



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Community Health Centers

Community Health Centers: Partners in Research and Disparities Reduction

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June 26, 2006

Future of Telehealth: Essential Tools and
Technologies for Clinical Research and Care



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Community Health Centers

America's Voice for Community Health Care

The NACHC Mission

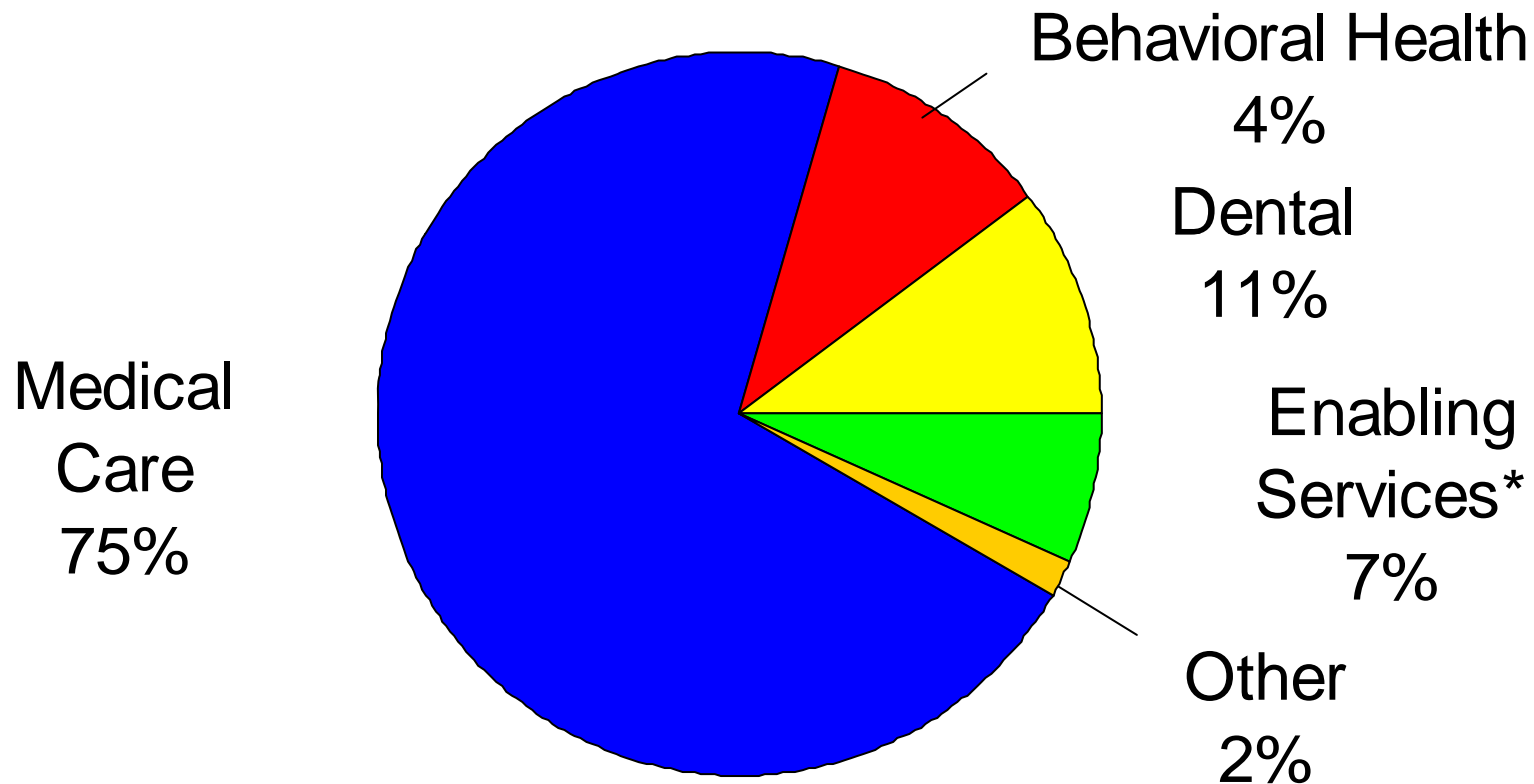
To promote the provision of high quality, comprehensive and affordable health care that is coordinated, culturally and linguistically competent, and community directed for all medically underserved people.



