

# Drug Court Treatment Services: Applying Research Findings to Practice-

11/1/11pm



Caroline Cooper, J.D., Hon. Stephen V. Manley, and Roger H. Peters, Ph.D.

# Welcome

## Question during the presentation?

Use “Ask a Question” button on the webinar screen. We will answer as many questions as time permits at the end of the presentation.

# Presenters



**Caroline Cooper, J.D.**, Associate Director of the Justice Programs Office of the School of Public Affairs at American University



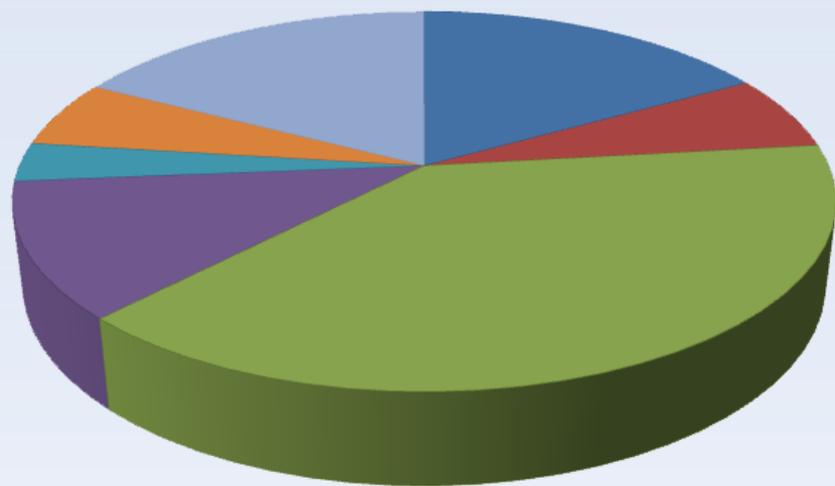
**Hon. Stephen V. Manley**, Superior Court Judge, Drug Treatment Court and Mental Health Drug Treatment Court, Santa Clara County (San Jose), California



**Roger H. Peters, Ph.D.**, Professor, University of South Florida, Department of Mental Health Law and Policy

# Today's Participants: A Snapshot

- 102 Court Administrators
- 39 Judges
- 70 Probation Officers
- 35 Social Workers
- 20 Researchers
- 105 Treatment Providers
- 237 Other Professions (program managers, coordinators, directors, etc.)



# Outline of Topics for Webinar

- I. Drug Court and Treatment Outcomes**
  - Impact of drug court on participant outcomes
  - Impact of substance abuse treatment for offenders
- II. Components of Effective Drug Court Treatment**
- III. Evidence-Based Practices: What is the Impact on Treatment?**
- IV. What we Know and Don't Know about Drug Court Treatment: Next Steps for Research**

# Definition of Key Terms

- **Treatment:** Services provided by trained clinical staff to address substance use disorders and other risk factors for recidivism.
- **Screening:** Brief initial review of information related to drug court program eligibility and/or admission.
- **Assessment:** Comprehensive review of information related to substance use disorders and risk for recidivism. Can examine both psychosocial functioning and risk factors (risk assessment).

# Definition of Key Terms

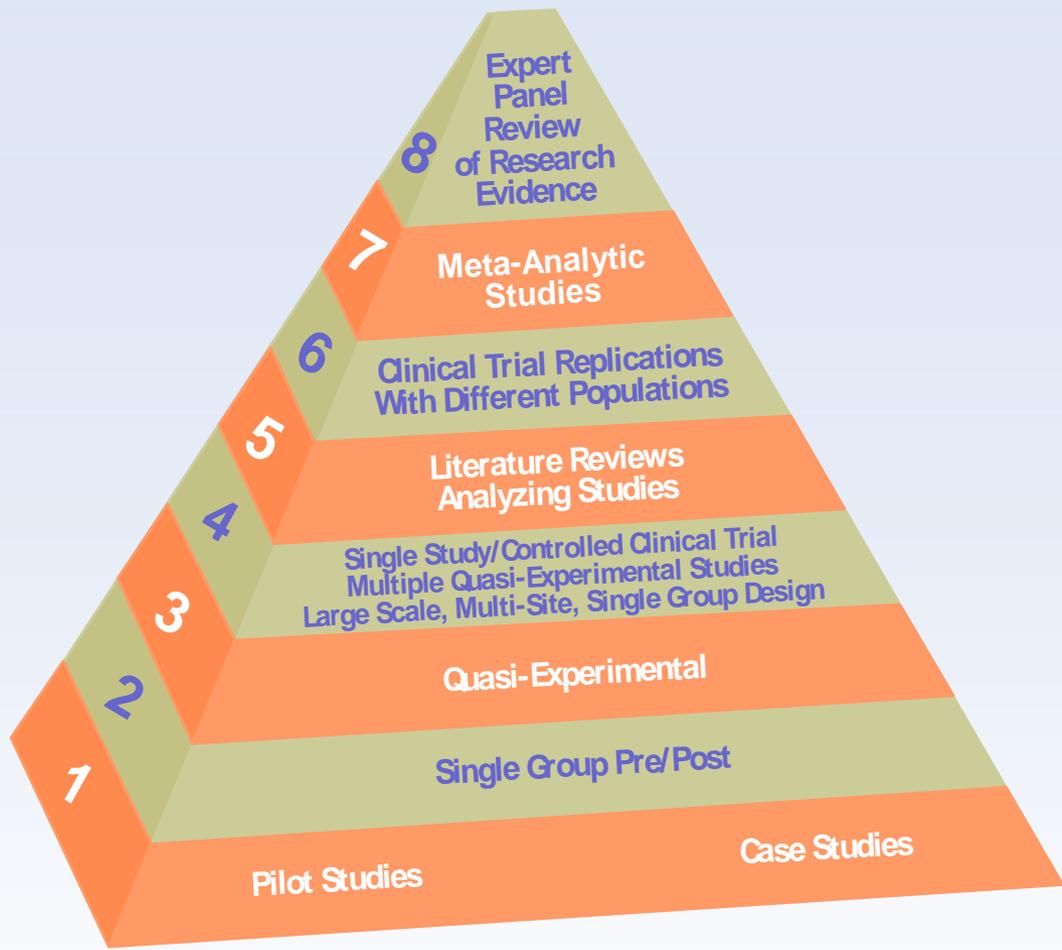
## Evidence-Based Practice:

