Introduction and Purpose

The UW Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute was asked by the Washington State Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) to create an inventory of evidence-based programs and practices (EBPs) to treat substance use in both adolescents and (12-17 years old) and young adults (18-20 years old). A similar effort was recently undertaken by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP), which emphasized benefit-cost analysis. Unfortunately, the state of the science is such that many apparently effective treatments do not have sufficient data to permit benefit-cost analysis. Thus, benefit-cost analysis was considered beyond the scope of the present work. In this analysis, we take into consideration all other criteria contained in the RCW definitions of “evidence-based,” “research-based,” and “promising practices” (see below for definitions). Treatments that do not meet criteria for these designations are considered “unsupported.” Building on our previous work, we also provide information from organizations that have created databases or lists of effective programs/practices and identify reviews of the literature on effective treatment interventions for adolescent substance use. For our ratings of treatments, we focused exclusively on substance use-related outcomes. Treatments discussed herein may have stronger or weaker evidence for problems associated with adolescent substance use, such as family functioning, mental health, recidivism, etc.

Definitions Applied According to RCW 71.24.025

Evidence-based: A program or practice that has been:
1. tested in heterogeneous or intended populations [diversity] with
2. multiple randomized, or statistically controlled evaluations, or both; or one large multiple site randomized, or statistically controlled evaluation, or both, [multiple RCTs] where
3. the weight of the evidence from a systemic review demonstrates sustained improvements in at least one outcome [sustained improvements]. "Evidence-based" also means a program or practice that
4. can be implemented with a set of procedures to allow successful replication in Washington and, when possible, is determined to be cost-beneficial.

Research-based: A program or practice that has been:
1. tested with a single randomized, or statistically controlled evaluation, or both [single RCT],
2. demonstrating sustained desirable outcomes; or where the weight of the evidence from a systemic review supports sustained outcomes [sustained outcomes].

Promising practice: A program or practice that:
1. is based on statistical analyses or a well-established theory of change,
2. shows potential for meeting the evidence-based or research-based criteria [promising].

Although RCW 71.24.025 does not specify criteria for an unsupported treatment, we define it as follows:

Unsupported: A program or practice, the weight of evidence for which suggests that the intervention is likely to be ineffective [not supported].
Overview of ADAI Ratings

All treatments examined were based on a logic model or well-established theory of change, and all treatments specify procedures that allow implementation and replication in Washington. Variability occurs among the other criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>ADAI Rating</th>
<th>Diversity</th>
<th>Multiple RCTs</th>
<th>Single RCT</th>
<th>Sustained Outcomes</th>
<th>Promising</th>
<th>Not Supported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACRA</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACC</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCU</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BI/MI</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSFT</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBOP</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBT</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIFFTA</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRAFT</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBT</td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBT</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENCOMPASS</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBT</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSN</td>
<td>U</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFT</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MET</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MET/CBT</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MET/CBT-A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDFT</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTI-4</td>
<td>R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSA</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOFT</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SET</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMCU</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7C</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note. E = Evidence-based, R = Research-based, P = Promising, U = Unsupported,

* = Multiple ratings - see appropriate section below for details
### Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th><strong>Program Developer:</strong> Susan H. Godley, PhD, 309-827-6026, <a href="mailto:sgodley@chestnut.org">sgodley@chestnut.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chestnut.org/LI/ACRAACC">http://www.chestnut.org/LI/ACRAACC</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of Intervention</strong></td>
<td>The Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA) is a developmentally-appropriate behavioral treatment for youth and young adults 12 to 24 years old with substance use disorders. ACRA seeks to increase the family, social, and educational/vocational reinforcers to support recovery. This intervention has been implemented in outpatient, intensive outpatient, and residential treatment settings. ACRA includes guidelines for three types of sessions: individuals alone, parents/caregivers alone, and individuals and parents/caregivers together. According to the individual's needs and self-assessment of happiness in multiple life areas, clinicians choose from a variety of ACRA procedures that address, for example, problem-solving skills to cope with day-to-day stressors, communication skills, and active participation in positive social and recreational activities with the goal of improving life satisfaction and eliminating alcohol and substance use problems. Practicing new skills during sessions is a critical component of the skills training used in ACRA. Every session ends with a mutually-agreed upon homework assignment to practice skills learned during sessions. Often these homework assignments include participation in pro-social activities. Likewise, each session begins with a review of the homework assignment from the previous session. See <a href="http://www.chestnut.org/LI/ACRA-ACC#DescriptionACRA">http://www.chestnut.org/LI/ACRA-ACC#DescriptionACRA</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy format</strong></td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy type</strong></td>
<td>Cognitive-behavioral; Social/Coping skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Setting</strong></td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evaluations and Findings</strong></td>
<td><strong>Study 1 (Dennis et al., 2004, Trial 2) — support for ACRA:</strong> 300 adolescents with cannabis-related disorders (81% male; 49% White) were randomly assigned to receive ACRA, five sessions of Motivational Enhancement Therapy/Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (MET/CBT5), or Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy (MDFT). Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months thereafter.  - There were no significant differences among the treatments. ACRA had the highest percent of participants in recovery at 12 months: ACRA = 34%, MET/CBT5 = 23%, MDFT = 19%, condition effect Cohen's f = 0.16.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• ACRA was found to be more cost-effective than the other interventions. Cost per days abstinent:
  MET/CBT5 = $9.00, ACRA = $6.62, MDFT = $10.38. Cost per person in recovery: MET/CBT5 = $6611,
  ACRA = $4460, MDFT = $11775


**Study 2 (Slesnick et al., 2007) – support for ACRA:**
180 homeless adolescents with substance use disorder (66% male; 41% White) were randomly assigned to receive ACRA or TAU. Participants were assessed with the Form 90 and measures of depression, internalizing behavior, and social stability at baseline, 3- and 6-months. Due to missed appointments, many participants required 6 months to complete the ACRA intervention. At 6 months:
  • ACRA showed a greater decrease in drug use (d =1.00) than TAU (d = .41)
  • ACRA showed a 37% reduction in substance use (from 67% days use to 43%) while TAU showed a 17% reduction in substance use (60% to 50%)
  • ACRA showed a greater decrease in depression (d = .94) than TAU (d = .41)
  • ACRA showed a greater decrease in internalizing behaviors (d = 1.09) than TAU (d = .51)
  • ACRA showed a greater increase in social stability (d = .63) than TAU (d = .20)


**Study 3 (Slesnick et al., 2013) – modest support for ACRA:**
179 runaway adolescents with substance use disorder (48% male; 26% White) were randomly assigned to receive 14 sessions of ACRA, 4 sessions of Motivational Interviewing (MI), or 14 sessions of Ecologically Based Family Therapy (EBFT). Participants were assessed with the Form 90 at baseline, 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, 24 months post-baseline.
  • Participants showed improvements in their substance use in all treatment conditions, and none of the interventions was superior to another.
  • 55% showed clinically significant change in SU at 6 months, 29.2% had some reduction, and 16% showed deterioration.


**Study 4 (Slesnick et al., 2015) – support for ACRA:**
270 homeless adolescents and young adults with substance use disorder (66% male; 41% White) were randomly assigned to receive ACRA, Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET), or case management. Participants were assessed with the Form 90.
No significant differences were found between treatment conditions in ITT analyses. All three treatments exhibited medium to high effect sizes (ds = −0.29 to −0.71) on frequency of SU from baseline to the 6-month follow-up.

In the treated sample, ACRA showed a greater reduction in frequency of drug use than case management.

Over 50% of participants in ACRA improved with regard to frequency of alcohol or drug use; about 25% stayed the same and about 25% deteriorated. Results were comparable for MET and case management.


**Rating Lists**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CEBC: 2</th>
<th>Supported by research evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NREPP: Rated 3.8</td>
<td>on recovery from substance use; on other outcome measures, e.g. abstinence from use, linkage to and participation in continuing care were 3.0 – 4.0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODJJP: Effective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comment**

ACRA is considered to be evidence-based. Favorable randomized controlled evaluations of ACRA have been conducted by two independent research teams. ACRA received its strongest support in work by Slesnick and colleagues (2013, 2015), who did not develop the intervention. Efficacy has been demonstrated among minorities (African-American and Hispanic/Latino youth) and among runaway and homeless adolescents as well as among those with presumably stable living environments. Although many research participants have had alcohol use disorders, ACRA has been studied primarily among youth with drug use disorders, especially cannabis use disorders.

[Back to overview](http://www.chestnut.org/LI/ACRA-ACC#DescriptionACC)

### Assertive Continuing Care (ACC)

**Contact information**

- **Program Developer:** Susan H. Godley, PhD, 309-827-6026, sgodley@chestnut.org

**Website:**


**Description of Intervention**

*Assertive Continuing Care (ACC)* uses some ACRA procedures and includes home visits and case management following a primary treatment episode for substance abuse or dependence. ACC is primarily used as continuing care. As such, it stresses rapid initiation of services after discharge from residential, intensive outpatient, or regular outpatient treatment in order to prevent or reduce the likelihood of relapse. In clinical trials research, ACC was evaluated for a 90-day period, but it can be extended for additional weeks or months as needed. See [http://www.chestnut.org/LI/ACRA-ACC#DescriptionACC](http://www.chestnut.org/LI/ACRA-ACC#DescriptionACC)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Therapy format</td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Cognitive-behavioral; Social/Coping skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Evaluations and Findings | **Study 1, Godley et al. (2002) – modest support for ACC**<br>114 adolescents (76% male; 74% White) who stayed at least 7 days in residential treatment were randomly assigned to receive either usual continuing care (UCC) or usual continuing care+ACC (ACC). Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and three months after discharge.  
- Number of days using alcohol decreased 64% in the ACC condition versus 18% in the UCC condition, a significant, medium effect (Cohen's f=.24)  
- Number of days using marijuana decreased 60% in the ACC condition versus 47% in the UCC condition, a trend that did not reach significance  
- The proportion of participants abstinent from alcohol at 3 months was 50% in the ACC condition versus 43% in the UCC condition, a trend that did not reach significance  
- The proportion of participants abstinent from marijuana at 3 months was 52% in the ACC condition versus 31% in the UCC condition, a significant, medium effect (Cohen's d = .43)  
- Mean latency to first alcohol use after treatment was 83 days in the ACC condition versus 63 days in the UCC condition, a trend that did not reach significance  
- Mean latency to first marijuana use after treatment was 90 days in the ACC condition versus 31 days in the UCC condition, a significant small-medium effect (Cohen's d = .39)  

|  | **Study 2, Godley et al. (2007), update of Study 1 – modest support for ACC**<br>183 adolescents (71% male; 73% White) who stayed at least 7 days in residential treatment were randomly assigned to receive either usual continuing care (UCC) or usual continuing care+ACC (ACC). Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, and 9 months after discharge.  
- In the 90 days after discharge, 94% of those in ACC vs. 54% of those in UCC linked to continuing care services, a significant, large effect (d=1.07)  
- Odds of high general continuing care adherence were significantly higher (OR = 3.35, P < 0.05) for ACC than UCC  
- Percent remaining abstinent from alcohol at 3 months was 50% in the ACC condition versus 44% in the UCC condition, a non-significant, small effect (d=.13) |
- Percent remaining abstinent from alcohol at 9 months was 31% in the ACC condition versus 26% in the UCC condition, a non-significant, small effect (d=.10)
- Percent remaining abstinent from marijuana at 3 months was 52% in the ACC condition versus 39% in the UCC condition, a non-significant, small effect (d=.29)
- Percent remaining abstinent from alcohol at 9 months was 41% in the ACC condition versus 26% in the UCC condition, a significant, small effect (d=.32)


**Study 3, Godley et al., 2010 – no support for ACC**

Longer-term outcomes of study reported in Godley et al., 2002. 320 adolescents (76% male; 73% White, 73% involved in criminal justice system) were randomly assigned. Half received a primary treatment of Motivational Enhancement + Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy and half received Chestnut's Bloomington Outpatient program as their primary treatment. Half of each of these groups received ACC aftercare. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after admission. There were no significant findings with regard to the incremental effectiveness of ACC following outpatient treatment.


**Study 4, Godley et al., 2014 – modest support for ACC**

337 adolescents (63% male; 70% White) were randomly assigned to varying continuing care conditions following residential treatment: usual continuing care (UCC), ACC, Contingency Management (CM), or CM+ACC. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after discharge. Outcomes were examined across the 12 months after discharge.

- Mean percent of days in a controlled environment was lower in the ACC condition (15.7) than the UCC condition (21.3), a significant, small effect (Cohen's d = -.25)
- Mean percent of days abstinent from alcohol was higher in the ACC condition (78.3) than the UCC condition (71.1), a significant, small effect (Cohen's d = .30)
- Mean percent of days abstinent from marijuana was higher in the ACC condition (66.2) than the UCC condition (58.0), a significant, small effect (Cohen's d = .28)
- Proportion “in remission” at 12 months was higher in the ACC condition (27%) than the UCC condition (15%), a significant, medium effect (d = .51)


**Rating Lists**

**WSIPP:** Research-based
### ADAI Rating

| Promising |

### Comment

ACC is considered to be research-based. We identified four randomized controlled trials examining its effectiveness, all conducted by the developers. Study 3 reported longer-term outcomes of Studies 1 and 2 and showed null effects for ACC, undermining the favorable results reported in Studies 1 and 2. Study 4 showed significant small to medium effects compared to usual continuing care. [Back to overview](#).