Health Center Model of Care

- Comprehensive primary care and preventive services
- Broad definition of “health”
- Serve medically underserved areas/populations
- Open to all
- Customize care
- Community Governance

Health Center Patient Visits by Type of Service, 2007



Total = 63 million encounters in 2007

*Encounters for enabling services include visits to case managers and health educators.
Source: Federally funded health centers only, 2007 Uniform Data System, Bureau of Primary Health Care, HRSA, DHHS



Health Centers Today

- >18 million patients
 - 40% are uninsured, 36% have Medicaid
 - 92% are low income
 - 64% are minority
 - ~25% have chronic illness
- These patients make up:
 - 1 in 8 Medicaid beneficiaries
 - 1 in 5 low income, uninsured
 - 1 in 3 people in poverty
 - 1 in 4 minority individuals below poverty
- ~1200 organizations with 7000+ sites

Health Centers Tomorrow

**ACCESS for All
America Plan:**

30 million
patients by 2015





Body of Evidence

- Removing Barriers to Care
- Improving Outcomes & Reducing Disparities
 - Effective Chronic Care Management
- Cost Effective
- Models of Care (Medical Homes)

Annotated bibliographies, reports, and
“Chartbook” at www.nachc.com/research



CHC Engagement in Research

- Proactively address community health needs
- Research goals:
 - Increase capacity
 - Improve health outcomes & narrow disparities
 - Deliver cost effective care
- Partnerships allow CHCs to address their communities' immediate health needs



As Settings for Research

- Community experience
- Patient and case mix diversity
- Team-based model of care
- Experience with needs assessments & QI
- Participation in networks
- HIT and reporting
- Broad array of services
- Infrastructure that speeds dissemination

As Settings for Research

CHCs are prime settings for translational research



Opportunities for NIH

- Invest in community research infrastructure
 - http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/pdf_files/response-nih-final.pdf
- Expand funding for translational research



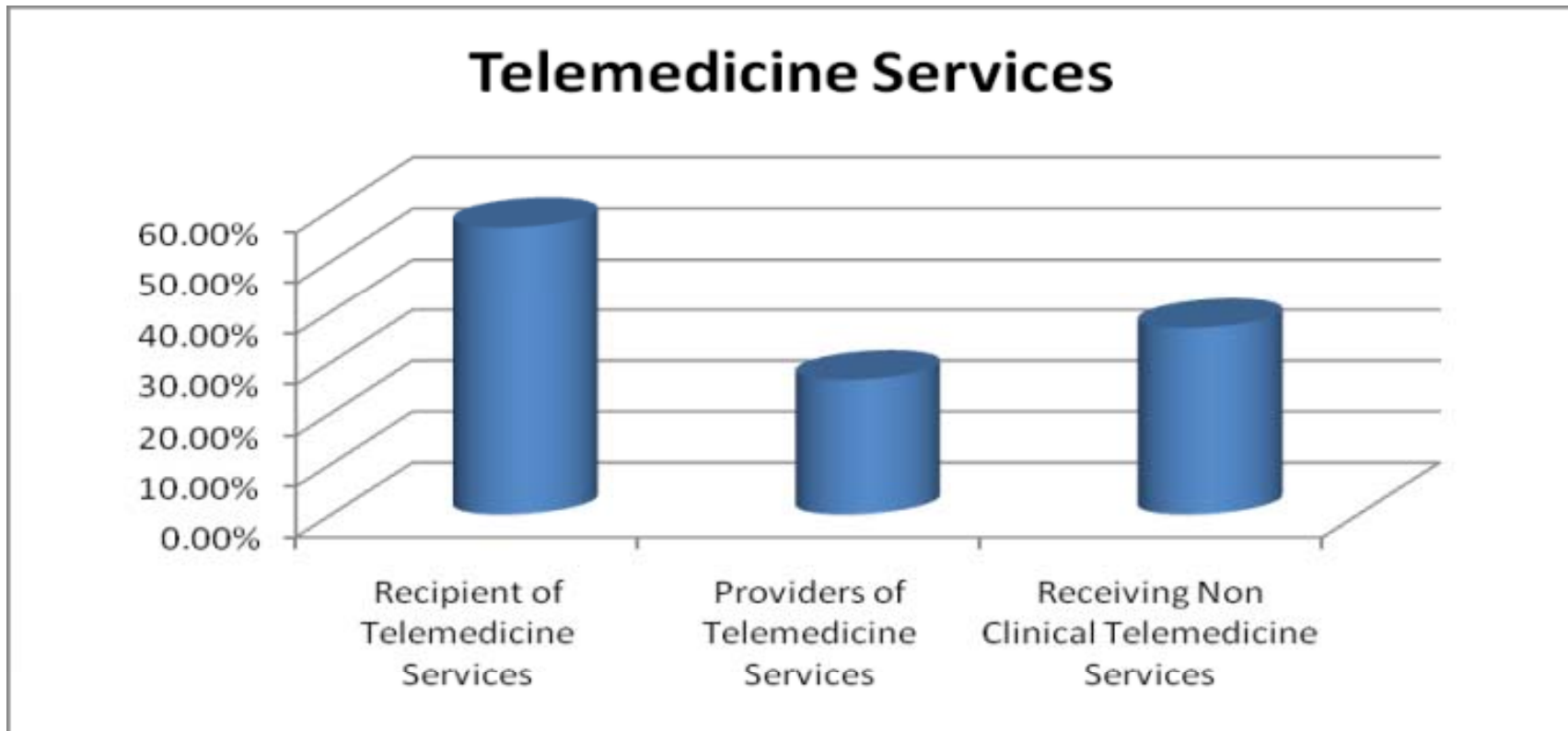
- CBPR is essential for translational research
- Look at CHCs as partners, collaborate early, and share the funding