“Integrating individual clinical expertise with the best available external clinical evidence from systematic research”

- Sackett et al., 1996; British Medical Journal

# Hierarchy of Scientific Evidence

(SAMHSA, 2005)



# Questions?

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# Poll Question

How important is substance abuse treatment to successful outcomes for drug court participants?

- a) Indispensible
- b) Very Important
- c) Important
- d) Not very Important
- e) No effect on outcomes

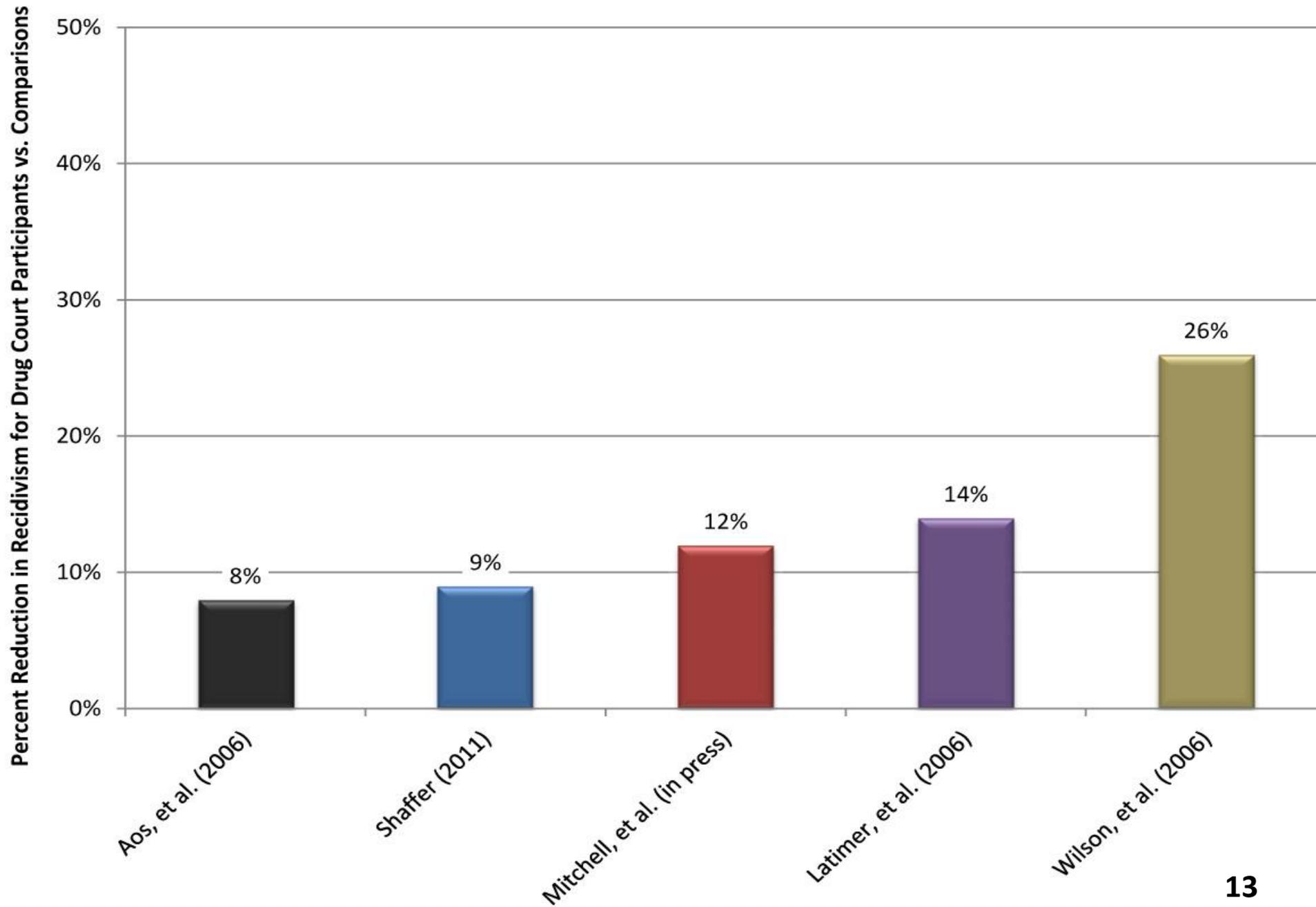
# Relevant Research Findings:

What is the impact of drug courts on participant outcomes?

