

Implementation Toolkit Resource Guidance

Health Care Transition Training for Health Care Professionals

Section I: Resource Overview

Summary

Through the Health Care Transition Training for Health Care Professionals training, participants will learn about developmental, legal, financial, and social considerations in planning for transition, using interactive tools and a Florida-specific planning algorithm to connect to local services and resources. To access the training, visit the Florida Health and Transition Services (HATS) website (<https://www.floridahats.org>) home page and select the link to the Tool Box. Within the Tool Box navigate to the Education and Training for Health Care Professionals.

Resource Description

The goal of this training is to provide practitioners with an in-depth understanding of the importance of health care transition. It helps to equip all practice staff with the knowledge and tools needed to facilitate smooth transition from pediatric to adult health care for youth with and without special health care needs.

Purpose

Considering the increasing difficulties youth with special health care needs encounter when they transition from pediatric to adult health care, Florida passed state legislation establishing a statewide task force to assess the need for health care transition services. The task force identified pertinent research data, performance measures, and best practices, and recommended strategies to assist in successful health care transition for all youth. This initiative was named the Florida Health and Transition Services, or Florida HATS.

Florida HATS developed a toolbox that includes evidence-based training such as Got Transition's Six Core Elements 2.0, a Coding and Reimbursement Tip Sheet, and condition-specific tools for subspecialists from the American College of Physicians. Health Care Transition Training for Health Care Professionals is a part of the Tool Box. Through the Health Care Transition Training for Health Care Professionals training, participants learn about developmental, legal, financial, and social considerations in planning for transition, using interactive tools and a Florida-specific planning algorithm to connect to local services and resources.

Intended User

The Health Care Transition Training for Health Care Professionals is intended for physicians, physician assistants, nurses, social workers, mental health counselors, and other allied health care professionals.

Intended Beneficiaries/Target Population

The Health Care Transition Training for Health Care Professionals targets a broad array of health care practitioners and complements physician Maintenance of Certification part IV training and other education programs available nationally. The training serves to benefit the youth population, including children and youth with special health care needs.

Materials Required

Web-based access to the Florida HATS website: <https://www.floridahats.org>

Section II: Using the Resource

How to Use this Resource

Access the Florida HATS website (<https://www.floridahats.org>) home page and select the link to the Tool Box. Within the Tool Box, navigate to the Education and Training for Health Care Professionals. The course is split into two short learning modules and is comprised of 10 sequential modules, each lasting approximately 15-20 minutes. The modules include a narrated PowerPoint with embedded videos. The course toolkit provides web-based resources and tools for each module.

Internal Capacity (Staff Needed to Develop this Resource)

The following personnel were involved in developing and implementing this resource:

- Legislative Champion
- Multi-Agency Task Force- (CMS Title V Director, Representatives from the Department of Education, Department of Children and Families, Agency for Health Care Administration, Agency for Children with Disabilities, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation)
- A Project Director
- A Medical Director

The following supports (e.g. leadership, organizational structure, staff competency) helped develop personnel capacity:

- Office of Health Care Transition within CMS to provide oversight and technical assistance
- Health Care Financing
- Education and training for professionals
- On-line toolkit

Collaboration/Partners (External Partners who Helped Develop this Resource)

The following partners were involved in the development of this resource:

- CMS-Title V Director
- Researcher in Health Care Transition-Developed the training program.
- IL Educational Consultant- To guide reformatting and updating.

Lessons Learned

Assets: An assessment of the program content, relevancy to practice, use of information and overall satisfaction was done with participants who received CEs for the course. On a rating scale of 1-5, a mean satisfaction score of 4.5 was obtained from participants. Access to links for additional HCT offerings, including maintenance of certification, other continuing education courses, graduate medical and public health education, and a graduate level, online certificate in education and HCT offered by the University of Florida.

Challenges: Keeping the information current and updated presents a challenge. New resources, links, research, program changes all present challenges for this type of video format. Not only can it be expensive to update the material from a production perspective, the continuing education platform technically requires a fee for changes in materials in between the 2-year certification period.

While this course was designed for physicians as the primary target audience, it is difficult to engage them and have them complete the course. Free CME is an incentive, but most physicians have access to other free CME courses so it's no longer a strong motivation. The majority of participants to-date have been nurses.

It can be a long and expensive process to partner with national associations/online training platforms that can offer free CE to participants outside the state of Florida. As such, any non-Florida participant must submit their certificate of completion to their own state accrediting agencies.

Mitigating Challenges: To mitigate these and other challenges, ensure adequate program budgeting for annual updates. Plan more directed outreach and promotion to physicians through the new Title V structure, and provide certificates of completion for non-Florida participants through AHEC.

Lessons Learned: In delivery of this training, expect to provide substantial promotion and outreach efforts to providers. It is also important to provide clear directions on how non-Florida participants can get CE credit from their own state accrediting agency.

Next Steps

Florida HATS plans to continue to strengthen the program promotion among physicians through newsletters and the FLHATS website. The Florida HATS team will consult with Got Transition to identify gaps and new opportunities. They will also broadly redistribute flyers to physicians, nurses, and social workers, including graduate schools.