impact it may have on their licensure.

"Doctors forgo mental health care during pandemic over concerns about licensing, stigma," available at:
<https://www.aamc.org/news-insights/doctors-forgo-mental-health-care-during-pandemic-over-concerns-about-licensing-stigma>



Current Licensure Questions

Article 2 of the Arizona Licensure requirements ask questions regarding mental health treatment. Question 15 on the application form specifically asks:

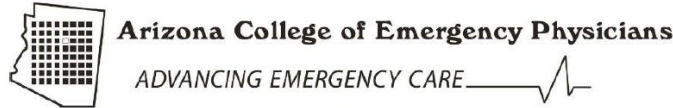
Have you received treatment within the last five years for use of alcohol or a controlled substance, prescription-only drug, or dangerous drug or narcotic or a physical, mental, emotional, or nervous disorder or condition that currently affects your ability to exercise the judgment and skills of a medical professional?

If so, provide the following:

- a) A detailed description of the use, disorder, or condition; and**
- b) An explanation of whether the use, disorder, or condition is reduced or ameliorated because you receive ongoing treatment and if so, the name and contact information for all current treatment providers and for all monitoring or support programs in which you are currently participating.**



In March 2021, APS, ArMA and 18 other medical organizations requested the Arizona Medical Board consider significant revisions to the licensure questions.



AZ Medical Board Process

The AMB undertook a thorough process to review and evaluate the current questions.



Physician Health Committee reviewed with opportunity for testimony



AZ Medical Board reviewed with opportunity for testimony



AZ Medical Board unanimously approved revisions to questions, using language proposed by ArMA and APS



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Current Status

In August, the AMB filed the required Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, requesting comments on the proposed revisions to licensure language.

New language is as follows:

Do you *currently* have a medical condition that impairs your judgement or adversely affects your ability to practice medicine in a competent, ethical and professional manner?

If you are *currently being* treated or monitored for a disease or condition, which if untreated, would impair your ability to practice medicine in a competent, ethical, and professional manner, please provide a detailed statement.

The Board will hear public comments at their meeting on October 6. Comments can also be submitted in writing before then to: communications@azmd.gov.



Questions?

THANK YOU!



ADHS Connectedness Campaign

Teresa Manygoats & Wayne Tormala

AHCCCS Tribal Relations Update

Amanda Bahe
Tribal Liaison

AHCCCS Tribal Relations

- Statewide Tribal COVID-19 PHE Updates
- AHCCCS Tribal Relations COVID-19 Response Phases:
 - Biweekly Tribal Consultations
 - March through July 2020
 - Monthly Tribal Consultations
 - August 2020 through July 2021
 - Quarterly Tribal Consultations
 - Beginning August 2021
- Ongoing Meetings with IHS/638 Leadership

1395

**tribal leaders and
stakeholders
were reached via Tribal
Consultation Sessions
regarding COVID-19
PHE**

Tribal Relations Resources

- [Subscribe](#) to AHCCCS Tribal Relations Updates
- [AHCCCS Tribal COVID-19 Tracking Document](#)
- [AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Website](#)
 - [Tribal Consultation Meeting Materials](#)
 - [Tribal Consultation Process for AHCCCS Policies](#)
 - [AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Policy](#)
 - [AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Annual Reports](#)



Questions, Open Discussion & Wrap Up

Next Meeting: October 22nd

Thank you!

- See the Behavioral Health Task Force web page for meeting past meeting presentations -
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/CommitteesAndWorkgroups/BehavioralHealthTaskForce.html>
- Send future topics you want to discuss to lauren.prole@azahcccs.gov