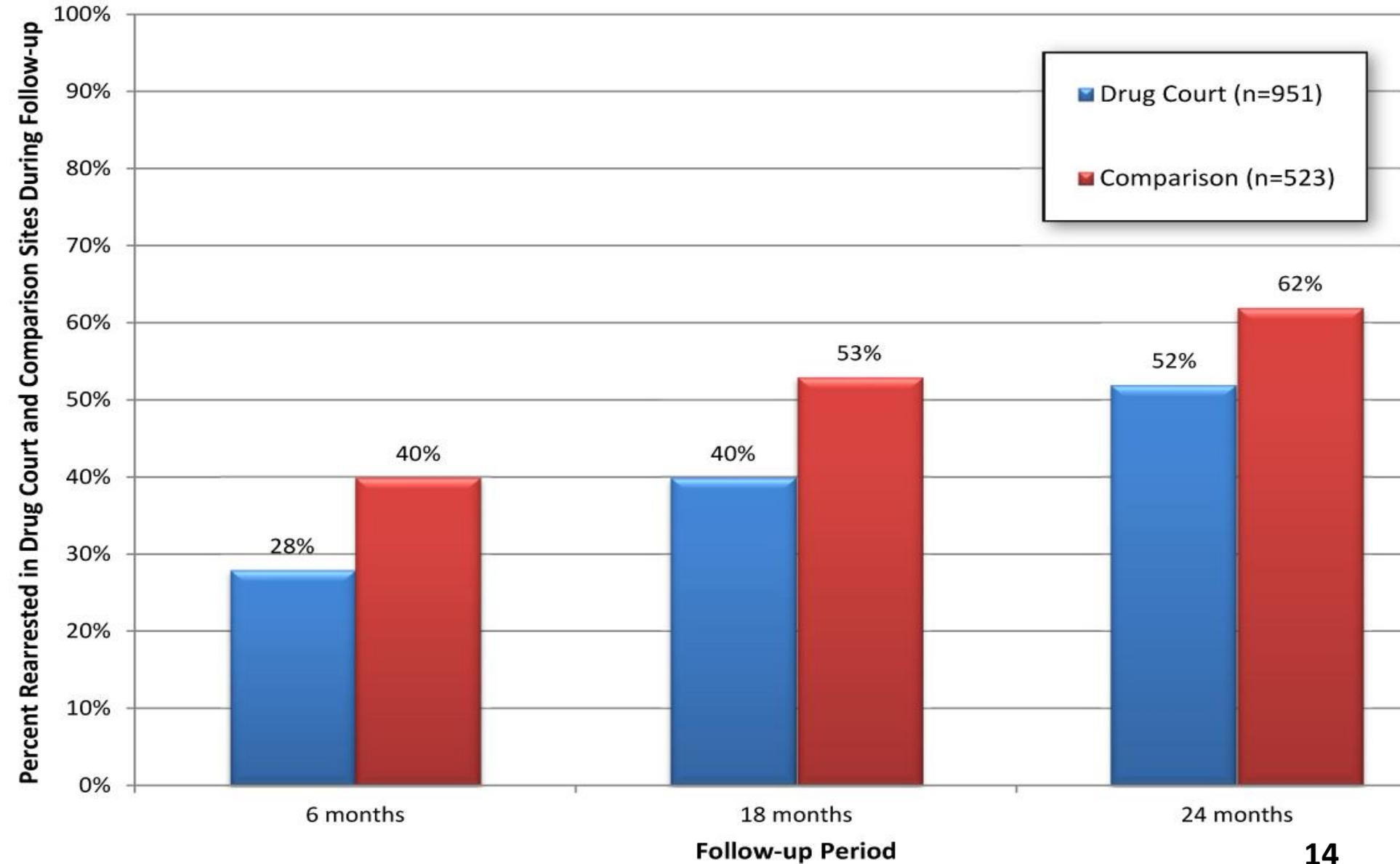
# Drug Court Outcomes

- Meta-analyses<sup>1</sup> indicate that drug courts lead to reductions in recidivism from 8-26% vs. comparisons
  - Recidivism increases for both drug court participants and comparison groups over time
  - However, there are smaller increases in recidivism over time for drug courts, relative to comparison groups
  - Drug court effects on recidivism extend to at least 36 months (Mitchell et al., in press)
  - Wide variation in effect size; 15% of programs ineffective
- Drug courts produce cost benefits of \$4,767 - \$5,680 per participant (Aos et al., 2006; Rossman et al., 2011)

## Meta-Analyses of Adult Drug Court Effectiveness



# Multi-site Adult Drug Court Evaluation (*Rossman, et al., 2011; Urban Institute*)



# Poll Question

Have you ever visited any of the treatment programs utilized by your drug court?

- a) Yes
- b) No

# Relevant Research Findings:

What is the impact of substance abuse treatment for offenders?

# Effectiveness of Outpatient Treatment

- National studies indicate significant reductions in recidivism following outpatient treatment

	<u>Pre-treatment</u>	<u>Post-treatment</u>
DARP <sup>1</sup>	87%	34%
NTIES <sup>1</sup>	74%	16%
TOPS <sup>1</sup>	32% <sup>2</sup>	10% <sup>2</sup>

- Drug Abuse Reporting Program (DARP), National Treatment Improvement Evaluation Study (NTIES), Treatment Outcome Prospective Study (TOPS)
- Reductions in predatory crimes.