### Adolescent Cannabis Check Up (ACCU) – an adaptation of Motivational Enhancement Therapy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Developer:</th>
<th>Greg Martin, MA, Wendy Swift, PhD, and Jan Copeland, PhD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description of Intervention</td>
<td>The Adolescent Cannabis Check Up is a manualized motivational enhancement intervention targeting young cannabis users and consisting of 2-4 sessions. An optional recruitment session engages a concerned other (e.g., parent) to discuss their concerns about the adolescent’s cannabis use. Intended to enlist concerned others’ assistance in recruitment of adolescents into the study, the session includes assessment, education on cannabis, and discussion of general communication skills and tips on engaging a young person in the check-up. The first session with the adolescent consists of a structured interview designed to assess cannabis and other substance use history, including pattern of use and cannabis abuse and dependence, perceived pros and cons of continued use, expectancies about increased/decreased use, perception of risk associated with cannabis, and stage of change. The second session with the adolescent is a feedback session using a personalized feedback report in a motivational interviewing style, occurring approximately 1 week after the assessment and consisting of structured feedback of information, including the amount of cannabis used, comparison with age-specific normative data, pros and cons of using cannabis, and perception of interactions between cannabis use and individual goals. The goal is to assist a young person to make a detailed and objective assessment of his/her cannabis use and the role it plays in his/her life without feeling pressured to change or being labeled as a problematic user. An optional third session with the adolescent introduces cognitive-behavioral strategies for quitting or reducing cannabis use, including discussion of cannabis dependence, recognition of personal triggers, managing craving, goal setting, planning for change, behavioral self-monitoring, and relapse prevention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy format</td>
<td>Individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Motivational enhancement/motivational interviewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Evaluations and Findings** | **Study 1, Martin & Copeland, 2008 – Strong preliminary support for ACCU**  
The ACCU was initially tested in Australia, where it was developed. 40 adolescents aged 14 to 19, who used cannabis at least once in the past month (67% male; 87.5% born in Australia, nonindigenous), were randomly assigned to either the ACCU condition or a 3-month delay waitlist control condition. Participants were assessed at baseline and 3 month follow-up. Measures included the timeline followback assessment of cannabis use, GAIN items for cannabis abuse and dependence, and the Severity of Dependence Scale.  
- ACCU showed significantly better improvements compared to the control group with regard to change scores for days of use in the past 90 days (−19.6 vs. −1.2; F = 4.97, p = .032), amount used in terms of “cones” (i.e., bong/water pipe bowls) per week (−29.0 vs. −14.0; U = 111.0, p = .021), and the number of DSM-IV dependence criteria reported (−2.1 vs. −0.6; F = 4.63, p = .04).  
- Between-group effects sizes were moderate for the days of use (d = .71) and number of dependence symptoms (d = .70), and small for the mean quantity of use measure (d = .22).  
- The proportion of the ACCU group meeting DSM-IV criteria for dependence at follow-up reduced from 100% to 65% while the control group reduced from 85% to 80%.  

| **Study 2, de Gee et al., 2014 – No support for ACCU**  
The ACCU was translated into Dutch (titled “Weed Check” in Dutch) and tested in the Netherlands, without the optional material included in the intervention. Those who expressed a desire to change were referred for treatment and not followed thereafter. 119 adolescents aged 14-21, who used cannabis at least weekly (74% male; 79% of Dutch descent), were randomly assigned to either the ACCU condition or an information session control condition. Participants were assessed at baseline and 3 month follow-up. Measures included the Cannabis Use Problems Identification Test and the Severity of Dependence Scale.  
- Changes from baseline to follow-up in quantity and frequency of cannabis use and symptoms of dependence were in the predicted direction, but the effect sizes were very small and not significant.  

| **Rating Lists** | None |
| **ADAI Rating** | Promising |
| **Comment** | Unless and until this intervention is tested further, ACCU is considered to be a promising intervention. A preliminary RCT by the developers provided strong support for the intervention compared to a 3-month delayed waitlist control group. However, such results have not yet been replicated, and there were null findings when the intervention was translated to Dutch and tested in a larger RCT in the Netherlands. It is unclear why the results of the studies were |
inconsistent. It could be due to poor translation, differences in populations, or some other factors. Notably, the Dutch study did not include the optional recruitment session with a concerned other and did not include the optional CBT component; those who expressed a desire to change were referred for treatment and not followed thereafter. Furthermore, the Australian study did not examine whether there were differences in outcomes between those who received the optional procedures and those who did not or report what percentages fell into the former or latter groups. The optional material could have been driving the differences between groups. Further studies are needed to determine whether ACCU has the potential to be considered research- or evidence-based. Back to overview.

**Brief Intervention/Motivational Interviewing (BI/MI)**

**Contact information**

**Website:**

Program Developer: William R. Miller, Ph.D., and Stephen Rollnick, Ph.D.

http://motivationalinterviewing.org/

**Description of Intervention**

"Motivational interviewing is a collaborative, goal-oriented style of communication with particular attention to the language of change. It is designed to strengthen personal motivation for and commitment to a specific goal by eliciting and exploring the person’s own reasons for change within an atmosphere of acceptance and compassion...Motivational interviewing is nothing more than, or less than, a helpful conversation about change. Its based upon the kind of helpfulness observed in teachers, coaches, and helpers of all kinds, with an additional element: the person in the helping role uses listening and other skills to evoke a person’s own good reasons to change. Its focus is on the language people use when they talk about change. Much like a form of dancing, it can be described in terms of both style and technical detail. How and why it works, when it does, is an open question. MI was developed inductively, from clinical practice in very tough conversations about change, and provides a route to change that avoids confrontation, argument and time wasted on often fruitless efforts to instill motivation in others.” See http://www.stephenrollnick.com/about-mi.php.

**Manual**


**Therapy format**

Individual, group

**Therapy type**

Rogerian, cognitive-behavioral

**Setting**

Any

**Evaluations and Findings**

Adaptation by McCambridge and Strang (2003)

The 60-minute single-session intervention uses a menu of topics for discussion, from which selections are made according to the course of the interview. Initial discussion reviews the entire range of drugs being used by the participant. Then the interviewer directs the focus to particular areas of risk, problems, or concerns, negotiated.
according to the participant's interest. After rapport building, positives and negatives about each drug are elicited and relationships between actual and potential drug use consequences and non-drug values and goals are explored. MI strategies (reflective listening, affirmation, open questions, and summaries) are employed to elicit change talk. The objective is to create an opportunity for the participant to identify problems and concerns and reflect on options for change. Discussion may also include decisional balance exercises regarding whether to change a specific aspect of drug use focused on improving the quality of the decision to change and planning for change itself.


**Study 1, McCambridge & Strang, 2004 – Strong preliminary support for MI**

200 adolescents aged 16 to 20, who reported weekly cannabis or stimulant use within the past 3 months (55% male; 38% White, 50% Black), were recruited from London, UK, colleges and randomly assigned in clusters (grouped according to their referring friend) to either the MI condition or education as usual (EAU). In the MI condition, participants underwent a single session of MI with the first author. Participants were assessed at baseline and 3 month follow-up. Measures included the Severity of Dependence Scale and unspecified measures of drug and alcohol-related problems. Findings included a number of significant effects:

- Cigarette smoking: EAU increased 12% (35.0-39.4 cigs/wk); MI decreased 21% (31.9-25.2 cigs/wk)
- Alcohol use: EAU increased 12% (12.7-14.2 units/wk), MI decreased 39% (12.7-7.7 units/wk)
- Cannabis use: EAU increased 27% (13.3-16.9 times/wk), MI decreased 66% (15.7-5.4 times/wk)
- On average at followup, MI participants used almost 1/8 oz less cannabis per week compared to EAU participants
- On average at followup, MI participants used cannabis 4 days per month less compared to EAU participants
- Other nonstimulant drug use: EAU number using increased from 21-33% of participants; MI number using decreased from 15%-11%
- Stimulant use: No significant differences between groups


**Study 2, McCambridge, Slym, & Strang, 2008 – Weak support for MI**

326 adolescents aged 16 to 19, who reported weekly cannabis use (69% male; 11% White, 52% Black, 20% Asian), were recruited from London, UK, colleges and randomly assigned to either the MI condition or drug information and advice. In the MI condition, participants underwent a single session of MI, which was streamlined compared to McCambridge & Strang (2004), focused on cannabis, and delivered by one of several trained practitioners. Participants were assessed at baseline and 3 and 6 month follow-ups. Measures included the Fagerstrom Test of Nicotine Dependence (FTND), Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT), and Severity of Dependence Scale (SDS) for cannabis. There were no significant differences between conditions and substantial
variability in outcomes by practitioner in both conditions. Overall, the mean level of fidelity to MI was not high. Change over time was observed across conditions:

- Cigarette smoking decreased from 19.5 days/month to 18.1 days to 18.0 days/month.
- FTND score reduced from 2.2 to 1.9 at 6 months.
- Alcohol consumption reduced from 4.4 to 3.8 units per week.
- AUDIT score reduced from 5.4 to 4.6 to 4.7.
- Cannabis use frequency decreased from 17.8 to 15.2 to 14.2 days per month.
- SDS score decreased from 4.4 to 3.4 to 3.5.


**Study 3, Goti et al., 2009 — Weak support for MI**

Goti et al., 2009, conducted a study of MI in Barcelona, Spain, based on – but not identical to – McCambridge and Strang’s (2003) approach. Their intervention consisted a single 60-minute session of MI with the participant and one individual psychoeducational session with a parent/mentor. 143 adolescents aged 12 to 17, who were referred for psychiatric care and reported substance use (24% male; unknown minority representation), received treatment as usual (TAU); approximately half were randomly assigned to the TAU+MI condition. In the MI condition, participants underwent a single session of MI, which was streamlined compared to McCambridge & Strang (2004), focused on cannabis, and delivered by one of several trained practitioners. Participants were assessed at baseline and 1 month follow-up. Measures included a structured interview which categorized substance use pattern as 1, no use; 2, occasional use; 3, regular use; 4, substance-use problems (SUP); and 5, diagnosis of abuse or dependence according to DSM-IV-TR criteria. Participants also completed the Teen Addiction Severity Index and measures of knowledge about psychoactive substances, risk perception, use-related problems, and intention to use. The authors stated that they used an intention to treat approach to analyze the data, but this did not appear to be the case as data were not presented for all participants who were randomized. 103 participants (59 in TAU+MI, 44 in TAU-MI) completed the study.

- At follow-up, both groups exhibited increases in knowledge about drugs, but the increase was pronounced in the TAU+MI group.
- The TAU+MI group exhibited an increase in risk perception, but the TAU-MI group did not.
- There were no significant differences between groups in substance use, intention to use, or use-related problems.


**Adaptation to a School Setting by Winters & Leitten (2001) — Teen Intervene**

Teen Intervene consists of 2 60-minute sessions delivered by a therapist using an MI style. Session 1 focuses on
eliciting information about the student’s substance use and related consequences, evaluating the student’s willingness to change, examining the causes and benefits of change using a decisional balance exercise, and discussing what goals for change the student would like to select and pursue. The student is allowed to pursue abstinence or reduce substance use goals in a manner consistent with an MI approach. Session 2 focuses on reviewing the student’s progress toward the agreed-upon goals by identifying high-risk situations associated with difficulty in achieving the goals, discussing strategies to address barriers toward goal attainment, reviewing where the student is in the stage of change process, and negotiating either the continuation of goals or advancement toward more ambitious goals of substance use reduction. When a parent/guardian is involved, a third session is conducted with the parent/guardian only using the same MI interviewing style. Session 3 focuses on the adolescent’s substance use problem, parent attitudes and behaviors regarding substance use by the adolescent, parent monitoring and supervision to promote progress toward the adolescent’s intervention goals, and healthy drug use behaviors and attitudes by the parent.


**Study 1, Winters & Leitten, 2007 – Support for MI, especially including a parent/guardian**

79 students aged 13 to 17, who were referred for by the school as a possible drug user and met DSM-IV criteria for substance abuse but did NOT meet DSM-IV criteria for substance dependence (62% male; 83% White), were randomly assigned to a 2 session MI condition with the adolescent only (BI-A), a 3 session intervention with the adolescent in Sessions 1 and 2 and parent/guardian in Session 3 (BI-AP), or assessment only control (CON). Participants were assessed at baseline and 6 month follow-ups. Measures included the Timeline Followback and the Personal Consequences Scale. Outcomes examined at 6 month follow-up included 1) number of alcohol use days, 2) number of alcohol binge days, 3) number of illicit drug use days, and 4) negative consequences.

- At 6-month follow-up, between group effects were found for all outcomes, with effect sizes (eta squared) ranging from .29-.60
- BI-AP had significantly lower scores on all outcome measures (3.8, 1.2, 9.6, 11.3, respectively) compared to CON (5.7, 2.4, 13.4, 13.9, respectively)
- BI-A had significantly lower scores compared to CON on number of alcohol use days (4.5) and personal consequences (11.7).
- BI-AP was significantly better than BI-A number of alcohol use days.


**Study 2, Winters et al., 2012 – Strong support for MI, with or without parent/guardian**

318 students aged 12 to 18, who were referred for by the school as a possible drug user and scored at least 26 on a screening instrument indicating at least a mild substance abuse problem (52% male; 68% White), were randomly assigned to a 2 session MI condition with the adolescent only (BI-A), a 3 session intervention with the adolescent
and parent/guardian (BI-AP), or assessment only control (CON). Participants were assessed at baseline and 6 month follow-ups. Measures included the Timeline Followback, Adolescent Diagnostic Interview, and the Personal Consequences Scale.

- At 6-month follow-up, between group effects were found for all outcomes, with effect sizes (eta squared) ranging from .02-.17
- BI-A and BI-AP had significantly better scores compared to CON on number of alcohol use days, number of cannabis use days, alcohol abuse symptoms, alcohol dependence symptoms, and negative consequences.
- BI-AP showed significantly better scores compared to BI-A and CON on cannabis use days, cannabis abuse symptoms, and cannabis dependence symptoms.
- 53.5% of BI-A and 47.3% of BI-AP were abstinent from alcohol for 90 days, compared to 26.1% of CON.
- 51.0% of BI-A and 62.5% of BI-AP were abstinent from cannabis for 90 days, compared to 37.0% of CON.
- 72.9% of BI-A and 85.0% of BI-AP were absent alcohol abuse symptoms for 6 months, compared to 60.9% of CON.
- 61.4% of BI-A and 77.5% of BI-AP were absent cannabis abuse symptoms for 6 months, compared to 56.5% of CON.


### Adaptation of MI for Homeless Adolescents by Slesnick et al., 2013

**Study 1 (Slesnick et al., 2013) – modest support for MI:**
This adaptation employed 4 sessions of MI with homeless adolescents. Sessions focused on eliciting and reinforcing clients’ change talk and increasing clients’ motivation to change substance use. Otherwise, the MI sessions appeared to be unstructured. In some places the paper describes the intervention as MET, but the classic MET element of giving explicit feedback was not described among the procedures. MI sessions were coded for fidelity to Miller and Rollnick’s approach. 179 runaway adolescents with substance use disorder (48% male; 26% White) were randomly assigned to receive 4 sessions of MI, 14 sessions of Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA), or 14 sessions of Ecologically Based Family Therapy (EBFT). Participants were assessed with the Form 90 at baseline, 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, 24 months post-baseline. The mean number of MI sessions attended by those randomized to the MI condition was 1.6.

