

## **Understanding Cultural Competence and Involuntary Clients in Substance Abuse Treatment**

*Nadine J. Barrett, PhD, Daniel L. Howard, Ph.D., DaJuanicia N. Holmes, M. S.*

We examined the impact of cultural competent substance abuse services on treatment outcomes among involuntary clients mandated to substance abuse treatment. Using a nationally representative sample of outpatient methadone treatment facilities in 2005 we used data collected from facility supervisors and directors regarding the degree of cultural competency and the rate of involuntary patients completing treatment. Regression models were fitted with measures of cultural competency, client characteristics, organizational characteristics, and various mandated situations to better explain treatment outcomes across facilities with high levels of involuntary clients in treatment. The significance of cultural competence among involuntary clients in substance abuse treatment will be presented.