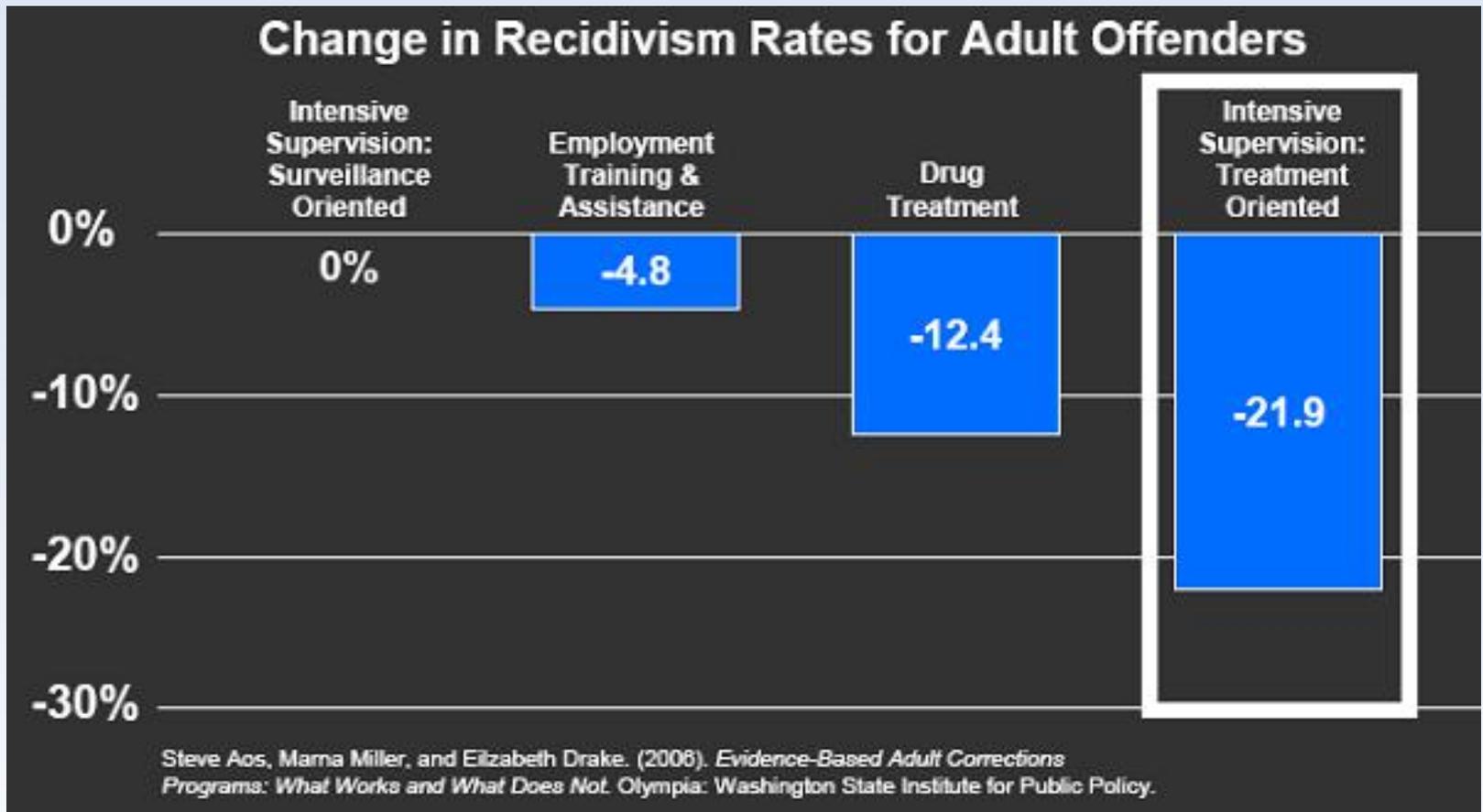
# Effectiveness of Outpatient Treatment with Offenders

- Outpatient treatment of probationers leads to fewer arrests at 12 and 24 month follow-up (Lattimore et al., 2005) vs. untreated probationers
- High-risk probationers receiving outpatient treatment experience 10-20% reductions in recidivism (Petersilia & Turner, 1990, 1993)
- Reductions in probationer recidivism durable for 72 months after outpatient treatment (Krebs et al., 2009)

# Effectiveness of Sanctions and Incentives

- Negligible effects on recidivism of sanctions without treatment
  - Few effects of using greater vs. lesser sanctions (Lipsey & Cullen, 2007)
  - Sanctions alone may increase recidivism (Andrews et al., 1990); should provide therapeutic response
- Supervision does not reduce recidivism without involvement in treatment (Aos et al., 2006)
- Improved outcomes for drug courts related to:
  - Providing an immediate response to first positive drug test and other infractions (Shaffer, 2011)
  - Implementing a formal system of incentives and sanctions (Shaffer, 2011)