- Participants showed improvements in their substance use in all treatment conditions, and none of the interventions was superior to another.
- 55% showed clinically significant change in SU at 6 months, 29.2% had some reduction, and 16% showed deterioration.
Adaptation of MI to a Group Format

Study 1, Gmel et al., 2012 – No support for MI
This adaptation employed MI in a group setting in high schools in Switzerland. Groups consisted of 8-10 secondary school students, grouped together according to number of heavy drinking occasions. Groups met twice for 45 minute sessions employing MI techniques. 668 students were allocated in clusters according to a quasi-randomized design. Students were assessed at baseline and 6 months later. Outcomes examined included frequency of binge drinking episodes, number of alcohol units per week, and maximum number of drinking on an occasion in past 30 days.

- Borderline significant beneficial effects (p < 0.10) on heavy drinking occasions and alcohol volume were found 6 months later for the medium-risk group only, but not for the high-risk group.
- None of the effects remained significant after Bonferroni corrections.


Study 2, D’Amico et al., 2013 – Weak support for MI
This adaptation, called Free Talk, employed six 55-minute sessions using MI techniques. Each session covered different content about AOD use, e.g., myths around AOD use, thoughts about the path from no use to experimental use to addiction, and how AOD use might contribute to other risk-taking behavior. Facilitators engaged the teens using open-ended questions and reflections to discuss how the information might affect their personal AOD use in the future. Feedback delivered session mirrored typical information given in feedback reports.

193 teens aged 14-18 years in a Teen Court program who had committed a first alcohol or drug offense (67% male, 45% White, 45% Hispanic) were randomly assigned to receive the Free Talk group MI intervention or usual care (UC). Participants were assessed at baseline and 3 months using measures from the RAND Adolescent/Young Adult Panel Study.

- AOD use and delinquency decreased for both groups at 3 months.
- 12-month recidivism rates were lower but not significantly different for the Free Talk group compared to UC.

Study 1, Bernstein et al., 2009 – Support for SBIRT with youth in emergency departments

Project ASSERT has received an NREPP rating of 3.3 (out of 4.0). Project ASSERT is a screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT) model designed for use in health clinics or emergency departments (EDs). The face-to-face component of the intervention is delivered during the course of medical care, while the patient is waiting for the doctor, laboratory results, or medications. The intervention consists of assessment and provision of resources, written advice, 3- and 12-month appointments, a 20-minute structured conversation conducted by older peers, and a 10-day booster telephone call. A peer educator utilizes a motivational interviewing-style protocol adapted for adolescents to elicit daily life context and future goals, provide feedback, review pros and cons of substance use, assess readiness to change, evaluate strengths and assets, negotiate a contract for change, and make referrals to treatment and/or other resources. See http://www.bu.edu/bniart/files/2012/10/PA-Brochure_final.pdf.

210 patients in an emergency department aged students aged 14 to 21 (about 30% under age 18), who did not report at-risk alcohol use, smoked marijuana at least 3 times in the last 30 days or reported risky behavior associated with marijuana use (34% male; 6% White, 80% African American), were randomly assigned the intervention (I), an assessment control (AC) condition, or non-assessment control (NAC) condition. I and AC participants were assessed at baseline and 3 and 12 month follow-ups. NAC participants were assessed at baseline and 12 months. Measures included the Timeline Followback and the Adolescent Injury Checklist.

- At the 3 month followup, there was no significant difference in marijuana use in the past 30 days between the I and the AC groups.
- At the 12 month follow-up, 45% of the I group were abstinent from marijuana, compared to 22% of the AC group (p < .014). This group difference was associated with a medium effect size (odds ratio = 2.89).
- At the 12-month follow-up visit, the I group had four fewer days of use from BL at three months and six fewer days of use from BL at 12 months than ACs. (OR 0.39, 95% CI 0.17, 0.89, p < .027)
- At the 12 month follow-up, there were no differences between the AC group and the NAC group, suggesting that change in the AC group was due to regression to the mean rather than assessment reactivity, and thus, that the change observed in the I group was due to the intervention rather than assessment reactivity.

### Comment

MI has been adapted in a variety of ways for application to adolescent substance abuse problems. Overall, MI is considered evidence-based, with best support for the Teen Intervene adaptation. MI in a group context is considered promising but does not reach the level of research-based. BI in a medical setting is also considered promising but does not reach the level of research-based due to the minority of adolescents in the single supportive study and the fact that it is unclear whether the results among adolescents mirrored those among young adults.

[Back to overview.]

### Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT)

| **Contact information** | **Program Developer:** José Szapocznik, Olga Hervis, and Seth Schwartz  
305-243-7585, bsft@med.miami.edu |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Website:</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.bsft.org">http://www.bsft.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Description of Intervention** | Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT) is designed to prevent, reduce, and/or treat youth behavior problems and to improve family functioning, including effective parental leadership and involvement with the youth. BSFT targets children and adolescents between the ages of 6 and 17 who are displaying or are at risk for developing behavior problems, including substance abuse, conduct problems and delinquency. The BSFT Program has been implemented as a prevention, early intervention and intervention strategy for delinquent and substance-abusing adolescents. The BSFT Program is typically delivered in 12 to 16 family sessions, depending on the severity of the communication and management problems within the family. Sessions are conducted at locations that are convenient to the family, including the family’s home in some cases. The BSFT Program has been implemented with Hispanic, African-American and White families. The BSFT Program considers adolescent symptomatology to be rooted in maladaptive family interactions, inappropriate family alliances, overly rigid or permeable family boundaries, and parents’ tendency to believe that a single individual (usually the adolescent) is responsible for the family's troubles. The BSFT® Program operates according to the assumption that transforming how the family functions will help improve the youth's presenting problem. The focus of the work is on how interactions occur. The emphasis is on identifying the nature of the interactions in the family and changing those interactions that are maladaptive. Engagement begins from the first contact with the family. The BSFT Program has developed specialized procedures to successfully engage families into treatment. There are three intervention components in the BSFT Program: joining, diagnosing, and restructuring. Joining occurs at two levels. At the individual level, the therapist establishes a relationship with each family member. At the family level, the therapist joins with the family system to create a new therapeutic system. In the BSFT Program, diagnosis refers to observing how family members behave with one another, in order to identify interactional patterns that allow or encourage problematic youth behavior. The ultimate goal of the BSFT Program is to change family interactions that maintain the problems to more effective and adaptive ones. The BSFT Program accomplishes this restructuring task working in the present, using reframes, assigning tasks and coaching family members to try new ways of relating to one another. See [http://www.bsft.org/about/what-is-bsft](http://www.bsft.org/about/what-is-bsft). |

[http://www.bsft.org/about/what-is-bsft].
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Therapy format</td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Evaluations and Findings | **Study 1, Santisteban et al., 2004 – weak support for BSFT**
126 Hispanic/Latino adolescents (75% male) with externalizing problems were randomly assigned to receive either BSFT or group control. Participants were assessed with the Addiction Severity Index at intake and termination. Only 52% of participants at intake reported substance use in the prior 30 days, and the study did not use an intent-to-treat design. Although the article states that the experimental groups were not significantly different in drug use at intake, 20 participants in the BSFT condition reported MJ use at intake and/or termination whereas 6 participants in the control condition did so. Thus, it seems the experimental groups could be qualitatively different.

- No effects were reported for alcohol use.
- Marijuana use decreased more in the BSFT condition than in the GC condition, t(69)=2.64, p = 0.02.
- Among those who used MJ at intake, 45% of those receiving BSFT vs. 17% of those in the control group showed reliable improvement.  


**Study 2, Robbins et al., 2008 – no support for BSFT**
190 African American or Hispanic/Latino adolescents (86% male; 0% White) with a DSM-IV diagnosis of substance abuse or dependence, who were living with at least one adult caregiver, were randomly assigned to receive either BSFT, Structural Ecosystems Therapy (SET, which was BSFT plus up to 12 ecological sessions), or a referral to community services (CS). Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback and Adolescent Drug Abuse Diagnosis interview at baseline and 3, 6, 9, 12, and 18 months post-randomization.

- BSFT was no more effective than CS at reducing number of days drug use in the preceding 30 days.
- SET was more effective than BSFT and CS at reducing number of days drug use in the preceding 30 days, but only among Hispanic/Latino adolescents.
- Dose (number of sessions) did not moderate the effect of the interventions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study 3, Robbins et al., 2011 – weak support for BSFT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>480 adolescents (79% male; 31% White) who either self-reported illicit drug use other than alcohol in the prior 30 days OR were referred for drug abuse treatment by an institution (school, court, etc.) were randomly assigned to receive either BSFT or treatment as usual (TAU), which varied from site to site (e.g., group, individual) in this multisite trial. Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback at baseline and 4, 8, and 12 months post-randomization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• There were no overall significant between group differences on trajectories of self-reported drug use days across 28-day periods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Median number self-reported drug use days at 12 months was significantly higher in TAU (Mdn=3.5) than in BSFT (Mdn=2).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Lists</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CEBC:</strong> 2 = Supported by research evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NREPP:</strong> Rated 3.0 and 3.4 on substance use-related indices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ODJJP:</strong> Promising</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADAI Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promising</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSFT is considered to be a promising intervention. Although BSFT has been better supported for other outcomes, support for BSFT vis-à-vis adolescent substance use outcomes is weak. The reviewed studies showed inconsistent results and there were methodological problems with one of the studies. Back to overview.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chestnut-Bloomington Outpatient Program (CBOP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact information</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Website:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Intervention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBOP is an evidence-informed intervention that has developed over 20 years and been shaped by treatment research. The underlying theory of change is that the combination of multiple evidence based and best-practice treatment components will increase the adolescent’s desire to change, provide the necessary skills, and create an environment supportive for this change. The intervention is based on a manual (Godley et al., 2003) and is primarily delivered through skill and therapy groups, combined with a limited number of family and individual sessions for treatment planning and progress reviews. Though it evolved from practice, CBOP has been evaluated (Godley et al., 2004), recognized by Drug Strategies’ Guide to Treating Teens (Drug Strategies, 2003), and is listed on SAMHSA’s National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Manual

### Therapy format
Individual, group, family

### Therapy type
Eclectic, drawing from Rogerian, cognitive, behavioral, and reality therapies and incorporating 12-Step concepts and approaches

### Setting
Outpatient clinic, community agency

### Evaluations and Findings
**Study 1, Godley et al., 2010 – modest support for CBOP**  
320 adolescents (76% male; 73% White, 73% involved in criminal justice system) were randomly assigned. Half received a primary treatment of Motivational Enhancement Therapy/Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (MET/CBT7) and half received Chestnut’s Bloomington Outpatient Program (CBOP) as their primary treatment. Half of each of these groups received Assertive Continuing Care (ACC) aftercare, resulting in 4 conditions: MET/CBT7, CBOP, MET/CBT7+ACC, CBOP+ACC. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after admission.

- Findings were not significantly different by condition. The average percentage of days abstinent at follow-up was higher than baseline in all four conditions, with the increase in the percentage of days abstinent higher for the two CBOP conditions (10.6% and 10.9%) than the two MET/CBT7 conditions (5.0% and 6.1%).
- The percentage in recovery at 12 month follow-up for each condition was: 29% for CBOP, 38% for CBOP+ACC, 44% for MET/CBT7, and 30% for MET/CBT7+ACC.
- MET/CBT7 without ACC was the most cost-effective condition. Average cost per days abstinent: MET/CBT7 = $4.25, MET/CBT7+ACC = $14.97, CBOP = $14.00, CBOP+ACC = $19.37


### Rating Lists
**NREPP:** Rated 3.5-3.9 on a number of substance use-related indices

**ADAI Rating**
**Promising**

**Comment**
CBOP is considered to be promising. It was studied as a best practices treatment-as-usual control condition in a single study, in which it was as effective as MET/CBT7, an evidence-based intervention; however, the CBOP intervention was more than triple the cost per days abstinent of MET/CBT7. These results are considered promising but do not meet the level of evidence required for research-based. Back to overview.

### Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)

#### Contact information
**Program Developers:** Peter Monti, Ph.D., and Ronald Kadden, Ph.D.
### Description of Intervention

The primary goal of CBT for substance abuse is to master skills that will help to maintain abstinence from alcohol and other drugs. In order to develop these skills, clients must identify high-risk situations that may increase the likelihood of renewed drinking. These high-risk situations include precipitants of drinking that are external to the individual as well as internal events such as cognitions and emotions. Having identified situations that represent a high risk for relapse to drinking, clients must develop skills to cope with them. In this program, all clients are first taught basic skill elements for dealing with common high-risk problem areas; they are encouraged to engage in problem solving, role playing, and homework practice exercises that will enable participants to apply the new skills to meet their own particular needs. See [http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/MATCHSeries3/overview.htm](http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/MATCHSeries3/overview.htm).

### Manual


### Therapy format

Individual, group

### Therapy type

Cognitive-behavioral

### Setting

Outpatient clinic, community agency

### Evaluations and Findings

**Study 1 (Kaminer et al., 1998)** — weak support for a group form of CBT:

32 dually diagnosed adolescents, aged 13-18, who met DSM-III-R criteria for psychoactive substance use disorder (63% male, 90% White), were recruited for an outpatient aftercare treatment from a partial hospitalization treatment program were randomly assigned to receive 12 weeks of group CBT or Interactional (Group Process) Treatment (IT). Participants were assessed with the Teen Addiction Severity Index (TASI) at baseline and 3 month follow-up.

- Controlling for baseline TASI subscale scores, gender, and completion status, those in the IT group decreased their scores on the TASI in substance use subscale less than those in the CBT group, p = .04.


**Study 2 (Kaminer & Burleson, 1999)** — weak support for a group form of CBT:

Longer-term outcomes of study reported in Kaminer et al., 1998 (Study 1). 32 dually diagnosed adolescents, aged 13-18, who met DSM-III-R criteria for psychoactive substance use disorder (63% male, 90% White), were recruited for an outpatient aftercare treatment from a partial hospitalization treatment program were randomly assigned to receive 12 weeks of group CBT or Interactional (Group Process) Treatment (IT). Participants were assessed with the Teen Addiction Severity Index (TASI) at baseline and 3 and 15 months following treatment completion.
At 15-month follow-up, there were no differential improvements as a function of therapy type. The CBT group (n=5) and IT group (n=7) were associated with similar long-term gains.

