



# Effective Health Care Consumer-Provided Services in Assertive Community Treatment Nomination Summary Document

## Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- Consumer-provided services in assertive community treatment was found to be addressed by two systematic reviews published in 2011. Given that the existing reports cover this nomination, no further activity will be undertaken on this topic.
  - Doughty C, Tse S. Can consumer-led mental health services be equally effective? An integrative review of CLMH services in high-income countries. *Community Mental Health Journal* 2011; 47(3): 252-66. PMID: 20512528.
  - Wright-Berryman JL, McGuire AB, Salyers MP. A review of consumer-provided services on assertive community treatment and intensive case management teams: implications for future research and practice. *Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association* 2011; 17(1): 37-44. PMID: 21659293.
- Consumer-provided services in assertive community treatment could potentially be considered for new research in comparative effectiveness.

## Topic Description

**Nominator:** Individual

**Nomination Summary:** The nominator is interested in a comparison between consumer run mental health services programs and programs that do not include consumers. The nominator states that they would specifically like to see an assertive community training program run by a clinician compared to assertive community training run by a consumer group.

### Staff-Generated PICO

**Population(s):** Individuals with serious and persistent mental illness

**Intervention(s):** Assertive community treatment or case management without consumer or peer involvement

**Comparator(s):** Assertive community treatment or case management including consumer or peer involvement

**Outcome(s):** Reduced symptoms of mental illness, prevention of recurrent acute episodes of illness, meeting patients' basic needs for improved quality of life, improving social function and employment outcomes, improving individuals' ability to live independently, reduction in family burden, cost effectiveness

**Key Questions** 1. Why are there no comparison contrast studies for mental health and substance

**from Nominator:** abuse consumer run programs (such as PACT) against a mental health and substance abuse system run (PACT team) for outcomes and cost effectiveness?

## Considerations

- The topic meets Effective Health Care (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/>.)
- Based on the limited evidence available since the publication of the 2011 systematic review by Wright-Berryman and colleagues, it does not appear that a new review would provide additional information at this time.

## Importance of New Research

- The use of consumer-provided services is increasing in the management of patients with persistent mental illnesses.
- It appears that comparative effectiveness trials of consumer-provided services for people with serious and persistent mental illnesses with standardized outcome measures and follow-up for long-term outcomes are needed in order to better guide patient treatment via consumer-provided services.

## Research Gaps

- The Wright-Berryman and Doughty systematic reviews concluded that more research is needed on consumer-provided services and outline the following areas for future research:
  - Mechanisms of action underlying the link between consumer-provided services, the therapeutic relationship, and engagement
  - Role of consumer providers on the team to determine how their services can be best utilized
  - Long-term follow-up of patients receiving consumer-provided services
  - Standardization of outcome measures in studies on consumer-provided services.
- A scan for studies published since the Wright-Berryman review indicates that at most three additional studies have been published that may add to the literature base for this topic. Only one in-process trial was identified that clearly addresses the value of adding a consumer provider to an intensive case management team.