



# Effective Health Care Practice Structuring in Community-based Psychiatric Care Nomination Summary Document

## Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- Practice structuring in community-based psychiatric care is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.
- This topic could be considered for a potential new research project within the Effective Health Care (EHC) Program.

## Topic Description

**Nominator:** Government Agency

**Nomination Summary:** The nominator states that one of the primary concerns in psychiatric practice is the utility of the 15-minute medication check. He states that this is a primary element of practice but is unaware of any research on it or alternative ways of structuring practice. The nominator states that an examination of the 15-minute medication check and other possibilities, as well as a delineation of how to decide what practice to use, seems warranted.

**Key Questions from Nominator:**

1. What is the best way to organize psychiatric time in community health settings?
2. How should psychiatrists determine how often and for how long to see patients?
3. What should they attempt to do during those interventions?
4. How should they work with consumers and members of the mental health care team?
5. What are the best ways (most effective/efficient ways) for community psychiatrists to organize their clinical encounters?

## Considerations

- The topic meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/>.)
- Very few studies that examine the utility of this practice or alternative ways of structuring a psychiatric care session were identified; therefore, this topic is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.
- Potential new research on this topic could help address the comparative effectiveness of medication management alone to medication management with added psychotherapy.