Baseline and 15-month follow-up means, respectively, on the TASI subscale for alcohol use were 1.40 and 0.86 for the CBT group and 1.71 and 1.86 for the IT group.

Baseline and 15-month follow-up means, respectively, on the TASI subscale for drug use were 1.70 and 1.00 for the CBT group and 2.43 and 1.86 for the IT group.


**Study 3 (Azrin et al., 2001) – modest support for a form of CBT:**

56 adolescents (12-17) with symptoms of Conduct Disorder plus Substance Use Disorder or symptoms of Oppositional Defiant Disorder plus Substance Dependence (82% male, 79% White) were randomly assigned to receive 15 sessions of Family Behavior Therapy (FBT) or 15 sessions of Individual-Cognitive Problem-Solving Therapy (ICPST) over the course of 6 months. Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback and urinalysis at baseline, post-treatment, and 6 months post-treatment.

- There were no Intervention by Time effects from pre-treatment to post-treatment or from pre-treatment to follow-up (ps > .05), indicating that subjects in both interventions demonstrated similar results across time.
- Number of days per month using drugs decreased in the FBT condition from 13.6 to 9.0 to 8.6. and in the ICPST condition from 14.1 to 9.3 to 8.4 (p < .001 at both post and 6-months post, across groups).
- Percent of subjects abstinent from drugs according to UA increased in the FBT condition from 24.2 to 25.0 to 45.0 and in the ICPST condition from 22.2 to 25.0 to 44.4 (p < .05 from pre to 6 months post).


**Study 4 (Waldron et al., 2001) – Weak support for CBT:**

120 adolescents (80% male, 38% White, 47% Hispanic/Latino) who were referred for drug abuse treatment, most of whom were mandated for treatment by the court, probation officers, or schools. Youths were eligible if they met criteria for a DSM-IV substance use disorder, not primarily abusing only alcohol, and had a parent/guardian who was willing to participate. Participants were randomly assigned to receive 12 hours of Functional Family Therapy (FFT), 12 hours of individual CBT, 12 hours of psychoeducational group treatment, or 24 hours of FFT + CBT. Participants were assessed at baseline, and 4 and 7 months using the Timeline Followback.

From baseline to 4 month follow-up, youths in the FFT condition, eta squared = .422, and in the joint condition, eta squared = .229, showed significant reductions in days of marijuana use. Youths in the CBT condition and in the group condition did not have a significant reduction in marijuana use.
• From baseline to 7 month follow-up, youths in the joint treatment condition maintained a significant reduction in days using marijuana, eta squared = .243. Youths in the FFT condition were not significantly different from baseline, eta squared = .102, suggesting that the changes at 4 months were not maintained at 7 months. Youths in the group condition significantly reduced their marijuana use, eta squared = .216. Youths in the CBT condition did not change significantly from pretreatment.

• There was a significant change in heavy to minimal use from pretreatment to 4 months in FFT (86.6% vs. 55.2%), CBT (96.8% vs. 72.4%), and joint (89.7% vs. 55.6%) conditions, but not in the group condition (96.7% vs. 87.8%).

• From baseline to 7 months, there was a significant change from heavy use to minimal use in the FFT condition (86.6% vs. 62.1%), the joint condition (89.7% vs. 55.6%), and the group condition (96.7% vs. 69.0%, but not in the CBT condition (96.8% vs. 82.8%).


**Study 5 (Kaminer et al., 2002) – weak support for a group form of CBT:**

88 adolescents, aged 13-18, referred to an outpatient program for psychoactive substance use disorder (70% male, 90% White) were randomly assigned to receive 8 weeks of group CBT or group psychoeducational therapy (PET). Participants were assessed with urinalysis (UA) and the Teen Addiction Severity Index (TASI) at baseline and 3 and 9 month follow-ups.

• At three month follow-up, there was no significant main effect for treatment group on likelihood of positive UA. There was a significant interaction between treatment group and age (p = .008): youth 16 years and older showed no differential likelihood of positive UA by treatment; however, youth younger than 16 in the PET group were more likely to exhibit a positive drug screen than their counterparts in the CBT group.

• The TASI substance use subscale improved significantly from baseline to 3 months across conditions (p = .001). There was a significant time x gender x treatment group interaction (p = .017): male CBT subjects showed the most improvement, male PET subjects showed no significant improvement, and female subjects showed improvement regardless of treatment group.

• Relapse rates of both conditions were similar at 9-month posttreatment follow-up, indicating that those receiving relative benefit from CBT tended to lose their gains.


**Study 6 (Latimer et al., 2003) – support for group CBT integrated with family therapy:**

43 adolescents, aged 12-18, meeting DSM-IV criteria for at least one psychoactive substance use disorder (77% male, 86% White) were randomly assigned to either Integrated Family and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (IFCBT)
or a Drugs Harm Psychoeducation Curriculum. IFCBT consisted of 16 individual family therapy sessions that meet weekly, coordinated with 32 semi-weekly peer group cognitive-behavioral sessions. DHPE consisted of 16 weekly, 90-min group sessions focusing on the physiological consequences of drug use. Participants were assessed at baseline and monthly for 6 months with urinalysis (UA) and the Personal Experience Inventory.

- Across the 6-month posttreatment period, DHPE youth were 2.20 times more likely to use drugs other than alcohol and marijuana on at least one occasion when compared with IFCBT youth (p = n.s.).
- Across the 6-month posttreatment period, youth receiving DHPE used alcohol an average of 6.1 days per month while those receiving IFCBT averaged 2.0 days per month (p < .05, $d = .5$-$.6$).
- Across the 6-month posttreatment period, youth receiving DHPE used marijuana an average of 13.8 days per month while those receiving IFCBT averaged 5.7 days per month (p < .05, $d = .7$).
- At the 3-month follow-up, 90.5% of DHPE youth tested positive for cannabis versus 47.6% of IFCBT youth (p < .01).
- At the 6-month follow-up, 85.7% of DHPE youth tested positive for cannabis versus 42.9% of IFCBT youth (p < .01).


**Study 7 (Liddle et al., 2008a) — modest support for CBT:**

224 drug-using youth (75% meeting DSM-IV criteria for cannabis dependence), aged 12 to 17.5 years (81% male, 72% African American) were randomly assigned to either Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) or CBT. Participants were assessed for frequency of drug use and psychological involvement in drug use at intake, termination, and 6 and 12 months following treatment termination.

- Both treatments evidenced significant decreases in frequency of cannabis use and substance abuse problem severity and marginally significant decreases in alcohol use.
- Compared to those in CBT, participants in MDFT retained more treatment gains at the 6-and 12-month follow-ups, used fewer drugs other than cannabis and alcohol, and were more likely to report minimal substance use (zero or one occasion) at the 12-month follow-up.


**Study 8 (Hendricks et al., 2011) — support for CBT:**

109 adolescents with a cannabis use disorder in The Netherlands were randomly assigned to MDFT or CBT, both with a planned treatment duration of 5-6 months, and with study assessments at baseline and at 3, 6, 9 and 12 months following baseline. Main outcome measures were cannabis use, delinquent behavior, treatment response and recovery at one-year follow-up, and treatment intensity and retention.
Adolescents in both treatments showed significant and clinically meaningful reductions in cannabis use and delinquency from baseline to one-year follow-up, with treatment effects in the moderate range.

A substantial percentage of adolescents in both groups met the criteria for treatment response at month 12.

Treatment intensity and retention was significantly higher in MDFT than in CBT.

Post hoc subgroup analyses suggested that high problem severity subgroups at baseline may benefit more from MDFT than from CBT.


**Study 9 (Esposito-Smithers et al., 2011) – support for CBT for substance use disorder integrated with CBT for suicidality:**

40 adolescents, aged 13 to 17, who met DSM–IV–TR criteria for drug abuse or dependence randomly assigned to integrated CBT for substance use disorder and suicidality (ICBT) or enhanced treatment as usual (ETAU). Assessments including urinalysis (UA), the Timeline Followback (TLFB), Rutgers Alcohol Problem Index (RAPI), and Rutgers Marijuana Problem Index (RMPI) were completed at pretreatment as well as 3, 6, 12, and 18 months post-enrollment.

- Compared to ETAU, ICBT was associated with significantly fewer heavy drinking days. ICBT was associated on average with a more than a 50% reduction in the expected number of heavy drinking days and that this effect became stronger at later follow-ups. This effect was not observed for number of drinking days in general.
- Compared to ETAU, ICBT was associated with significantly fewer days of marijuana use. ICBT was associated on average with a more than a 60% reduction in the expected number of marijuana, with the effect significantly stronger at later follow-ups than at earlier follow-ups.
- Marijuana problems reduced more over time in the ICBT condition than the ETAU condition.
- No significant effects or interactions were observed for alcohol problems.


**Study 10 (Burrow-Sanchez & Wrona, 2012) – support for culturally accommodated CBT vs. standard CBT for Latinos:**

35 Latino adolescents, aged 13 to 18, with an alcohol or cannabis use disorder were randomly assigned to receive 12 weeks of standard CBT (S-CBT) or culturally accommodated CBT (A-CBT). Assessments including the Timeline Followback (TLFB) were administered at pretreatment, posttreatment, and 3-month follow-up.

- Participants in both conditions demonstrated significant decreases in substance use from pre- to posttreatment with slight increases at 3-month follow-up.
Significant mean differences between treatment conditions on participant scores of substance use at posttreatment were present but only when moderators were considered. Findings suggest that Latino adolescents in A-CBT condition who had higher levels of ethnic identity and familism at pretreatment reported larger decreases in substance use levels at posttreatment compared to those in the standard condition.


### Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Program Developer: Robert J. Meyers, Ph.D., and Jane Ellen Smith, Ph.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="https://www.robertjmeyersphd.com/craft.html">https://www.robertjmeyersphd.com/craft.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Intervention</td>
<td>CRAFT is a unilateral family treatment approach specifically designed to aid family members or concerned significant others (CSOs) in modifying the behavior of initially unmotivated drug or alcohol abusers and engaging them in treatment. It was initially developed for adult drug or alcohol abusers, for which there is a body of research evidence. More recently, Waldron and colleagues (2007) adapted and pilot tested the intervention for adolescents. CRAFT differs from A-CRA (Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach) in that CRAFT focuses specifically on engaging resistant drug or alcohol abusers in treatment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy format</td>
<td>Individual, family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Cognitive-behavioral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluations and Findings</td>
<td>Study 1 (Waldron et al., 2007) – support for CRAFT: 42 families with a treatment-resistant, drug-abusing adolescent (aged 14 to 20 years) were offered 12 sessions of parent-focused CRAFT.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- 71% of parents were successful in engaging their resistant youth in treatment. 30 out of 42 adolescents were successfully engaged in an offered individual cognitive behavioral therapy.


### Rating Lists

**NREPP:** Rated 2.5

### ADAI Rating

**Promising**

**Comment**

CRAFT is well-supported with research evidence for concerned family members of adult substance abusers. We could find only one uncontrolled study examining CRAFT for adolescents exhibiting substance abuse. While results are encouraging, more studies are needed to substantiate the effectiveness of CRAFT for this population. [Back to overview.]

---

**Contingency Management (CM)**

**Contact information**

**Program Developers:** Nancy Petry, Scott Henggeler, and Phillippe Cunningham

**Website:** [http://contingencymanagement.uchc.edu/](http://contingencymanagement.uchc.edu/)

### Description of Intervention

Contingency management is an evidence-based behavioral program that uses positive reinforcement, or rewards, to promote behavior change. Recipients of this treatment receive chances for prizes for negative alcohol and drug tests and for participating in pro-social activities. Each verified complete pro-social activity or negative toxicology screen earns the opportunity to draw a slip of paper from a chance bowl. Typically, when the chance bowls are prepared, about 30% of slips show a smiling face (no prize), 64% say “small” (prize worth about $1), 5.8% say “large” (prize worth about $25), and 0.2% say “jumbo” (prize worth about $100). Replacement is typically used so that the odds of picking each prize category are the same each draw.

**Manual**


**Therapy format**

Individual

**Therapy type**

Behavioral

**Setting**

Outpatient clinic, community agency

**Evaluations and Findings**

**Study 1 (Henggeler et al., 2006) — weak support for CM:**

161 juvenile offenders meeting diagnostic criteria for substance abuse or dependence, aged 12-17 (83% male, 31% White, 67% African American), meeting *DSM-IV* criteria for substance abuse or dependence were randomly
assigned to receive either family court with usual community services (FC-UCS), drug court with usual community services (DC-UCS), drug court with MST (DC-MST), or drug court with MST enhanced with contingency management (DC-MST+CM). Outcomes were assessed with the Form 90 and urine drug screens at pretreatment, 4 months, and 12 months.

- For alcohol use, significant effects were observed only for youths in the DC/MST/CM condition. Self-reported alcohol use decreased significantly from pretreatment to 4 months ($p < .009$) and 12 months ($p < .008$).
- For the first 4 months of drug court, youths in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions had significantly lower percentages of positive drug screens than did their DC counterparts ($ps < .001$; DC = 69%, DC/MST = 28%, DC/MST/CM = 18%).
- At 12 months, controlling for baseline scores, youths in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions reported significantly less heavy alcohol use than did their counterparts in the FC condition.
- For the time period between 4 and 12 months, youths in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions had significantly lower percentages of positive drug screens than did their DC counterparts ($ps < .001$; DC = 45%, DC/MST = 7%, DC/MST/CM = 17%).
- In comparison with DC youths, counterparts in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions had very large ESs for negative urine screens at T2 (1.38 and 2.05, respectively) and T3 (1.27 and .82, respectively).
- Marijuana use decreased rapidly to 4 months and then either leveled off or increased slightly to T3. At T3, however, controlling for T1 scores, youths in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions reported less marijuana use than FC counterparts.


**Study 2, Stanger et al., 2009 - weak support for CM:**

69 adolescents (83% male, 91% White) were randomized to receive either MET/CBT12 (CTL) or MET/CBT12+Contingency Management (EXP). Participants were assessed with the urine toxicology and the timeline followback at baseline, post-treatment, and 3, 6, and 9 months post-treatment.