# Combining Treatment and Supervision Can Reduce Recidivism

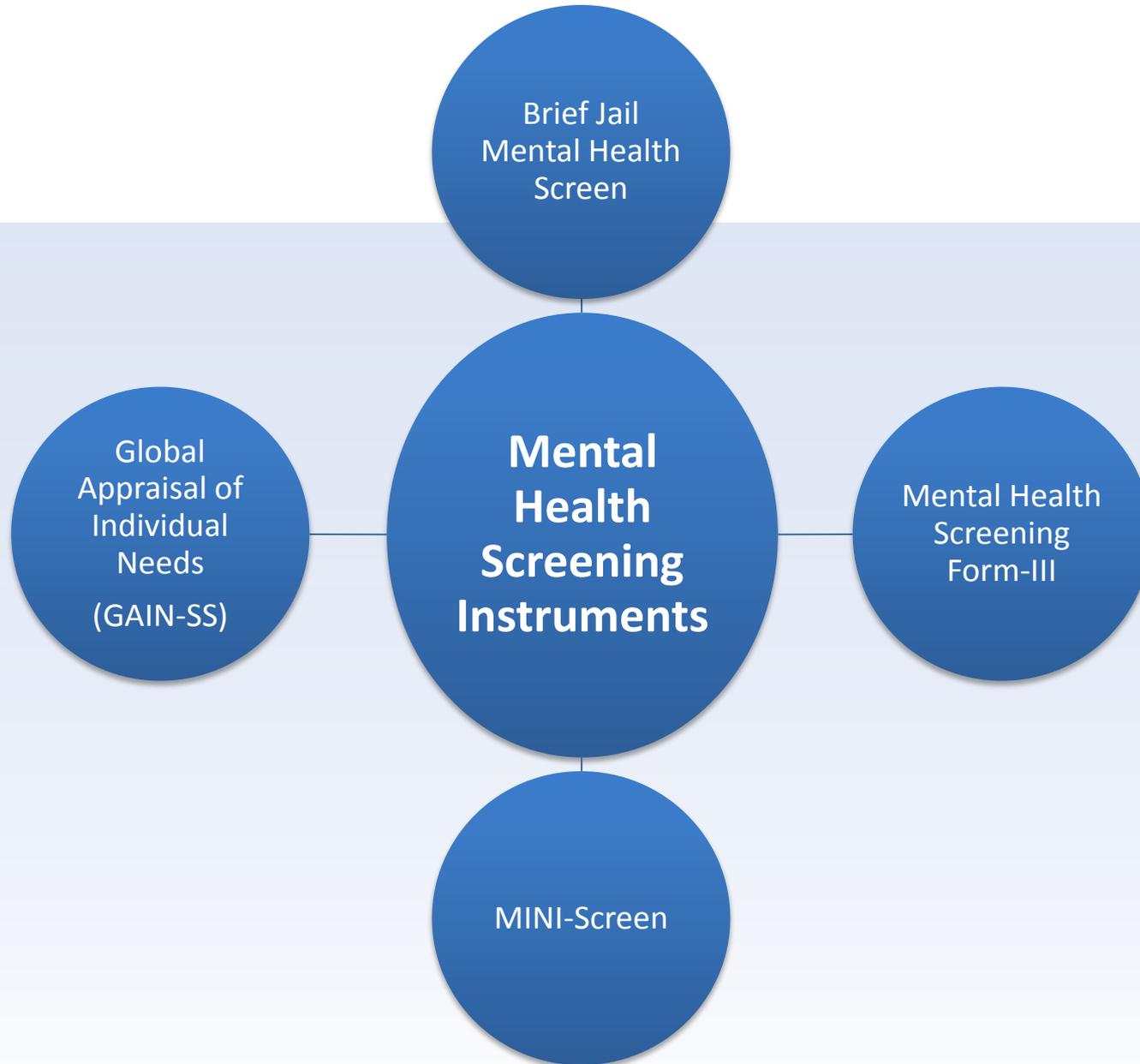


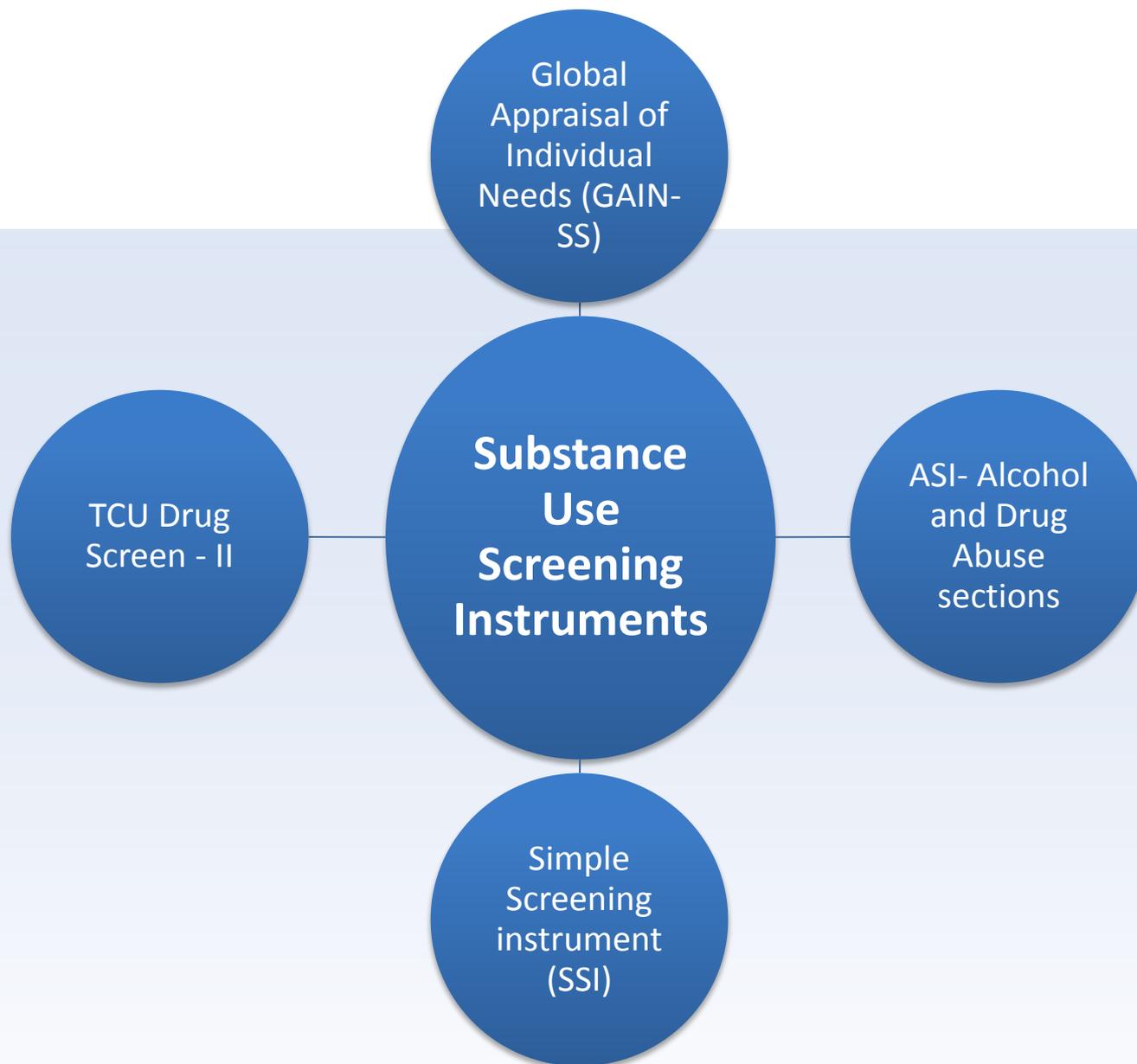
# Components of Effective Drug Court Treatment

