



Pediatric Integrated Care: Rationale and Progress

SPPAC 2017 Plenary Session (1 CE)

The confluence of the ACA, mental health parity, and increasing demand for pediatric mental health services that exceeds our capacity is pushing us toward integrated care. Most of the empirical evidence and cost benefit analyses that support integrated care have been focused on adults, but there is a good rationale for applying integrated care models to the pediatric population as well. However unlike the case for adults, many of the benefits for children will accrue through the prevention and early treatment of mental health disorders reducing morbidity (and costs to society) later in life. While the logic behind the movement toward integrated care is compelling, many barriers exist-- some of them very fundamental to our current healthcare system. Despite these barriers, numerous examples of effective integrated care programs across the country.

Based on the content of this talk, participants will be able to:

- Identify at least 3 public health, access-to-care, and/or financial issues pushing healthcare providers toward integrated care.
- Summarize the evidence available to support use a preventative/integrated care approach to improve health outcomes.
- Describe how pediatric integrated care is unique relative to existing adult models.
- Identify at least one specific strategy for overcoming the barriers to integrated care in their own practice.

Target Learner Level: Intermediate

Plenary Speaker: Gregory K. Fritz, MD



Dr. Gregory K. Fritz did his undergraduate work at Brown University, received his medical degree from Tufts Medical School, and completed his child and adolescent psychiatry training and a research fellowship at Stanford University School of Medicine. He was on the faculty at Stanford until joining the Brown faculty in 1985. He is currently Professor of Psychiatry, Director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and Vice Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Warren Alpert School of Medicine at Brown University. He is also the current president of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP). Dr. Fritz's research and clinical expertise is in the mind-body interactions in chronic pediatric illness. His AACAP presidential initiative is focused on integrated care. He has authored over 200 articles dealing with a wide range of issues in child mental health and has been the Principle or Co-Investigator numerous NIH and foundation research grants. Dr. Fritz is an advocate for children's mental health on the local and national level, and his interest in bridging the gap between research and public understanding is reflected in the 50+ commentaries he has written for the lay press.

COI Statement: The speaker has no relevant financial relationships or conflicts of interest to declare.



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