CHCs and Telehealth

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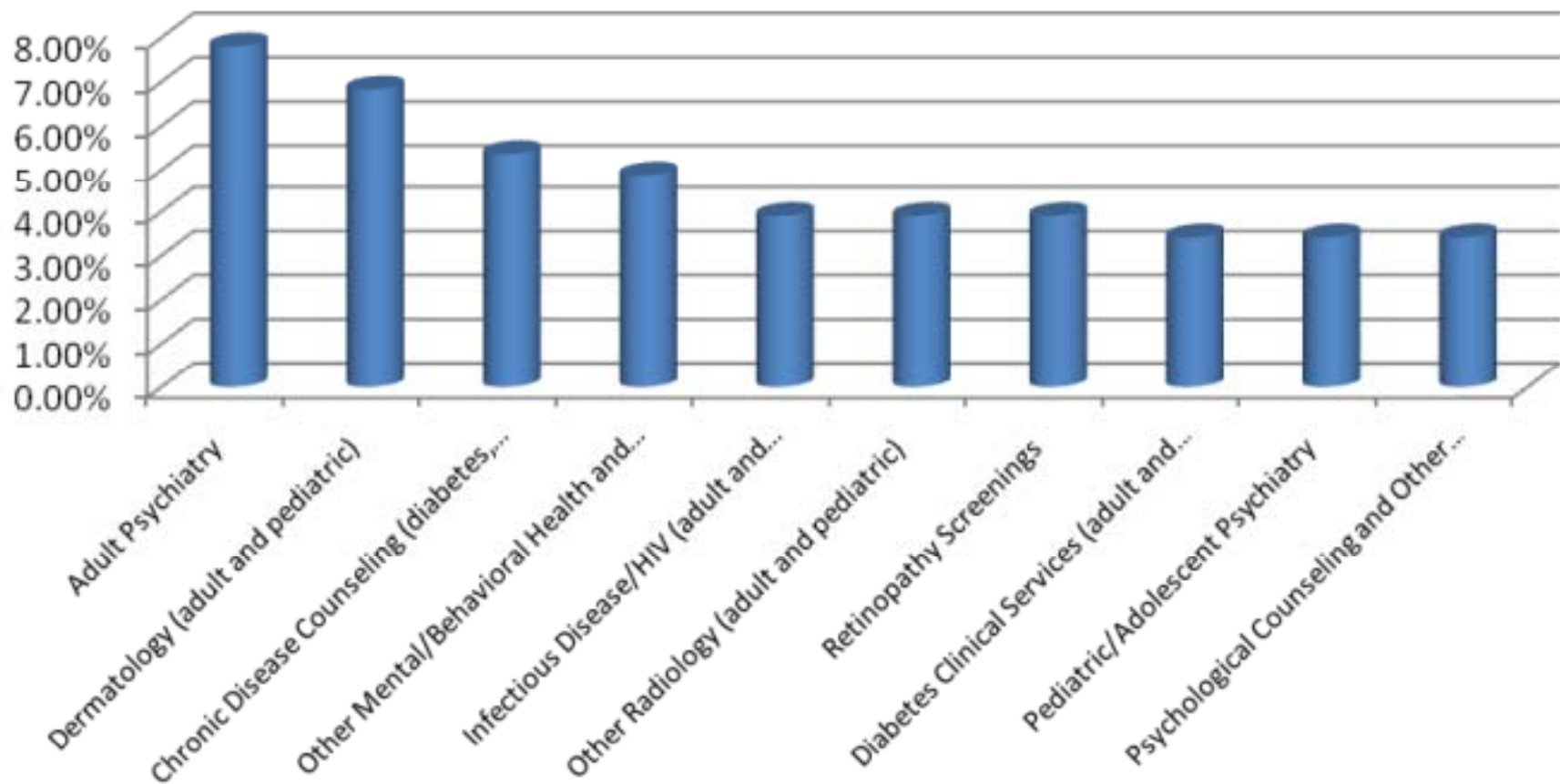
Use of Telehealth



