

Implementing Evidence-based Practices with Fidelity

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Correctional Programs: Evidence-based Practices

- ❑ Research indicates that correctional treatment programs can significantly reduce recidivism through the implementation of evidence-based practices.
- ❑ Making it possible to do the right thing!

We have an obligation to do it right

- ❑ Oregon law requires corrections programs be evidence-based (ORS 181.515 also know as SB 267 from 2003)
- ❑ More importantly, we have an obligation to offenders and to citizens to do it right.

We have an obligation to . . .

- Help people change by:
 - Assessing their criminogenic risks and needs
 - Targeting interventions to those most likely to reoffend
 - Implementing programs that use principles of effective intervention
 - Ensuring programs are implemented with fidelity
 - Ensuring staff are well-trained and competent to deliver programs
 - Monitoring the quality and effectiveness of programs, staff delivery methods, and supervision/oversight processes
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Latessa, Cullen, and Gendreau (2002)

Article notes 4 common failures of correctional programs:

- Failure to follow appropriate assessment and classification practices
- Failure to use research in designing programs
- Failure to use effective treatment models
- Failure to evaluate what we do

Offender Assessments as Tools

- Risk assessment instruments:
 - LS/CMI (*Level of Services/Case Management Inventory*)
 - ACRS (*Automated Criminal Risk Score*)
 - Static 99 (*soon to use Static 99-R*)
 - Stable
 - ODARA (*Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment*)
 - OCMS (*Oregon Case Management System*)
 - PSC (*Public Safety Checklist – coming soon*)

Offender Assessments as Tools

(continued)

□ Need assessment instruments:

- LS/CMI
- Acute
- TCU

□ Responsivity instruments:

- Mental Health Screener
- Learning Style Inventory
- Motivation Measures (URICA, SOS-SR), etc.

Risk, Need, Responsivity . . .

- Adhere to the risk principle (*Who*)
 - Use risk assessment instruments to identify criminogenic risks
 - Treat only offenders who are likely to reoffend (moderate risk or higher)
 - Adhere to the need principle (*What*)
 - Target interventions to criminogenic needs
 - Don't give all offenders the same services
 - Adhere to the responsivity principle (*How*)
 - Use Cognitive Behavioral Techniques
 - Match treatment to offender learning styles and abilities; use social learning theory approaches
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. . . Fidelity, Competency, Quality

- Maintain fidelity to the treatment model
 - Do not make changes to curriculum delivery (such as shortening the duration, increasing frequency, increasing class size, etc.)
 - Ensure competency of staff
 - Ability to consistently deliver effective programming and other interventions
 - Evaluate quality and effectiveness of outcomes, and fidelity to EBP's
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How?

- ❑ Internal quality assurance processes
- ❑ External program evaluations Monitoring (feedback) groups
- ❑ Targeted consultation and technical assistance
- ❑ Inter-rater reliability
- ❑ Peer Reviews
- ❑ Client Satisfaction Surveys
- ❑ Data Reflection
- ❑ Monthly, quarterly (regular) reports

How? (continued)

- ❑ Case reviews
 - ❑ Contract compliance and monitoring
 - ❑ Tracking, measuring and regularly reporting on issues important to you/your agency, such as:
 - Recidivism rates
 - Employment rates during first 6 months of supervision post-release
 - Percentage completing a transition class
 - Housing at release
 - Number assessed as needing A&D treatment, referred for treatment
 - Etc.
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Use CQI

- Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)
 - Is a prospective process
 - Holds **quality** as a central priority within the organization
 - Focuses on customer needs; relies on feedback from internal and external customers
 - Emphasizes systematic use of data
 - Requires trust, respect, and communication
 - Moves staff toward responsibility for competency, quality, problem-solving, and ownership of services
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Objectives of CQI

- ❑ Facilitates the Agency's mission
 - ❑ Ensures appropriateness of services
 - ❑ Improves efficiency of services/processes
 - ❑ Improves effectiveness of directing services to offender needs
 - ❑ Ensures compliance with funding and regulatory standards
 - ❑ Fosters a culture of learning
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Engage Partners and Stakeholders

- ❑ Correctional Case Management (CCM)
 - ❑ Governor's Reentry Council
 - Issue-specific work groups (such as Employment & Education, Housing, Continuity of Care)
 - Local/County-based Reentry Councils
 - ❑ Transition/Reentry Network
 - ❑ Local Public Safety Coordinating Councils
 - ❑ SOSN (*Sex Offender Supervision Network*)
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Fidelity to Treatment Model *Sperber (2008)*

- ❑ Fidelity is related to successful outcomes (i.e., recidivism reductions)
- ❑ Poor fidelity can lead to null effects or can actually increase recidivism
- ❑ Fidelity can be measured and monitored
- ❑ Fidelity cannot be assumed

Do the right thing!

- Implement evidence-based programs
 - It's important and it's not hard given all we have come to know and learn
 - Give staff necessary 'tools' and train them in how to effectively use the tools
 - Many are no cost/low cost and are designed to be easily used by corrections professionals
 - Invest in the doing the right thing!
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Thank you