\* See *Principles of Drug Abuse Treatment for Criminal Justice Populations* (NIDA, 2006)

# Importance of Screening and Assessment in Drug Courts

- **High prevalence** rates of substance use, mental, and other health disorders in criminal justice settings
- Persons with undetected disorders are likely to **cycle back through** the criminal justice system
- Allows for **treatment planning** and linking to appropriate treatment services
- Drug courts that implement comprehensive assessment have **better outcomes** (Shaffer, 2011)





# Integrated Screening for Co-Occurring Disorders

## Mental Disorders

- **Symptoms** of major mental disorders
- **Suicidal** thoughts and behavior and risk of violence
- History of **mental health treatment** and use of medications
- History of **trauma, victimization, and violence**

## Substance Use Disorders

- **Diagnostic indicators** of substance dependence
- **Frequency** and type of substance use
- History of **substance abuse treatment**
- **Acute health risk** related to intoxication or withdrawal

# Psychosocial Assessment Instruments

Addiction  
Severity Index  
(ASI)

Global Appraisal  
of Individual  
Needs (GAIN)

- *GAIN-Quick*
- *GAIN-Initial*

Texas Christian  
University - IBR

- *Brief Intake Interview*
- *Comprehensive Intake*

# Risk Assessment

- Includes examination of ‘Criminogenic Needs’
  - Dynamic or *changeable* factors that contribute to the risk for engaging in crime
- Review of static risk factors (e.g., criminal history)

# Poll Questions

**Does your drug court provide a risk assessment?**

**a) Yes**

**b) No**

# Risk Assessment Instruments

- 
- Historical-Clinical-Risk Management-20 (HCR-20)
  - Lifestyle Criminality Screening Form (LCSF)
  - Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R)
  - Psychopathy Checklist: Screening Version (PCL-SV)
  - Risk and Needs Triage (RANT)
  - Short-Term Assessment of Risk and Treatability (START)

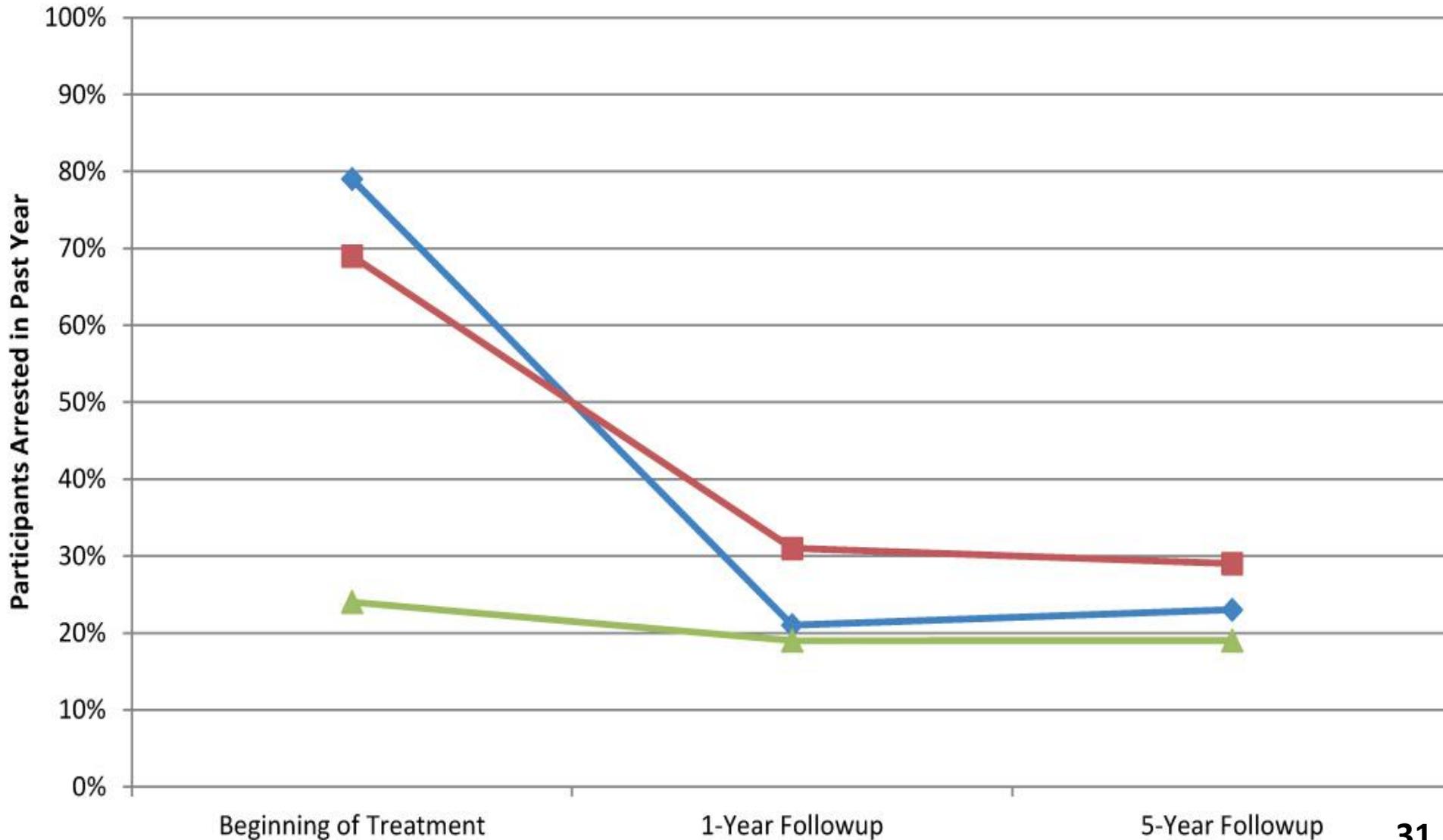
(Adapted from Peters, SAMHSA 2011)