- There were no significant treatment or time × treatment interaction effects. Across conditions, prevalence of marijuana use assessed by urine analysis (UA) decreased during treatment but then increased during follow-up and began to level off approaching baseline levels at intake.
- MET/CBT12+CM showed higher rates of marijuana abstinence than MET/CBT12 only at each time point, but these findings did not reach statistical significance. The percent with a positive UA in each condition (EXP|CTL) was approximately 61|69 at intake, 28|31 at discharge, 37|64 at 3 months, 41|56 at 6 months, and 46|63 at 9 months.
- Self-reported mean % days using marijuana use decreased during treatment but then increased during follow-up and began to level off below baseline levels. The mean percent of self-reported days used
marijuana in each condition (EXP|CTL) was approximately 44|56 at intake, 9|12 at discharge, 7|17 at 3 months, 16|20 at 6 months, and 15|29 at 9 months.
- Similar results were reportedly found for self-reported alcohol use but no data were provided; the researchers reported that percent of days used alcohol declined from intake to the 3-month follow-up, but increased from 6 to 9 months.


**Study 3, Henggler et al., 2012 - modest support for CM:**
104 juvenile offenders, aged 12 to 17 (83% male, 57% White, 40% African American) were randomized to receive either CM in combination with Family Engagement Strategies (CM-FAM) or usual services (US). 86% of the adolescents met diagnostic criteria for at least one substance use disorder. Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback at baseline, and 3, 6, and 9 months post-recruitment. Urine drug screens were also administered.
- There were no significant differences in self-reported marijuana use between conditions.
- From Months 1–3 to Months 7–9, the odds of a positive marijuana result per drug screen for US youths increased 94% (odds ratio = 1.94). During the same time, for CM-FAM youths, the odds of a positive marijuana result per drug screen decreased 18% (odds ratio = 0.82)


**Study 4, Godley et al., 2014 – support for CM**
337 adolescents (63% male; 70% White) were randomly assigned to varying continuing care conditions following residential treatment: usual continuing care (UCC), Assertive Continuing Care (ACC), CM, or CM+ACC. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after discharge. Outcomes were examined across the 12 months after discharge.
- In the 12 months after discharge from residential treatment, CM resulted in significantly higher rates of AOD abstinence days than UCC (65.1% to 52.6%, $d = 0.41$). This pattern also was true for heavy alcohol use (81.2% to 73.1%, $d = 0.34$), any alcohol use (79.6% to 71.1%, $d = 0.36$), and marijuana use (69% to 58%, $d = 0.38$).


**Study 5, Kaminer et al., 2014 – no support for CM**
59 adolescents (86% male; 64% White, Non-Hispanic) with a current DSM-IV diagnosis of cannabis abuse or dependence and a positive drug screen for cannabis at baseline were randomly assigned to either cognitive
TRENDING Youth Substance Use: An Inventory of Evidence Based Practices

Behavioral therapy with non-contingent reinforcement (CBT) or CBT with voucher-based contingent reinforcement (CBT+CM). All youth received 10 weekly manual-guided group CBT sessions based on the CYT study protocols. Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback and Teen Addiction Severity Index. Cannabis use status was examined at each session and at 3-month follow-up.

- In general, youth overall did not significantly change their cannabis use from Sessions 1 through 10 nor from Session 10 to 3-month follow-up, and there were not any significant changes as a function of experimental group.


**Study 6, Stanger et al., 2015 – modest support for CM**

153 adolescents (89% male, 36% White, 62% African American) who met DSM-IV criteria for cannabis abuse or dependence were randomized to 12 sessions of motivational enhancement therapy/cognitive-behavioral therapy (MET/CBT), MET/CBT+abstinence-based contingency management (CM), or MET/CBT+CM+Parent Training (PT). Participants were assessed with urinalysis, the Timeline Followback, and Vermont Structured Diagnostic Interview at pretreatment, post-treatment, and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months post-treatment.

- During treatment, MET/CBT, MET/CBT+CM, and MET/CBT+CM+PT, respectively, differed in the proportion of participants who achieved ≥ 2 weeks of abstinence (35% versus 65% versus 59%, p < .007), and ≥ 4 weeks (31% versus 53% versus 43%, p < .03), but not ≥ 6 weeks (29% versus 47% versus 33%, p = .15)
- Abstinence rates decreased between end of treatment and the 3-month follow-up, with similar abstinence rates in the 3 conditions at all follow-up assessments.
- Despite significant improvements in reduction in marijuana use during treatment, maintenance of gains post-treatment was poor across conditions.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Lists</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAI Rating</td>
<td>Research-based</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment</td>
<td>Contingency Management is considered research-based. Although 4 of the 6 RCTs reviewed above demonstrated weak, modest, and/or short-term effects of CM, and one demonstrated no effect for CM, one study (Godley et al., 2014) showed sustained improvements in substance use with CM. More studies are needed to establish the reinforcement procedures associated with reliable, sustained improvements in substance use disorders and related problems. <a href="#">Back to overview.</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Culturally Informed & Flexible Family-Based Treatment for Adolescents (CIFFTA) for Hispanics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th><strong>Program Developer:</strong> Daniel Santisteban, Ph.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://sites.education.miami.edu/santisteban/">http://sites.education.miami.edu/santisteban/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of Intervention</strong></td>
<td>Culturally Informed and Flexible Family-Based Treatment for Adolescents (CIFFTA) is an outpatient treatment that was designed to modify symptoms such as adolescent conduct problems, depression, school failure, family conflict, delinquency/violent behavior, drug use and/or risky sexual behavior. At the same time that CIFFTA reduces risk factors, it also identifies and strengthens protective/resiliency factors. CIFFTA combines family treatment, individual treatment, and psycho-Educational modules in a highly strategic and effective manner. CIFFTA works with the adolescents to help develop skills and knowledge needed to react more effectively in the face of stressors but the main focus is on stimulating the protective and healing processes in minority parents and families. One of the primary ways to interrupt an unhealthy trajectory and reduce the impact of difficult environments for high risk youth is through effective parenting, parental support, monitoring, and guidance. These factors are critical to early problem identification, early treatment and indicated prevention. Compared to temporary therapists, family members can be more influential over an extended period of the child’s life. See <a href="http://sites.education.miami.edu/santisteban/">http://sites.education.miami.edu/santisteban/</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy format</td>
<td>Family therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Family therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Evaluations and Findings** | **Study 1, Santisteban, 2011 – support for CIFFTA:** 28 Hispanic adolescents and their families were randomized either to CIFFTA or to traditional family therapy (TFT) and were assessed at baseline and 8-month follow-up.  
- Results revealed statistically significant time × treatment effects on both self-reported drug use (marijuana + cocaine), $F(1, 22) = 10.59$, $p < .01$, $\eta^2 = .33$ and adolescent reports of parenting practices, $F(1, 22) = 9.01$, $p < .01$, $\eta^2 = .29$. Both sets of analyses favored CIFFTA participants.  
<p>| Rating Lists        | None |
| ADAI Rating         | Promising |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIFFTA is considered promising. One RCT was identified, which showed favorable results, but it included only 28 participants. More studies are needed to substantiate the favorable effects of CIFFTA in a larger sample of Hispanic/Latino adolescents. <a href="#">Back to overview.</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Program Developer: Marsha M. Linehan, Ph.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://behavioraltech.org/index.cfm">http://behavioraltech.org/index.cfm</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description of Intervention**

DBT is a comprehensive cognitive-behavioral treatment that was originally developed as an outpatient treatment for chronically suicidal individuals with borderline personality disorder (BPD). It has been adapted or modified to treat a variety of other populations, including those with substance abuse. In its standard form, outpatient DBT consists of four components: (1) group skills training in mindfulness, distress tolerance, interpersonal effectiveness, and emotion regulation; (2) individual therapy to enhance motivation and successful skills implementation; (3) phone coaching on skills implementation; and (4) a therapist consultation team. The focus of treatment in DBT shifts through four stages. Stage 1 focuses on helping the client to achieve behavioral control.

Stage 2 focuses on helping the client to experience difficult emotions that have previously been suppressed or avoided. Stage 3 focuses on helping the client to live a life with goals and self-respect while finding peace and happiness. For those needing or desiring more treatment, Stage 4 focuses on finding deeper meaning or spiritual fulfillment. See [http://behavioraltech.org/resources/whatisdbt.cfm](http://behavioraltech.org/resources/whatisdbt.cfm).

DBT has been adapted to address substance use disorders among those with BPD by the treatment developers (DBT-S). With regard to substance use, DBT-S takes a dialectical stance, with an unrelenting insistence on total abstinence. Should substance use occur, emphasis shifts to radical acceptance of the lapse, nonjudgmental problem-solving, and relapse prevention, while maintaining an insistence on return to total abstinence. For those with opiate or stimulant dependence, DBT-S incorporates four months of drug maintenance (to provide time for skills acquisition), four months of drug tapering (for skills strengthening), and four months of no drug replacement (for skills generalization) (Linehan et al, 1999).

DBT has separately been adapted for use with adolescents (DBT-A) with suicidality or self-harm. DBT-A is generally shorter than DBT with simplified language and fewer skills taught. For example, Rathus and Miller (2002) shortened DBT to 12 weeks based on observation that many suicidal adolescents fail to complete longer therapies. A shorter treatment course was designed to help adolescents view treatment completion as achievable. Parents are generally included in skills training groups to enable them to serve as coaches and to improve dysfunctional, invalidating home environments. Parents or other family members may also be included in individual therapy sessions when familial issues seem paramount.
### Manuals


### Therapy format

- Individual psychotherapy with group skills-training

### Therapy type

- Cognitive-behavioral

### Setting

- Community agency, outpatient, inpatient

### Evaluations and Findings

#### Studies of DBT or DBT-S for SUD

**Study 1, Linehan et al., 1999 – support for DBT-S for SUD**

28 women, aged 18-45 (78% White), who met criteria for borderline personality disorder and substance use disorder for opiates, cocaine, amphetamines, sedatives, hypnotics, and/or anxiolytics, were randomly assigned to receive DBT or treatment as usual (TAU) over the course of one year. Participants were assessed at pre-treatment and 4, 8, 12, and 16 months.

- Compared to TAU, those assigned to DBT had a significantly higher proportion of drug and alcohol abstinence days at 4 and 8 months, the overall year total, ad at 16-month follow-up, measured both by structured interviews and urinalyses.
- DBT retained participants in treatment (64%) better than did TAU (27%).
- Those assigned to DBT had significantly greater gains in global and social adjustment at follow-up than did those assigned to TAU.

Study 2, Linehan et al., 2002 – support for DBT-S for SUD
23 women, aged 18-45 (66% White, 26% African American), who met criteria for borderline personality disorder and current opioid dependence were randomly assigned to receive either DBT or Comprehensive Validation Therapy with 12-Step participation (CVT+12S) for one year. CVT+12S was a manualized approach that provided the major acceptance-based strategies used in DBT in combination with participation in 12-Step programs. All participants were provided an opiate agonist medication (LAAM) three times per week for approximately one year. Participants were assessed at pre-treatment and 4, 8, 12, and 16 months. Drug use outcomes were measured via thrice-weekly urinalyses and self-report.

- Results of urinalyses indicated that both treatment conditions were effective in reducing opiate use relative to baseline. Participants assigned to DBT maintained reductions in mean opiate use through 12 months of active treatment while those assigned to CVT + 12S significantly increased opiate use during the last 4 months of treatment.
- At 16 months, all participants had a low proportion of opiate-positive urinalyses (27% in DBT; 33% in CVT + 12S).
- CVT + 12S retained all 12 participants for the entire year of treatment, compared to a 64% retention rate in DBT.


Study 3, van den Bosch et al., 2002 – no support for standard DBT for SUD
58 Dutch-speaking women in the Netherlands, aged 18 to 70, with borderline personality disorder, 53% with substance abuse problems (more than half of these with poly drug abuse), were randomly assigned to receive either “standard DBT,” without the adaptations of DBT-S for substance use-related behaviors, or TAU for one year. Participants were assessed for substance abuse problems with the European version of the Addiction Severity Index at baseline and 18-month follow-up.

- No differential treatment effects were found for the number of days of alcohol, medication, and cannabis use in the past month or for the overall severity scores for both alcohol and drug problems.
- No changes in SA problems were found over the course of the study.


Study 4, Courbasson et al., 2012 – support for DBT-S for SUD
25 women, aged 18 and older, with concurrent eating disorder (ED) and SUD, were randomly assigned to receive either TAU or DBT-S, with added psychoeducational and cognitive–behavioral focus on ED, SUD, and their inter-relationships, for one year. SUDs were predominantly for cocaine (64% in DBT and 70% in TAU), alcohol in the DBT condition (58%), and benzodiazepines in the TAU condition (50%). Participants were assessed for substance
abuse problems with the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and the short form of the Drug-Taking Confidence Questionnaire (DTCQ-8) at baseline, 3, 6, and 9 months into treatment, post-treatment (12 months) and at 3-month and 6-month follow-ups. Due to attrition in the TAU group the small sample size was not sufficient to provide between-group comparisons. Thus, effects on outcomes were examined within-group for the DBT group only.

- At 3 months into treatment, 87% of the participants (n=13) in the DBT condition remained in treatment while only 20% (n=2) remained in the TAU condition. At 6, 9, and 12 months, 80% of DBT participants and 20% of TAU participants remained. The study terminated recruitment early, and no more participants were assigned to TAU because response to TAU was poor.
- Post-treatment (p < 0.02), 3-month follow-up (p < 0.02) and 6-month follow-up (p<0.03) ASI-substance composite scores were significantly lower than baseline scores. Compared to baseline, effect sizes for ASI-substance composite scores were -0.83 at post-treatment, -0.68 at 3-month follow-up, and -0.63 at 6-month follow-up.
- There were no significant time effects for ASI-alcohol composite scores or the DTCQ scores.


