Development of Dissemination and Implementation Tools for the Delivery of Empirically Validated Mental Health Interventions Valerie F. Hoffman, PhD

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BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:

The overall goal of this project is to develop an Internet site, which will promote the adoption of empirically supported psychosocial treatments for mental health clinicians and will facilitate training and other efforts necessary to adopt these treatments. In Phase I, an initial prototype of the web application was developed which addressed general therapy and the evidence-based treatments for four specific disorders (specific phobia, panic, depression, and trauma-related disorders) based on the American Psychological Association's Task Force list of evidence-based treatments.

OBJECTIVE(S):

The specific aims of the Phase II project are as follows:

- 1. Expand the application to include evidence-based treatments for all disorders including child and geriatric specific disorders;
 - 2. Enhance the features of the application;
 - 3. Improve the persuasive elements of the application;
 - 4. Develop a unique, dynamically assembled site;
 - 5. Assess the feasibility of the site;
 - 6. Provide for a Spanish version of the site;
 - 7. Assure accessibility for those with vision-impairment and other disabilities;
- 8. Evaluate the usefulness of the application in national samples of providers, consumers, and payers of mental health care.

METHODS:

In Phase II, the web application will be expanded to include all evidence-based psychosocial treatments for mental disorders with additional features to further reduce potential barriers to empirical practice. The website will be divided into two parts: 1) a provider side to be used by mental health clinician and 2) a consumer side to provide information to the lay public about mental disorders and their treatments.

FINDINGS / RESULTS:

No results to report at this time.

STATUS:

We are currently refining the content of the website and beginning to test its accessibility.

IMPACT:

The website will provide mental health practitioners with information on all empirically validated treatments for a wide array of mental disorders and associated conditions. It will also allow consumers to learn about these disorders and treatments in language targeted at the layperson.

PUBLICATIONS: None at this time.