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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Table of contents -- Preface -- Executive summary -- Aims and target audience -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Description and analysis of mental health services around the world -- 2.1 Mental health services integrated into the general health system -- 2.2 Community mental health services -- 2.3 Institutional services in mental hospitals -- 3. Current status of service organization around the world -- 4. Guidance for organizing services -- 4.1 Principles for the organization of services -- 4.2 Establishment of an optimal mix of services -- 4.3 Integration of mental health services into general health services -- 4.4 Creation of

formal and informal community mental health services -- 4.5
Limitation of dedicated mental hospitals -- 5. Key issues in the
organization of mental health services -- 5.1 Evidence-based care --
5.2 Episodic care versus continuing care -- 5.3 Pathways to care -- 5.4
Geographical disparities -- 5.5 Service-led care versus needs-led care
-- 5.6 Collaboration within and between sectors -- 6.
Recommendations and conclusions -- 7. Scenarios for the organization
of services in countries with various levels of resources -- 8. Barriers
and solutions -- 9. Glossary -- References.

Sommario/riassunto

Mental health services make it possible to deliver effective interventions. The way these services are organized has an important bearing on their effectiveness and the ultimate fulfilment of the aims and objectives of national mental health policies. This module begins with a description and analysis of the current forms of mental health service organisation found around the world. The current status of service organisation is reviewed and recommendations are made for organising mental health services, based on an optimal mix of a variety of services. The main recommendations are to integrate mental health services into general health care systems; develop formal and informal community mental health services; and promote and implement deinstitutionalization once alternative services are in place.