**Studies of DBT-A for adolescents with suicidality and/or features of borderline personality disorder**

**Study 1, Rathus & Miller, 2002 – support for DBT-A for adolescent suicidality**

In this quasi-experimental study, 111 adolescents (8.1% White, non-Hispanic) were assigned to 12 weeks of DBT-A (n = 29, mean age = 16.1 years, 93% female) or treatment as usual (TAU; n = 82, mean age = 15.0 years, 73% female). Patients were selected for DBT-A if they had (a) a suicide attempt within the last 16 weeks as measured by clinical interview or current suicidal ideation and (b) a diagnosis of borderline personality disorder or a minimum of three borderline personality features. Participants were assessed at pre-treatment and post-treatment.

- Significantly fewer participants in the TAU group (40%) completed treatment compared to the DBT-A group (62%).
- 13% of participants in the TAU condition were admitted for psychiatric hospitalizations during the course of treatment compared to 0% in the DBT-A condition.
- There was no significant difference between the two groups in the number of suicide attempts during the course of treatment, with 7.3% (n = 8) of the total sample making attempts; however, the proportion of adolescents in TAU making suicide attempts (8.6%) was 2.5 times as many as those in DBT-A who did so (3.4%).
- In the DBT-A group, there were significant pre-post decreases in the Global Severity Index, Positive Symptom Distress, suicidal ideation, anxiety, depression, interpersonal sensitivity, obsessive-compulsiveness, confusion about self, impulsivity, emotion dysregulation, and interpersonal difficulties.
• Pre-post differences in the TAU group were not reported.


**Study 2, Katz et al., 2004 – limited support for DBT-A for adolescent suicidality**

In this quasi-experimental study, 62 adolescent inpatients (84% female, 73% White) aged 14 to 17 years were assigned to experimental conditions based on bed availability; one unit implemented DBT-A while the other unit implemented treatment as usual (TAU). To be included, patients had to have been admitted after making a suicide attempt or having suicidal ideation severe enough to warrant admission as determined by a child and adolescent psychiatrist and agreed to stay in the hospital for brief treatment. Patients were ineligible if they had mental retardation, psychosis, bipolar disorder, or severe learning disability. The two-week DBT-A program consisted of a DBT milieu in which there were 10 daily, manualized DBT skills training sessions and twice weekly individual DBT psychotherapy sessions. TAU consisted of a daily psychodynamic psychotherapy group, individual psychodynamic psychotherapy at least once per week, and a psychodynamically oriented milieu. Participants were assessed at pre-treatment, post-treatment, and one-year follow-up. Self-report measures included the 13-item Beck Depression Inventory, the Kazdin Hopelessness Scale for Children, and the Reynolds’ Suicidal Ideation Questionnaire-Jr.

- Both groups showed substantial symptomatic improvement at discharge. There were no differences between the groups at discharge on any of the measures.
- DBT-A patients had significantly fewer incidents on the ward than the TAU group.


**Study 3, Melhum et al., 2014 – support for DBT-A for adolescent suicidality and depressive symptoms**

77 adolescents in Oslo, Norway, aged 12 to 18 years (79% Norwegian ethnicity, 87% female) with recent and repetitive self-harm treated at community child and adolescent psychiatric outpatient clinics were randomly assigned to 19 weeks of DBT-A or enhanced usual care (EUC). Inclusion criteria: a history of at least 2 episodes of self-harm, at least 1 within the last 16 weeks; at least 2 criteria of DSM-IV BPD (plus the self-destructive criterion), or at least 1 criterion of DSM-IV BPD plus at least 2 subthreshold-level criteria; and fluency in Norwegian. Exclusion criteria: diagnosis of bipolar disorder (except bipolar II), schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, psychotic disorder not otherwise specified, intellectual disability, and Asperger syndrome. Assessments of self-harm, suicidal ideation, depression, hopelessness, and symptoms of borderline personality disorder were made at baseline and after 9, 15, and 19 weeks (end of trial period), and frequency of hospitalizations and emergency department visits over the trial period were recorded.
- DBT-A was superior to EUC in reducing frequency of self-harm, severity of suicidal ideation, and depressive symptoms, with generally large effect sizes for outcomes in the DBT-A condition, but weak or moderate outcomes in the EUC condition.
- For several outcomes, differences between the treatment conditions increased toward the last third of the trial period; DBT-A patients continued their improvement, whereas EUC patients did not.


**Study 4, Melhum et al., 2016 – support for DBT-A for adolescent suicidality and depressive symptoms**

The participants in Melhum et al., 2014 (Study 3, above) were followed for one year. 75 of the 77 participants completed measures at baseline and one year follow-up.

- DBT-A remained superior to EUC in reducing the frequency of self-harm.
- For other outcomes such as suicidal ideation, hopelessness, and depressive or borderline symptoms and for the global level of functioning, inter-group differences apparent at the 19-week assessment were no longer observed, mainly due to participants in the EUC group having significantly improved on these dimensions over the follow-up year, whereas DBT-A participants remained unchanged (i.e., maintained their gains).


**Rating Lists**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NREPP</th>
<th>DBT-S is rated 3.3 out of 4.0 on drug use-related indices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ADAI Rating | Standard DBT is not supported for SUD among adult women with BPD  
DBT-S is evidence-based for SUD among adult women with BPD  
DBT-S is promising for SUD among adult women with other co-occurring disorders  
DBT-S is promising for SUD among adolescents with co-occurring disorders  
DBT-A is research-based for self-harm, suicidal ideation, hopelessness, and depressive or borderline symptoms and for global level of functioning among adolescents with suicidality and/or features of borderline personality disorder. |
| Comment | A randomized controlled trial of standard DBT among women with BPD in the Netherlands did not show changes in substance use-related outcomes for women with co-occurring BPD. No other randomized controlled trials of standard DBT examining substance use-related outcomes were found. Two small randomized controlled trials (Ns < 30) of DBT-S showed sustained desirable substance use-related outcomes from DBT-S among adult women (aged 18 and older) with BPD; thus, DBT-S is considered evidence-based in this population. A small trial of DBT-S showed positive effects among adult women with ED and SUD, but the failure of the control condition to retain participants precluded experimentally controlled analysis; thus, DBT-S is considered promising among adult women |
with SUD and co-occurring disorders other than BPD. Notably, DBT-S has not been tested in adolescents, with male participants, or with those without co-occurring disorders; however, there is reason to believe that DBT-S may be effective in adolescents as well as adults, men as well as women, and those without as well as those with co-occurring disorders; thus, DBT-S is considered promising in these populations. The research on DBT among adolescents has focused on adolescents with suicidality and/or symptoms of BPD without examining SUD. Only one completed randomized controlled trial was found (Mehlum et al., 2014, 2016), and it showed sustained favorable outcomes. Thus, DBT-A is considered research based for self-harm, suicidal ideation, hopelessness, and depressive or borderline symptoms and for global level of functioning among adolescents with suicidality and/or features of borderline personality disorder. Back to overview.

### Eco logically Based Family Therapy (EBFT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Program Developer: Nancy Slesnick</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Intervention</td>
<td>EBFT is a 14- to 16-session home-based, family preservation model that focuses on families who are in crisis because a youth has run away from home. The model targets 12- to 17-year-olds who are staying in a runaway shelter and are also dealing with substance abuse issues. Preliminary intervention with the family consists of preparing parents and adolescents to come together to talk about issues that may have initiated the runaway episode. Sessions with parents alone utilize similar motivation and engagement procedures as those used with the adolescent. The sessions help develop parents’ readiness to develop a new kind of relationship with their youth and change parenting strategies. The therapist works towards fostering competency in parenting by supporting consistent and age-appropriate limit-setting and monitoring of activities. This may be especially salient for parents of runaway youth as they may have lost confidence in their ability to influence the adolescent. Following completion of the individual sessions, family members are brought together to target specific dysfunctional interactions which correspond to the development and continuation of problem behaviors. Techniques utilized in these sessions include communication and problem-solving skills training where youth and parents become more confident and competent in their ability to communicate needs and expectations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy format</td>
<td>Family therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Family therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency; in-home sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluations and Findings</td>
<td>Study 1 (Slesnick &amp; Prestopnik, 2005) – modest support for EBFT:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>124 runaway adolescents with at least 10 days of substance use in past 90 days or DSM-IV substance use disorder and at least one caregiver willing to participate (41% male, 37% White, 41% Hispanic/Latino) were randomly assigned to receive EBFT or services as usual (SAU). Participants were assessed with the Form 90 at baseline, 6, and 12 months post-baseline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- No significant effects were found for any of the main variables of interest in ITT analyses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Among those who received &gt; 4 sessions, effects were found for percent days substance use (eta squared = .10).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- EBFT showed a greater reduction in overall substance use compared to SAU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study 2 (Slesnick &amp; Prestopnik, 2009) – Support for EBFT:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>119 runaway adolescents with a primary alcohol problem (89% meeting DSM-IV alcohol use disorder) were randomly assigned to receive 16 sessions of home-based EBFT, 16 sessions of office-based functional family therapy (FFT), or services as usual (SAU). Participants were assessed with the Form 90, Child Diagnostic Interview Schedule, Adolescent Drinking Index, and Problem Oriented Screening Instrument at baseline, 3, 5 and 15 months post-baseline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Percent days of alcohol or drug use declined more from baseline to 9 to 15 months in both EBFT (43, 21, 12) and FFT (43, 18, 13), compared to SAU (38, 32, 33), p &lt; .05.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- There were no significant differences between groups for any of the other variables.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study 3 (Slesnick et al., 2013) – modest support for EBFT:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>179 runaway adolescents with substance use disorder (48% male; 26% White) were randomly assigned to receive 14 sessions of the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA), 14 sessions of Motivational Interviewing (MI), or 14 sessions of EBFT. Participants were assessed with the Form 90 at baseline, 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, 24 months post-baseline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Participants showed improvements in their substance use in all treatment conditions, and none of the interventions was superior to another.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 55% showed clinically significant change in SU at 6 months, 29.2% had some reduction, and 16% showed deterioration.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ENCOMPASS

**Contact information**

**Program Developer:** Paula Riggs, M.D.

**Website:** [http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/psychiatry/Research/Subdep/ENCOMPASS/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/psychiatry/Research/Subdep/ENCOMPASS/Pages/default.aspx)

**Description of Intervention**

ENCOMPASS is an integrated 16-week treatment for adolescents and young adults with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. It is an adaptation and hybridization of individual CBT and contingency management, separately rated herein as standalone treatments as evidence-based and research-based, respectively. Psychiatric medication is also incorporated as deemed appropriate. In ENCOMPASS, an initial standardized clinical and diagnostic evaluation and clinical assessment is conducted by a psychiatrist or other qualified physician or prescribing nurse practitioner with a CBT therapist. The assessment examines a range lifetime and current substance use and use disorders and psychiatric diagnoses. Urine drug screening is performed throughout treatment as a biological measure of substance use and validity check for self-reported drug use. Weekly individual CBT sessions may be combined with up to 2-4 family sessions as clinically indicated, targeting substance abuse and addressing psychiatric symptoms that are often triggers for substance use/relapse. ENCOMPASS utilizes contingency management in the form of motivational incentives to reinforce both treatment compliance and abstinence. Patients draw chips from a "fishbowl" labeled with positive verbal reinforcement or the chance to select a small or larger prize from a prize cabinet. ENCOMPASS also seeks to involve patients in pro-social activities that enhance self-esteem and mastery and strengthen affiliation with non-drug using peers and positive adult role models, e.g., principle-based martial arts, junior golf programs, activities offered through community recreation centers, etc. The ENCOMPASS Consulting Team (provided by the treatment developers) works closely with treatment programs to identify a "menu" of existing resources offering a variety of appropriate activities in the local community. ENCOMPASS Consultants and the site clinical team (the medical director, CBT therapists and administrative coordinator) meet weekly on a conference call to review cases, medication management issues, and implementation issues. The clinic medical director and the CBT therapists meet in a brief separate weekly review of all cases. The CBT therapists receive additional monthly clinical supervision and fidelity adherence from the ENCOMPASS Consultant Team CBT trainer/ supervisor. See [http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/psychiatry/Research/Subdep/ENCOMPASS/ENCOMPASSDetails/Pages/ComponentsofEncompass.aspx](http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/departments/psychiatry/Research/Subdep/ENCOMPASS/ENCOMPASSDetails/Pages/ComponentsofEncompass.aspx)
### family behavior therapy (FBT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Program Developers: Bradley Donohue and Nathan H. Azrin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://web.unlv.edu/labs/frs/fbt.html">http://web.unlv.edu/labs/frs/fbt.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Intervention</td>
<td>“FBT...uses innovative, easily learned, behavioral therapies to treat substance abuse and various problem behaviors for adults and youth within the family context. Adolescent and adult FBT usually includes 12 to 19 sixty to ninety-minute outpatient sessions that are scheduled to occur up to 4 to 12 months.” See <a href="http://web.unlv.edu/labs/frs/fbt.html">http://web.unlv.edu/labs/frs/fbt.html</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Therapy format</th>
<th>Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Behavioral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Evaluations and Findings | **Study 1 (Azrin et al., 2001) — modest support for FBT:** 56 adolescents (12-17) with symptoms of Conduct Disorder plus Substance Use Disorder or symptoms of Oppositional Defiant Disorder plus Substance Dependence (82% male, 79% White) were randomly assigned to receive 15 sessions of FBT or 15 sessions of Individual-Cognitive Problem-Solving Therapy (ICPST) over the course of 6 months. Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback and urinalysis at baseline, post-treatment, and 6 months post-treatment.  
- There were no Intervention by Time effects from pre-treatment to post-treatment or from pre-treatment to follow-up (ps > .05), indicating that subjects in both interventions demonstrated similar results across time.  
- Number of days per month using drugs decreased in the FBT condition from 13.6 to 9.0 to 8.6. and in the ICPST condition from 14.1 to 9.3 to 8.4 (p < .001 at both post and 6-months post, across groups).  
- Percent of subjects abstinent from drugs according to UA increased in the FBT condition from 24.2 to 25.0 to 45.0 and in the ICPST condition from 22.2 to 52.0 to 44.4 (p < .05 from pre to 6 months post). |


| Rating Lists | CEBC: 2 = Supported by research evidence  
NREPP: Rated 2.9 on drug use outcomes, 2.7 on alcohol use outcomes. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAI Rating</td>
<td>Research-based</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment</td>
<td>FBT is considered research-based, with a single randomized-controlled trial demonstrating sustained reductions in average number of days using drugs. <a href="#">Back to overview.</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Support Network (FSN)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Contact information**       | **Program developer:** Nancy Hamilton, MPA, 813-760-3979  
**Implementation contact:** Jackie Griffin, MS, jgriffin@operpar.org  
**Research contact:** Mark Vargo, PhD, mvargo@operpar.org |