Source: 2008 NACHC HIT survey, <http://www.nachc.com/health-center-info.cfm>

Use of Telehealth

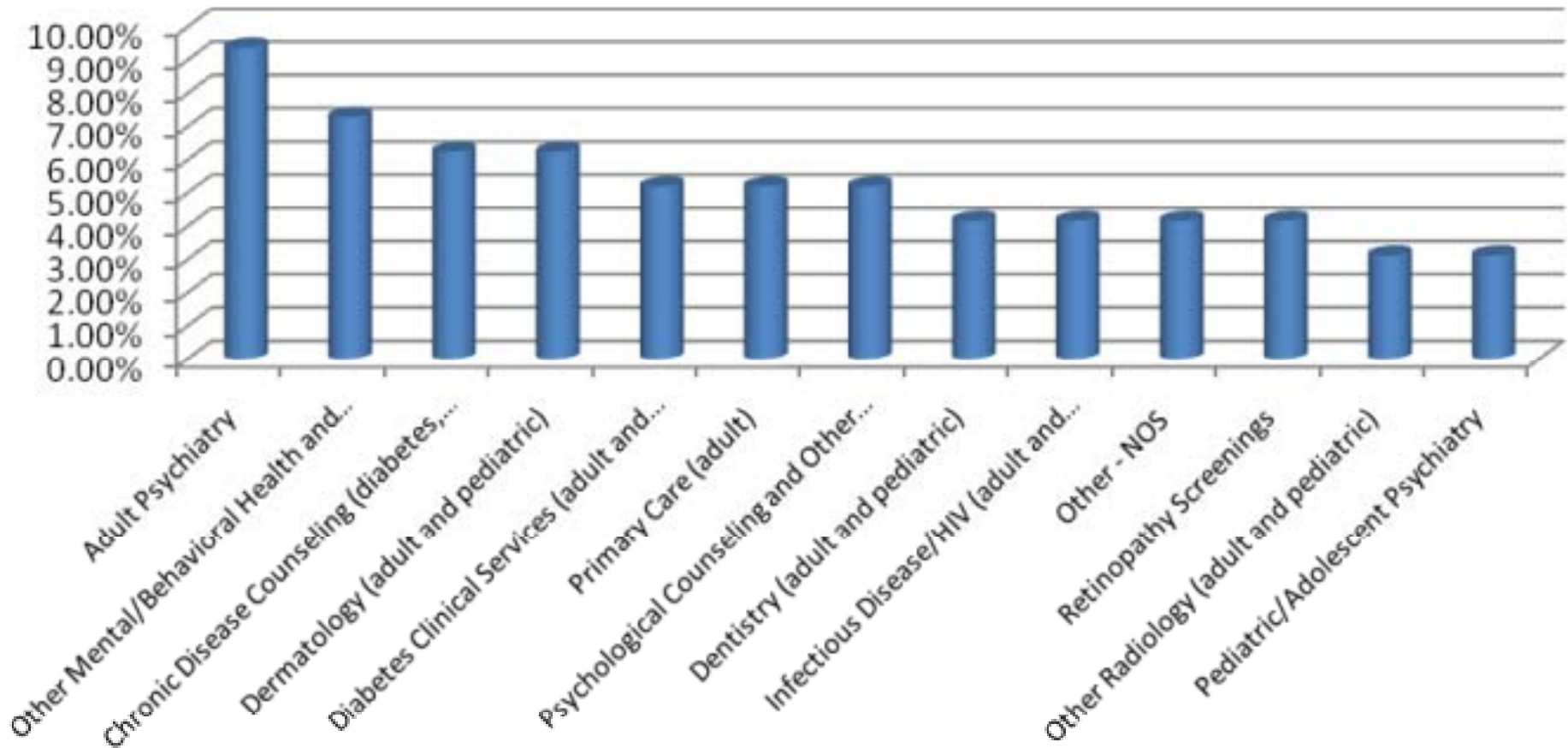
Type of Telemedicine Services Received



Source: 2008 NACHC HIT survey, <http://www.nachc.com/health-center-info.cfm>

Use of Telehealth

Telemedicine Services Provided



Source: 2008 NACHC HIT survey, <http://www.nachc.com/health-center-info.cfm>



The Future of Telehealth for CHCs

- Expansion of telehealth applications
 - Including the extension of medical homes
- The number of CHCs is growing but gaps in adoption exist
- Role of networks
- Funding opportunities
- Payment issues exacerbate gaps
 - Need for cost effectiveness research