Data Informs Care Continuity and Access Management

BUMED M3 Healthcare Operations came to us to investigate the relationship between continuity of care and access to care over concerns that improving one would jeopardize the other. We examined the association between the two measures of care to better understand their relationship.

The analysis included all Navy military treatment facilities (MTFs) that had complete data on the metrics, over 100 in total, and spanned 2011-2016. We studied the relationship between continuity and access both across and then within individual MTFs. The findings revealed some interesting trends, with a pair occupying the clear majority.

In close to 8 of every 10 cases, there was either no relationship or both improved. A handful showed reversal trends, where, for example, continuity and access would both improve, and then at a certain point access would decline. The findings indicate that while variations in individual MTF practices may affect the relationship, overall BUMED can improve access or continuity without fear that doing so will put the other at risk.

Need data to inform delivery of care decisions? We can help. Contact us to find out how: usn.hampton-roads.navmcpublthcnpors.list.nmcphc-haprojreq@mail.mil