Outpatient Substance Use: Treatment Engagement and Retention

**Treatment Engagement**

**Outpatient treatment engagement:** Percent of outpatient episodes with 2 or more therapeutic services with the same provider on separate days within 30 days following episode start date.

Adults’ substance use disorder treatment engagement is the highest among Hispanics and the lowest among Whites.

**Treatment Retention**

**Lack of outpatient treatment retention:** Percent of outpatient episodes with 2 or fewer therapeutic services with the same provider on separate days during a treatment episode.

Black adults have the lowest retention rates.

**Utilization**

**Outpatient substance use disorder utilization:** Percent of adults with one or more claims for outpatient substance use treatment.

White adults have the highest use of substance use treatment.

**Policy and Practice Implication:** Pattern of race-ethnicity disparities in outpatient substance use disorder treatment differ by engagement, retention and utilization. Target populations may be different depending on area of focus for improvement.

Note: Study conducted on 2018-2019 CBH claims data