# Coerced Treatment

- Definitions of coerced treatment vary
- Exists on continuum – dimensions include:
  - Level of monitoring and supervision
  - Applicable consequences
  - Type of legal mandate
- Other relevant factors
  - Level of motivation
  - Population characteristics

# Effectiveness of Coerced Treatment

Justice Involved, Mandated      Justice Involved, Voluntary      No Justice, Voluntary



# Optimal Duration of Outpatient Treatment

- At least 3 months of outpatient treatment is required to reduce substance use and recidivism
- Greatest effects with outpatient treatment of 6-12 months
- Outcomes may diminish for outpatient treatment episodes lasting more than 12 months
- However, meta-analysis results indicate that drug courts of 12-18 months are most effective (Latimer et al., 2006)
- Best outcomes obtained for persons completing treatment

# Immediacy of Involvement in Treatment

- Delay in entering treatment is one of the largest barriers to retention and treatment success
- Waiting time for substance abuse treatment is higher among criminal justice populations (Carr et al., 2008)
- Two critical periods: Pre-intake and pre-assessment – dropout rates high during both periods; > 50% even after intake
- Rates of attrition increase with the length of wait for treatment (Hser et al., 1995)

# Immediacy of Involvement in Treatment *(cont'd)*

- Predictors of early dropout from offender treatment
  - High criminal risk
  - Depression, anxiety, history of psychiatric care
  - Unemployed
  - Cocaine dependency
- NIATX strategies to reduce waiting time
  - Combine intake/assessment
  - Group intake sessions
  - Make immediate appointments

# Outpatient vs. Residential Treatment

- Both outpatient and residential treatment are effective for offenders
- Outpatient treatment more effective than residential treatment for drug-involved probationers (Krebs et al., 2009) and during reentry (Burdon et al., 2004)
- Cost-benefit analysis
  - Greater benefits for outpatient treatment in non-offender samples (e.g., CALDATA, French et al., 2000, 2002)
  - Excellent benefit-cost ratio for intensive supervision + treatment, community TC, community outpatient, and drug court programs (Aos et al., 2001; Drake et al., 2009)

# Tailoring Treatment for Special Populations

- Co-occurring mental disorders
  - High rates of mental disorders among offenders (31% females, 15% males; Steadman et al., 2009)
  - Offenders with mental disorders have poor outcomes in traditional treatment programs (Peters & Osher, 2004)
  - Specialized program adaptations and treatments are needed
  - Several evidence-based treatment protocols are available
- History of trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
  - Both female and male offenders have high rates of exposure to trauma/violence
  - Unless identified and addressed, undermines treatment effectiveness
  - Several evidence-based treatment protocols are available

# Tailoring Treatment for Special Populations (*cont'd*)

- High criminal risk
  - Antisocial beliefs, values, behaviors
  - Specialized program adaptations are needed for treatment and supervision
  - Several evidence-based treatment protocols are available
- Other special populations
  - Cultural/racial minorities
  - Female offenders
  - Juveniles

# Questions?

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# Aftercare/Continuing Care

- Aftercare services among drug-involved offenders can significantly reduce substance use and rearrest (Butzin et al., 2006)
- Outpatient aftercare services can reduce likelihood of reincarceration by 63% (Burdon et al., 2004)
- Aftercare services provide \$4.4 - \$9 return for every dollar invested (Roman & Chalfin, 2006)
- Promising interventions for high risk/high need offenders
  - Recovery management checkups (Rush et al., 2008)
  - Critical time intervention (Kasprow & Rosenheck, 2007)

# Relevant Research Findings:

Does the use of evidence-based practices have an impact on treatment outcomes?

# Evidence-Based Treatment Interventions<sup>1</sup> for Offenders

- Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET)
- Relapse Prevention
- Contingency Management
- Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

1. Specific types of treatment services or activities

# Evidence-Based Models<sup>1</sup> to Guide Offender Treatment

- Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) Model
- Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment (CBT) Model
- Social Learning Model
- Programs incorporating both CBT and social learning produce the largest reductions in recidivism (average = 26-30%; Dowden & Andrews, 2004)

1. Theoretical frameworks underlying a set of treatment interventions or activities.

# Using the Risk-Need-Responsivity Model to Develop Offender Treatment

- Focus resources on high **RISK** cases
- Target criminogenic **NEEDS**: antisocial behavior, substance abuse, antisocial attitudes, and criminogenic peers
- **RESPONSIVITY** – Tailor interventions to the learning style, motivation, culture, demographics, and abilities of the offender. Address issues that affect responsivity (e.g. mental illnesses, trauma/PTSD).