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Intervention</td>
<td>Family Support Network (FSN) is an outpatient substance abuse treatment program targeting youth ages 10-18 years. FSN includes a family component along with a 12-session, adolescent-focused cognitive behavioral therapy—called Motivational Enhancement Therapy/Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (MET/CBT12)—and case management. It is designed to be used in conjunction with any standard adolescent treatment approach. It seeks to extend the focus of treatment beyond the world of the adolescent by engaging the family, a major system in his or her life. Because family therapy is beyond the resources of many programs, the FSN model was developed to use only a limited number of the more costly in-home therapy sessions coupled with several less costly group sessions. It consists of several components, each designed to achieve specific objectives: case management, six parent education groups, and 3-4 in-home family therapy sessions. Treatment goals of FSN are to improve an adolescent’s outcomes by including the family in the recovery process, enhancing family function, improving parental effectiveness in dealing with substance abuse and accompanying behaviors, assessing the family’s commitment to the recovery process, and suggesting changes to the way the family approaches problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy format</td>
<td>Family; case management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Cognitive behavioral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency; in-home sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Evaluations and Findings | **Study 1 (Dennis et al., 2004, Trial 1) — no support for FSN:** 300 adolescents with cannabis-related disorders (84% male; 73% White) were randomly assigned to receive FSN, MET/CBT12, or MET/CBT5. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months thereafter.  
- There were no significant differences among the treatments. The percent of participants in recovery at one year was 22% for FSN compared to 27% for MET/CBT5 and 17% for MET/CBT12. FSN was the least cost-effective intervention in the study. Cost per days abstinent: MET/CBT5 = $4.91, MET/CBT12 = $6.15, FSN = $15.13. Cost per person in recovery: MET/CBT5 = $3958, MET/CBT12 = $7377, FSN = $15116. |
| Rating Lists | **NREPP:** 3.7 on abstinence from substance use and recovery from substance use; 3.5 on cost-effectiveness. |
| ADAI Rating | Unsupported |
| Comment | In the single RCT identified that evaluated FSN, the FSN intervention was found to be no more effective than the comparison interventions. Considering that the comparison interventions represented different subsets of the procedures contained in FSN (MET/CBT5 and MET/CBT12) and that FSN was quite a bit more expensive and involved much higher staff and client burden, we consider FSN to be unsupported by the current available evidence. |
The NREPP rating of cost effectiveness appears to be a rating of quality of research evidence rather than of cost effectiveness *per se*, which is very low compared to the other treatments studied. [Back to overview.]

### Functional Family Therapy (FFT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Program Developer: James Alexander, Ph.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fftllc.com">http://www.fftllc.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description of Intervention**

Functional family therapy (FFT) is “a multisystemic approach that integrates and conceptually links behavioral and cognitive intervention strategies to the ecological formulation of the family disturbance. Problems such as substance use or running away are conceptualized as deriving from maladaptive family interaction patterns as well as limited coping and problem-solving skills. The primary focus of sessions is on family interaction and behavior change.” (Slesnick & Prestopnik, 2009) “The FFT intervention is applied in two phases. The first phase focuses on engaging families in the treatment process and enhancing motivation for change. Therapists strive to maximize families' expectations for positive change and to effect changes in attitudes and feelings by reducing blaming behavior and emphasizing the relationship aspects of identified problems. A family assessment, involving the identification of the interactional and functional aspects of specific behaviors, attributions, and feelings of family members, is also conducted during this phase. Once the initial phase is completed, the second phase is introduced, and the focus of treatment shifts to effecting behavioral changes in the family.” (Waldron et al., 2001).

**Manual**


**Therapy format**

Family therapy

**Therapy type**

Family therapy

**Setting**

Outpatient clinic, community agency

**Evaluations and Findings**

**Study 1 (Waldron et al., 2001) – Support for FFT:**

120 adolescents (80% male, 38% White, 47% Hispanic/Latino) who were referred for drug abuse treatment, most of whom were mandated for treatment by the court, probation officers, or schools. Youths were eligible if they met criteria for a DSM-IV substance use disorder, not primarily abusing only alcohol, and had a parent/guardian who was willing to participate. Participants were randomly assigned to receive 12 hours of FFT, 12 hours of individual cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), 12 hours of psychoeducational group treatment, or 24 hours of FFT + CBT. Participants were assessed at baseline, and 4 and 7 months using the Timeline Followback.

- From baseline to 4 month follow-up, youths in the FFT condition, $\eta^2 = .422$, and in the joint condition, $\eta^2 = .229$, showed significant reductions in days of marijuana use. Youths in the CBT condition and in the group condition did not have a significant reduction in marijuana use.
From baseline to 7 month follow-up, youths in the joint treatment condition maintained a significant reduction in days using marijuana, eta squared = .243. Youths in the FFT condition were not significantly different from baseline, eta squared = .102, suggesting that the changes at 4 months were not maintained at 7 months. Youths in the group condition significantly reduced their marijuana use, eta squared = .216. Youths in the CBT condition did not change significantly from pretreatment.

There was a significant change in heavy to minimal use from pretreatment to 4 months in FFT (86.6% vs. 55.2%), CBT (96.8% vs. 72.4%), and joint (89.7% vs. 55.6%) conditions, but not in the group condition (96.7% vs. 87.8%).

From baseline to 7 months, there was a significant change from heavy use to minimal use in the FFT condition (86.6% vs. 62.1%), the joint condition (89.7% vs. 55.6%), and the group condition (96.7% vs. 69.0%, but not in the CBT condition (96.8% vs. 82.8%)


**Study 2 (Slesnick & Prestopnik, 2009) – Support for FFT:**
119 runaway adolescents (45% male, 29% White, 44% Hispanic/Latino) with a primary alcohol problem (89% meeting DSM-IV alcohol use disorder) were randomly assigned to receive 16 sessions of home-based Ecologically Based Family Therapy (EBFT), 16 sessions of office-based FFT, or services as usual (SAU). Participants were assessed with the Form 90, Child Diagnostic Interview Schedule, Adolescent Drinking Index, and Problem Oriented Screening Instrument at baseline, 3, 5 and 15 months post-baseline. .

- Percent days of alcohol or drug use declined more from baseline to 9 to 15 months in both EBFT (43, 21, 12) and FFT (43, 18, 13), compared to SAU (38, 32, 33), p < .05.
- There were no significant differences between groups for any of the other variables.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Lists</th>
<th><strong>Blueprints:</strong> Model program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CEBC:</strong> 2</td>
<td>= Supported by research evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NREPP:</strong></td>
<td>= Rated 3.3 on substance use-related indices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rating Lists</strong></td>
<td><strong>Evidence-based</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comment**
FFT is considered evidence-based. Two studies showed support for the intervention. Although Study 1 raised a question of whether changes in number of days using marijuana from baseline to 4 months were maintained at 7 months, the proportion heavily using marijuana at 7 months was significantly reduced from 86.6% to 62.1%. Back to overview.
## Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Program Developer: William Miller, Ph.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of Intervention</strong></td>
<td>Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET) is a counseling approach that helps individuals resolve their ambivalence about engaging in treatment and stopping their drug use. This approach aims to evoke rapid and internally motivated change, rather than guide the patient stepwise through the recovery process. This therapy consists of an initial assessment battery session, followed by two to four individual treatment sessions with a therapist. In the first treatment session, the therapist provides feedback to the initial assessment, stimulating discussion about personal substance use and eliciting self-motivational statements. Motivational interviewing principles are used to strengthen motivation and build a plan for change. Coping strategies for high-risk situations are suggested and discussed with the patient. In subsequent sessions, the therapist monitors change, reviews cessation strategies being used, and continues to encourage commitment to change or sustained abstinence. Patients sometimes are encouraged to bring a significant other to sessions. See <a href="http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/principles-drug-addiction-treatment-research-based-guide-third-edition/evidence-based-approaches-to-drug-addiction-treatment/behavioral-2">http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/principles-drug-addiction-treatment-research-based-guide-third-edition/evidence-based-approaches-to-drug-addiction-treatment/behavioral-2</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


| Therapy format | Individual |
| Therapy type   | Motivational Enhancement/Motivational Interviewing |
| Setting        | Outpatient clinic, community agency |

| Evaluations and Findings | **Study 1 (Peterson et al., 2006) – modest support for MET:** 285 homeless adolescents, aged 13 to 19 (66% male; 41% White) who had at least one binge drinking episode or used illicit “street” drugs at least four times in the past 30 days were randomly assigned to receive a version of MET developed by the authors, assessment only (AO), or assessment at follow-up only (AFO). Participants were assessed at baseline, and 1-month and 3-month follow-up using the Timeline Followback and the Rutgers Alcohol Problem Index. Outcome variables were binge drinking, days of alcohol use, standard drink units, days of marijuana use, days of illicit drug use other than marijuana (log transformed), days of illicit drug use other than marijuana, and alcohol and drug use consequences. |
|                        | • There was no evidence for a differential reduction in alcohol use on the basis of intervention group (interaction F statistics ranged from .001 to 1.087). The intervention also did not appear to differentially influence marijuana use. |
There was a greater reduction in other illicit drug use for the MET group than for the AO group from baseline to 1-month follow-up, eta squared = .02, but the effect did not hold at 3-month follow-up. There was no evidence that the intervention resulted in change in drug use consequences, nor was there any indication of a reduction in reported drug use consequences as measured in the RAPI during the follow-up period.


**Study 2 (Baer et al., 2007) – no support for MET:**
117 homeless adolescents, aged 14 to 19 (56% male; 58% White) who had at least one binge drinking episode or used illicit “street” drugs at least four times in the past 30 days were randomly assigned to receive a version of MET developed by the authors or treatment-as-usual (TAU). Participants were assessed at baseline, and 1-month and 3-month follow-up using the Timeline Followback. Outcome variables were binge drinking, days of alcohol use, standard drink units, days of marijuana use, days of illicit drug use other than marijuana (log transformed), and days of illicit drug use other than marijuana.

- There was no evidence for a differential reduction in alcohol or drug use on the basis of intervention group. Both groups evidenced increases in rates of abstinence over time.


**Study 3 (Slesnick et al., 2015) – support for MET:**
270 homeless adolescents and young adults with substance use disorder (66% male; 41% White) were randomly assigned to receive ACRA, MET, or case management. Participants were assessed with the Form 90.

- No significant differences were found between treatment conditions in ITT analyses. All three treatments exhibited medium to high effect sizes (ds = −0.29 to −0.71) on frequency of SU from baseline to the 6-month follow-up.
- Over 50% of participants in ACRA improved with regard to frequency of alcohol or drug use; about 25% stayed the same and about 25% deteriorated. Results were comparable for MET and case management.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Lists</th>
<th>NREPP = Rated 2.6-3.5 out of 5 for research on adults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAI Rating</td>
<td>MET as a standalone therapy does not appear on rating lists for adolescents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Promising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comment</strong></td>
<td>MET as a standalone therapy or in conjunction with a therapy other than CBT is considered promising (MET/CBT is rated separately). It is noteworthy that Studies 1 and 2, which showed weak or no support for MET did not follow the Project MATCH manual as was followed in Study 3, which showed stronger support for MET. Other forms of MET (Teen Marijuana Check Up and Adolescent Cannabis Check Up) were rated as research-based (TMCU) and promising (ACCU). More studies are needed to evaluate whether MET can demonstrate reliable and sustained positive outcomes. <a href="#">Back to overview.</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Motivational Enhancement Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (MET/CBT)</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact information</strong></td>
<td><strong>Program developer:</strong> Ronald M. Kadden, PhD, 800-535-6032, <a href="mailto:kadden@psychiatry.uchc.edu">kadden@psychiatry.uchc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of Intervention</strong></td>
<td>MET/CBT5 is a 5 session treatment composed of 2 individual sessions of MET and 3 weekly group sessions of CBT. The MET sessions focus on factors that motivate participants who abuse substances to change, while in the CBT sessions, participants learn skills to cope with problems and meet needs in ways that do not involve turning to marijuana or alcohol, including how to refuse marijuana; how to increase the adolescent’s social support network and non-drug activities; and how to avoid and cope with relapses. This approach provides the shortest (5 sessions) therapy among the CYT approaches, and appeals to managed care and families with limited resources. MET/CBT12 is a 12 session treatment composed of 2 sessions of MET and 10 weekly group sessions of CBT. This treatment is designed to provide more of the same kind of treatment as MET/CBT5 to test for dosage effects and is more in line with what many providers try to offer. Focuses on teaching techniques for: Anger management; problem solving; communications skills; coping with cravings and urges to use marijuana; depression management; planning for high-risk situations; relapse prevention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy format</strong></td>
<td>Individual; Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy type</strong></td>
<td>Motivational enhancement; Cognitive behavioral (MET/CBT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Setting</strong></td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Evaluations and Findings

**Study 1 (Dennis et al., 2004, Trial 1) – support for MET/CBT5:**
300 adolescents with cannabis-related disorders (84% male; 73% White) were randomly assigned to receive MET/CBT12, MET/CBT5, or Family Support Network (FSN), which consisted of MET/CBT12 plus additional sessions and procedures. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months thereafter.
- There were no significant differences among the treatments. The percent of participants in recovery at one year was 27% for MET/CBT5 compared to 22% for FSN and 17% for MET/CBT12. MET/CBT5 was the most cost-effective intervention in the study. Cost per days abstinent: MET/CBT5 = $4.91, MET/CBT12 = $6.15, FSN = $15.13. Cost per person in recovery: MET/CBT5 = $3958, MET/CBT12 = $7377, FSN = $15116.


**Study 2 (Dennis et al., 2004, Trial 2) – support for MET/CBT5:**
300 adolescents with cannabis-related disorders (81% male; 49% White) were randomly assigned to receive MET/CBT5, Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA), or Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy (MDFT). Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months thereafter.
- There were no significant differences among the treatments. MET/CBT5 had the second highest percent of participants in recovery at 12 months: ACRA = 34%, MET/CBT5 = 23%, MDFT = 19%, condition effect Cohen's f = 0.16.
- MET/CBT5 was the second most cost-effective intervention studied. Cost per days abstinent: MET/CBT5 = $9.00, ACRA = $6.62, MDFT = $10.38. Cost per person in recovery: MET/CBT5 = $6611, ACRA = $4460, MDFT = $11775.


