

## MICHIGAN MENTAL HEALTH EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE INITIATIVE (MiMHEBPI)

### What is MiMHEBPI?

MiMHEBPI is a quality improvement project to improve mental health treatment by translating evidence-based medication algorithms into daily clinical practices.

### Why Are We Funding MiMHEBPI?

Advancements in all areas of medicine over the past several decades have occurred so rapidly that physicians and practitioners are challenged to assimilate their existing knowledge base with new strategies in order to treat patients optimally. Guidelines and algorithms are among the various tools that have been designed to manage large amounts of new information and keep everyday medical practice in step with current research. In routine practice, however, guidelines and algorithms are significantly underutilized, primarily due to limits in their immediate availability and ease of use at the time of patient care.

### What Is The Goal of This Initiative?

The goal of this initiative is to improve the quality of mental health services in Michigan through dissemination and adoption of guidelines and algorithms for evidence-based pharmacological treatment of schizophrenia, major depression, and bipolar disorder. The initiative began in 2002 and is being piloted in public and private sectors, in urban and non-urban settings, and in different regions of the state.

A distinguished panel of 25 Michigan mental health experts developed an action plan to improve the quality of mental health care in Michigan during Phase I. The plan—Closing the Quality Gap in Michigan: A Prescription for Mental Health Care—focuses on encouraging and assisting physicians to adopt best-practice or evidence-based practice (EBP) in the prescription and monitoring of drugs for people with major depression, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia (see News and Resources Section for full report).

Phase II of the initiative involves implementing the action plan in the following six pilot sites:

- **Henry Ford Health System** (*in partnership with Henry Ford Medical Group and Health Alliance Plan*)
- **Huron Valley Physician Association** (*in partnership with St. Joseph Mercy Health System, Psychiatric Associates of Michigan, Priority Health, and Eastern Michigan University*)
- **Lifeways** (Jackson Community Mental Health Authority)  
(*in partnership with Foote Health System, Center for Family Health, Health Plan of Michigan, Brown's Advanced Care Pharmacy Services, and Refocus LLC*)
- **Network 180** (formerly Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Network of West Michigan)  
(*in partnership with Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services/St. Mary's Health Care, Forest View Hospital, Touchstone Innovare, Family Pharmacy-Wege Center, and Calvin College*)
- **Washtenaw Community Health Organization** (*in partnership with the University of Michigan and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital*)
- **Wayne State University** (*in partnership with the Gateway Network (MCPN), Rose Hill, Detroit Medical Center, Technology Integration Group Services, and SPEC Associates*)

Phase III of the initiative will implement Michigan medication algorithms beyond the pilot projects to the State's entire mental health community. Statewide implementation will result in more consistent and better quality mental health treatment based on best evidence yielding better outcomes for individuals with mental illness.