# 8 Central Risk Factors related to Criminogenic Needs

1. Antisocial attitudes
2. Antisocial friends and peers
3. Antisocial personality pattern
4. Substance abuse
5. Family and/or marital problems
6. Lack of education
7. Poor employment history
8. Lack of prosocial leisure activities

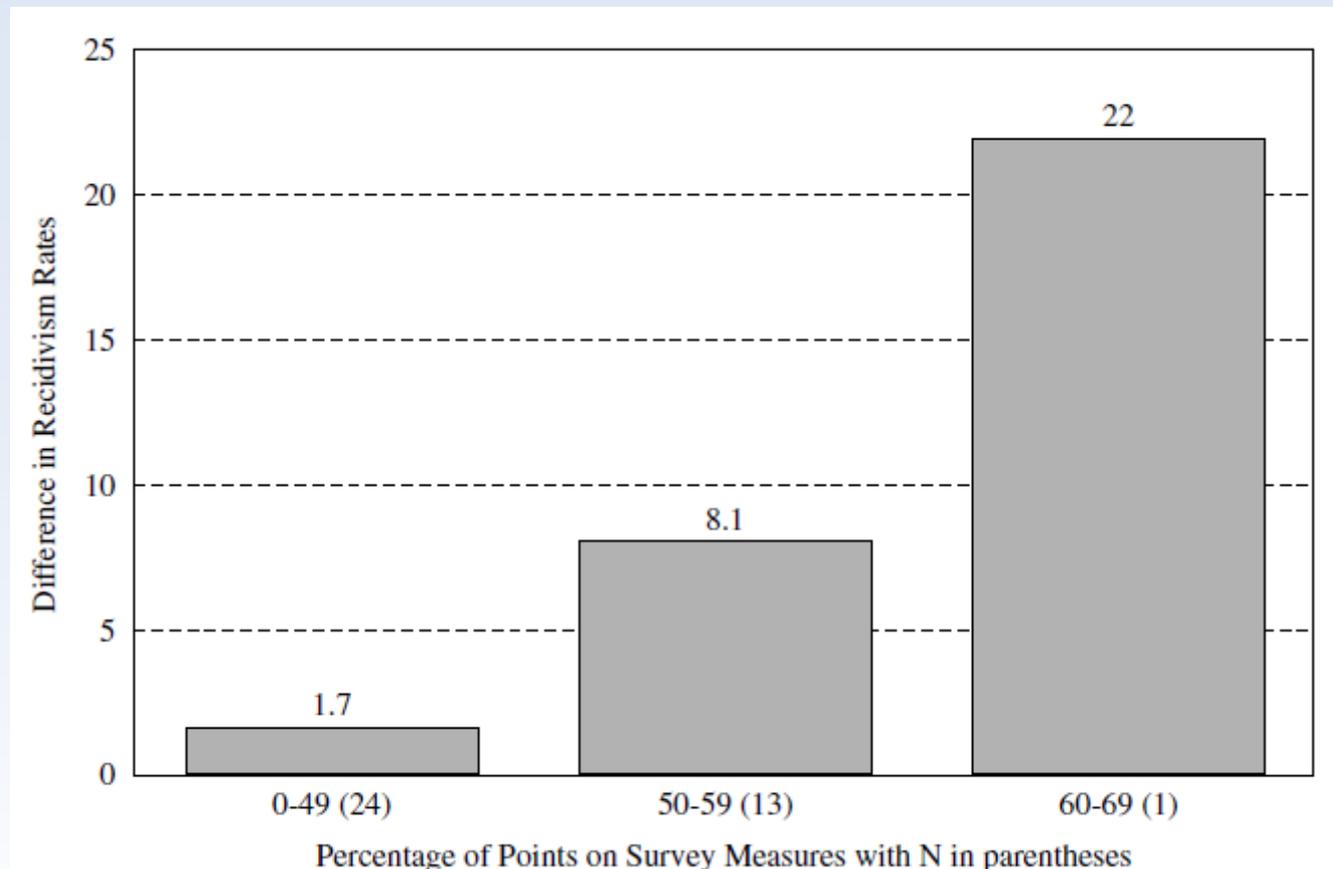
# Poll Questions

**Does your drug court assess participants on each of the central criminogenic needs?**

- a) Yes**
- b) No**

# Greater Focus on Criminogenic Needs Enhances Treatment Outcomes

Figure 1. Difference in recidivism rates between treatment and comparison groups based on the CPAI measure total score



# Common Features of CBT and Social Learning Models

- Focus on skill-building (e.g., coping strategies)
- Use of role play, modeling, feedback
- Repetition of material, rehearsal of skills
- Behavior modification
- Interpersonal problem-solving
- Cognitive strategies used to address 'criminal thinking'

# Next Steps in Drug Court Research

# What do we know about Drug Courts and Treatment?

- Effectiveness of drug courts
- Effectiveness of offender treatment
- Types of offenders who are at risk for dropout
- Duration of treatment generally needed to produce positive outcomes
- Effective types of treatment
  - Models (RNR, CBT, Social Learning)
  - Outpatient treatment
  - Interventions (contingency management, MAT, MET, relapse prevention)

# What we don't know about Drug Courts and Treatment

- How to match participants to different levels of drug court treatment and supervision
- Optimal duration of drug court involvement for different levels of participant risk and need
- Does use of 'phases' or level systems enhance drug court outcomes?
- Outcomes of juvenile drug courts (initial findings are equivocal; Mitchell et al., in press)
- Comparative effectiveness of different types of cognitive-behavioral treatment within drug court

# Q&A