

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Division of Mental Health
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Brennan Martin

DATE: March 30, 2007

RE: Prevalence of Arthritis and Other Rheumatic Conditions

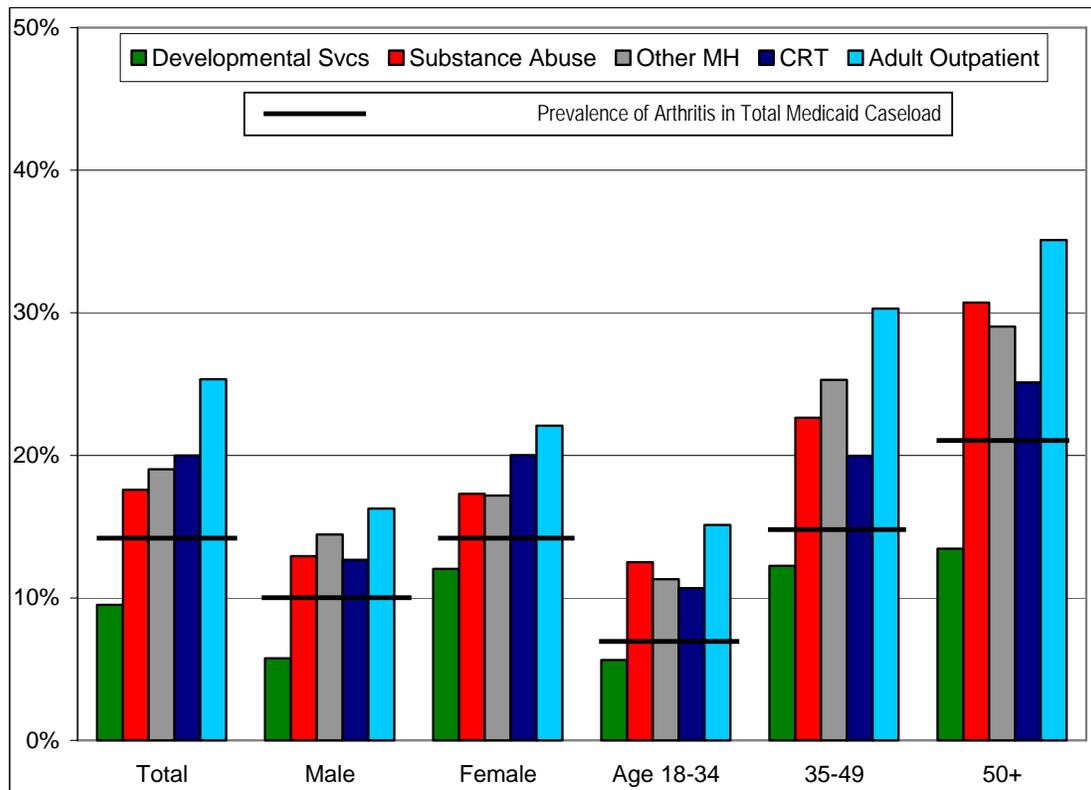
The attached table and graph provide information on the prevalence of arthritis and other rheumatic conditions among adults covered by Medicaid who were served by a Vermont CMHC during FY2006. Results are provided for individuals with different program assignments and in different age and gender categories. This analysis was requested by Jean McCandless, the Vermont Department of Health's Arthritis Programs Manager, based on her interest in the relationship between mental health disorders and arthritis in special populations.

Two data sets were used in this analysis. One data set was extracted from Monthly Service Report (MSR) data files submitted to the Division of Mental Health during FY2006. The second data set, extracted from the Medicaid paid claims database, included all claims that were associated with a diagnosis of arthritis and other rheumatic conditions. The two data sets were linked using the Medicaid number that appears in both data sets, and the rates reported here were calculated on the basis of that linkage. The rate of arthritis and other rheumatic diagnoses in the general Medicaid population was based on a comparison of the paid claims and the total number of individuals covered by Medicaid during the report period.

As you will see, adults with developmental disorders were the only group to have lower arthritis rates than the general population of adults enrolled in Medicaid. Adults in every mental health and substance abuse program had higher arthritis rates than the general population of adults enrolled in Medicaid. Adult mental health outpatient clients tended to have the highest arthritis rates, and substance abuse clients tended to have the lowest arthritis rates. Rates for women tended to be higher than rates for men, and rates tended to increase with age.

We look forward to your interpretation of these findings and your suggestions for further analysis of these data. Please forward your comments and suggestions to pip@vdh.state.vt.us or 802.863.7249.

Prevalence of Arthritis and Other Rheumatic Conditions in Vermont Adult CMHC Medicaid Caseloads: By Program FY06



| | Total | | Gender | | Age | | |
|---------------------------|---------|-----|--------|--------|-------|-------|-----|
| | N | % | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50+ |
| Total Medicaid | 114,767 | 14% | 10% | 14% | 7% | 15% | 21% |
| Developmental Svcs | 1,567 | 10% | 6% | 12% | 6% | 12% | 13% |
| Substance Abuse | 1,576 | 18% | 13% | 17% | 13% | 23% | 31% |
| Other MH | 673 | 19% | 14% | 17% | 11% | 25% | 29% |
| CRT | 2,350 | 20% | 13% | 20% | 11% | 20% | 25% |
| Adult Outpatient | 2,707 | 25% | 16% | 22% | 15% | 30% | 35% |

Based on analysis direct linkage between the MSR and Medicaid paid claims database for fiscal year 2006.