

Henry Ford Health System

The Value of Electronic Screening in School-Based Health Centers

RAAPS Gives School-Based Health Centers a More Effective Way to Assess Youth Risk

Founded in 1915 by auto pioneer Henry Ford, the Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) is one of the nation's leading health care providers. It includes six hospitals, 32 medical centers and one of the nation's largest group practices, the Henry Ford Medical Group, with more than 1,200 physicians in 40+ specialties. The system's flagship, Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, is a Level 1 Trauma Center recognized for clinical excellence.

In 1991, its first school-based health center opened in Detroit's Hutchins Middle School. It has grown to include 9 school and community settings across metro Detroit.

Mary Serowoky, a nurse practitioner, is clinic coordinator for the state-funded school-based health center at Southwestern High School in Detroit. This center serves youth between the ages of 10 and 21.



More than 15,000 services are delivered annually to metro-Detroit students and community members through the Henry Ford School-Based and Community Health Program.

Short, Electronic Screening vs. Lengthy, Paper Surveys

All adolescents seen in Southwestern's center complete a risk screening annually. Serowoky, who has worked in school-based health for a decade, has used risk screening tools her entire career. She knew the paper-based, lengthy forms were tedious and difficult for teens to complete—and for medical providers to review.

Center leaders eagerly joined a state-funded pilot project to use the Rapid Assessment for Adolescent Preventive Services (RAAPS) cloud-based system. Electronic and concise in format, RAAPS is easy to take and review. Plus, it's a proven and validated tool that quickly identifies the most important risk factors.

Easy Implementation & Receptive Teens

Implementation "was super-easy," Serowoky said. Training took 10 minutes. Then, it was a matter of determining where youth would complete the screening and how providers would access and use it. A medical assistant, care manager, and clinical therapist all use RAAPS data to support the teen patients.

Serowoky says teens respond well to RAAPS. They understand technology and are computer savvy so they accept the screening. They are more honest answering through technology, which builds on the trust staff work to establish with the teens. When the clinic moves to an electronic health record, Serowoky plans to integrate RAAPS.



Invaluable Electronic Features

Serowoky says RAAPS' electronic features make it a "must have." Teens complete RAAPS faster, more thoroughly and more honestly than they did the former, longer, paper screening. Health providers supporting a given teen can access that teen's results, review results more efficiently, and receive consistent information across the entire patient population. What's more, RAAPS' multilingual capabilities are invaluable to students who, in Southwestern's case, need Spanish or French versions.

Serowoky said RAAPS' advantages — online format, short length, multilingual services, and **comprehensive reporting** — make it unique and extremely valuable to the clinic and the teens it serves.

RAAPS produces comprehensive reports that Serowoky uses to evaluate top risk areas. She catalogs behaviors by race and gender to advance the team's understanding of patients, and she will compare the population to a national peer group using RAAPS data. "We love that this is electronic since we can pull all the reports and we have a database of all the kids. This is really good for us," Serowoky said.

Serowoky said RAAPS' advantages—online format, short length, multilingual services, and comprehensive reporting—make it unique and extremely valuable to the clinic and the teens it serves.

Built-in reports, like a snapshot of student population by risk, provide better access to quality data to identify trends, track impact and tailor interventions to your population.