**Study 3, Godley et al., 2010 – modest support for MET/CBT7:**
For this study, MET/CBT5 was supplemented with two family sessions to address concerns raised about the lack of parent involvement in the intervention. 320 adolescents (76% male; 73% White, 73% involved in criminal justice system) were randomly assigned. Half received a primary treatment of MET/CBT7 and half received Chestnut’s Bloomington Outpatient Program (CBOP) as their primary treatment. Half of each of these groups received Assertive Continuing Care (ACC) aftercare, resulting in 4 conditions: MET/CBT7, CBOP, MET/CBT7+ACC, CBOP+ACC. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months after admission.
- Findings were not significantly different by condition. The average percentage of days abstinent at follow-up was higher than baseline in all four conditions, with the increase in the percentage of days abstinent higher for the two CBOP conditions (10.6% and 10.9%) than the two MET/CBT7 conditions (5.0% and 6.1%).
The percentage in recovery at 12 month follow-up for each condition was: 29% for CBOP, 38% for CBOP+ACC, 44% for MET/CBT7, and 30% for MET/CBT7+ACC.

MET/CBT7 without ACC was the most cost-effective condition. Average cost per days abstinent: MET/CBT7 = $4.25, MET/CBT7+ACC = $14.97, CBOP = $14.00, CBOP+ACC = $19.37


**Study 4, Stanger et al., 2009- modest support for MET/CBT12:**
69 adolescents (83% male, 91% White) were randomized to receive either MET/CBT12 (CTL) or MET/CBT12+Contingency Management (EXP). Participants were assessed with the urine toxicology and the timeline followback at baseline, post-treatment, and 3, 6, and 9 months post-treatment.

- There were no significant treatment or time × treatment interaction effects. Across conditions, prevalence of marijuana use assessed by urine analysis (UA) decreased during treatment but then increased during follow-up and began to level off approaching baseline levels at intake.
- MET/CBT12+CM showed higher rates of marijuana abstinence than MET/CBT12 only at each time point, but these findings did not reach statistical significance. The percent with a positive UA in each condition (EXP|CTL) was approximately 61|69 at intake, 28|31 at discharge, 37|64 at 3 months, 41|56 at 6 months, and 46|63 at 9 months.
- Self-reported mean % days using marijuana use decreased during treatment but then increased during follow-up and began to level off below baseline levels. The mean percent of self-reported days used marijuana in each condition (EXP|CTL) was approximately 44|56 at intake, 9|12 at discharge, 7|17 at 3 months, 16|20 at 6 months, and 15|29 at 9 months.
- Similar results were reportedly found for self-reported alcohol use but no data were provided; the researchers reported that percent of days used alcohol declined from intake to the 3-month follow-up, but increased from 6 to 9 months.


**Study 5, Ramchand et al., 2011- support for MET/CBT5:**
A quasi-experimental study by Ramchand et al. (2011) compared MET/CBT5 to treatment programs at three community-based programs selected for evidence of efficacy. Youth who received MET/CBT5 exhibited greater reductions in substance use frequency, substance use problems, and illegal behaviors 12 months after treatment entry than those who had entered the community-based outpatient programs. Results showed no evidence that youth who received MET/CBT5 would have fared better with respect to emotional problems, the likelihood of being institutionalized, or achieving a "recovery" status at 12 months had they received community-based treatments.


| Rating Lists | CEBC: 3 = Promising research evidence  
NREPP: Rated 3.4 on substance use-related indices |
| ADAI Rating | Evidence-based |
| Comment | MET/CBT is considered evidence-based. Multiple RCTs indicate sustained improvements in substance use outcomes. Interestingly, the best results were observed for MET/CBT5. Longer interventions, while efficacious, (MET/CBT7 and MET/CBT12) were not clearly superior to MET/CBT5. [Back to overview.](#) |

### MET/CBT Aftercare (MET/CBT-A)

| Contact information | Program Developer: Yifrah Kaminer, MD, MBA, and Chris Napolitano, MS, LMFT |
| Website: | [www.hazelden.org](http://www.hazelden.org) |
| Description of Intervention | The brief telephone therapy program is designed to deliver a treatment regimen of continuing care for adolescents and young adults who have a mild to moderate substance use disorder and have recently completed a more intensive course of treatment. The program is brief both in the number of sessions (five) and the time required to deliver the sessions. It is designed to be implemented over a twelve-week period. The first session is a fifty-minute office session, while the remaining four sessions should take approximately fifteen minutes each. Ideally, session 1 should occur within two weeks of the completion of the more intensive AOSUD treatment phase. Sessions 2 and 3 are delivered two weeks following session 1 (and are also two weeks apart). Sessions 4 and 5 are delivered three weeks after session 3 (and are also three weeks apart). See [https://www.hazelden.org/HAZ_MEDIA/7918_brief_telephone_continuingcare_therapy.pdf](https://www.hazelden.org/HAZ_MEDIA/7918_brief_telephone_continuingcare_therapy.pdf) |
| **Therapy format** | Individual, in person or via telephone |
| **Therapy type** | Motivational enhancement; Cognitive behavioral (MET/CBT) |
| **Setting** | Outpatient clinic, community agency |
| **Evaluations and Findings** | **Study 1 (Kaminer et al., 2008) – support for MET/CBT-A:** 144 substance abuse CBT treatment-completing adolescents, aged 13 to 18 (67% male; at least 79% White, 13.2% Latino, 4.2% African American) were randomly assigned to receive either no aftercare (NAC) or active aftercare (AAC) in the form of either 5 in person (IP) MET/CBT sessions or comparable content in 5 brief telephone (BT) sessions. Efforts were made to reassess all study participants including non-completers with the Alcohol Consumption Questionnaire and urinalysis at end of treatment (before aftercare) and end of aftercare. |
There was no significant differential change for IP vs. BT conditions. Significant differences were observed only for AAC vs. NAC.

Youth in AAC showed significantly less number of drinking days per month ($p = .044$) as well as number of heavy drinking days per month use ($p = .035$) relative to NAC.

With regard to marijuana use, there was no significant differential change from as a function of AAC vs. NAC.


**Study 2 (Burleson et al., 2012) — support for MET/CBT-A:**
Longer-term outcomes of study reported in Kaminer et al., 2008. 144 substance abuse CBT treatment-completing adolescents, aged 13 to 18 (67% male; at least 79% White, 13.2% Latino, 4.2% African American) were randomly assigned to receive either no aftercare (NAC) or active aftercare (AAC) in the form of either 5 in person (IP) MET/CBT sessions or comparable content in 5 brief telephone (BT) sessions. Participants were assessed with the Alcohol Consumption Questionnaire at end of treatment (before aftercare), end of aftercare, and at 3-, 6-, and 12-month post-scheduled aftercare completion follow-ups.

- Across conditions, participants generally increased their number of drinking occasions per month (frequency) and the number of drinks per drinking occasion (quantity) across the 1-year follow-up period.
- There was no significant differential change for IP vs. BT conditions.
- AAC was associated with marginally better outcomes than NAC over the 12-month follow-up period; however, differences did not reach significance.


---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Lists</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAI Rating</td>
<td>Promising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment</td>
<td>MET/CBT Aftercare is considered promising. We found only one study with two articles: one with short-term outcomes and one with longer-term outcomes. The study had relatively low racial/ethnic minority participation. Shorter term outcomes significantly favored active aftercare (whether in person or via telephone) no active aftercare. However, the difference did not remain significant over the 12 month follow-up period described in the second article. More studies are needed to examine the utility of MET/CBT aftercare with a diverse sample and to demonstrate sustained improvements over time. <a href="#">Back to overview.</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Contact information</strong></th>
<th><strong>Program developer:</strong> Howard A. Liddle, Ed.D., 305-243-6860, <a href="mailto:hliddle@med.miami.edu">hliddle@med.miami.edu</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Website:</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.mdft.org/">http://www.mdft.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of Intervention</strong></td>
<td>Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) for Adolescents is an outpatient family-based drug abuse treatment for teenage substance abusers. Delivered across a flexible series of 12 to 16 weekly or twice weekly 60- to 90-minute sessions, MDFT is a manual-driven intervention with specific assessment and treatment modules that target four areas of social interaction: (1) the youth's interpersonal functioning with parents and peers, (2) the parents' parenting practices and level of adult functioning independent of their parenting role, (3) parent-adolescent interactions in therapy sessions, and (4) communication between family members and key social systems (e.g., school, child welfare, mental health, juvenile justice).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the perspective of MDFT, adolescent drug use is understood in terms of a network of influences (i.e., individual, family, peer, community). This multidimensional approach suggests that reductions in target symptoms and increases in prosocial target behaviors occur via multiple pathways, in differing contexts and through different mechanisms. The therapeutic process is thought of as retracking the adolescent's development in the multiple ecologies of his or her life. The therapy is phasically organized, and it relies on success in one phase of the therapy before moving onto the next. Knowledge of normal development and developmental psychopathology guides the overall therapeutic strategy and specific interventions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>As its name implies, MDFT is an integrative therapeutic philosophy and clinical approach. The treatment format includes individual and family sessions, and sessions with various family and extra family sessions. Interventions work within the multiple ecologies of adolescent development, and they target the processes known to produce and/or maintain drug taking and related problem behaviors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy format</strong></td>
<td>Family; Individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy type</strong></td>
<td>Behavioral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Setting</strong></td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Study 1 (Liddle et al., 2001) — support for MDFT:
182 adolescents, aged 13 to 18 (80% male, 51% White), who were using any illegal substance other than alcohol at least three times per week were randomized to 16 sessions of multidimensional family therapy (MDFT), adolescent group therapy (AGT), or multifamily educational intervention (MEI). Participants’ severity of drug use was rated on a Guttman-type scale at intake, termination, and 6 and 12 months following termination.
- Compared to those receiving AGT and MEI, those receiving MDFT showed the most improvement from intake to termination (eta squared = .12) and from intake to 12 months (eta squared = .05).
- Average drug use severity in the MDFT condition dropped from 9.9 at intake to 4.8 at termination and remained lowered to 5.0 at 6 months and 4.3 at 12 months. The trajectory of ratings was 8.8 to 7.3 to 6.1 to 5.1 in the AGT condition and 10.0 to 7.3 to 6.9 to 7.3 in the MEI condition.
- At termination, 42% of the youths who received MDFT, in comparison to 25% in AGT and 32% in MEI, reported clinically significant reduction in drug use. At the 1-year follow-up, 45% in MDFT, 32% in AGT, and 26% in MEI demonstrated clinically significant change in that their drug use was below initial treatment entry criteria.


Study 2 (Liddle et al., 2004) — support for MDFT:
80 urban, low-income and ethnically diverse adolescents, aged 11 to 15 referred for substance abuse and behavioral problems were randomly assigned to either MDFT or adolescent group therapy (AGT). Participants were assessed for substance abuse at intake, six weeks after intake, and at discharge.
- MDFT was significantly more effective than AGT in reducing risk and promoting protective processes in the individual, family, peer, and school domains, as well as in reducing substance use over the course of treatment.


Study 3 (Dennis et al., 2004, Trial 2) — weak support for MDFT:
300 adolescents with cannabis-related disorders (81% male; 49% White) were randomly assigned to receive the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA), five sessions of Motivational Enhancement Therapy/Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (MET/CBT5), or Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy (MDFT). Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3, 6, 9, and 12 months thereafter.
- There were no significant differences among the treatments. ACRA had the highest percent of participants in recovery at 12 months: ACRA = 34%, MET/CBT5 = 23%, MDFT = 19%, condition effect Cohen's f = 0.16.
• ACRA was found to be more cost-effective than the other interventions. Cost per days abstinent:
  MET/CBT5 = $9.00, ACRA = $6.62, MDFT = $10.38. Cost per person in recovery: MET/CBT5 = $6611,
  ACRA = $4460, MDFT = $11775


**Study 4 (Liddle et al., 2008a) – support for MDFT:**
224 drug-using youth (75% meeting DSM-IV criteria for cannabis dependence), aged 12 to 17.5 years (81% male, 72% African American) were randomly assigned to either MDFT or Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). Participants were assessed for frequency of drug use and psychological involvement in drug use at intake, termination, and 6 and 12 months following treatment termination.

• Both treatments evidenced significant decreases in frequency of cannabis use and substance abuse problem severity and marginally significant decreases in alcohol use.
• Compared to those in CBT, participants in MDFT retained more treatment gains at the 6- and 12-month follow-ups, used fewer drugs other than cannabis and alcohol, and were more likely to report minimal substance use (zero or one occasion) at the 12-month follow-up.


**Study 5 (Liddle et al., 2009) – support for MDFT:**
Longer-term outcomes of study reported in Liddle et al., 2004. 83 adolescents, aged 11 to 15 (76% male, 3% White Non-Hispanic, 42% Hispanic, 38% African American), who were referred for outpatient treatment for a substance abuse problem, were randomly assigned to 12-16 weeks of semi-weekly sessions of MDFT or adolescent group therapy (AGT). Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback at intake, 6-weeks post-intake, discharge, and 6 and 12 months following treatment intake and with the Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN) at intake and at 6 and 12 months following treatment intake.

• The proportion of youths abstaining from alcohol and drug use increased overall in the 12-month follow-up period ($p < .001$).
• Compared to those receiving AGT, youths in MDFT reported fewer days of substance use as well as a tendency to report increased abstinence from drugs and alcohol.
• 7% of youths in MDFT reported using drugs in the previous 30 days at the 12-month follow-up. In contrast, 45% of youths in group treatment reported substance use in the previous 30 days at the 12-month follow-up, which was a significantly larger proportion than the MTF sample ($p < .001$).

**Study 6 (Henderson et al., 2010) – modest support for MDFT:**
An article by Henderson et al. (2010) reports a secondary analysis of two trials. The first trial is described above as Liddle et al., 2008a (Study 4). The second trial, described here, was originally reported in Liddle et al., 2008b. 154 adolescents, aged 13 to 17 (83% male, 17% White Non-Hispanic, 60% African American, 22% Hispanic), enrolled in two juvenile detention facilities in Florida and endorsing substance abuse problems were randomly assigned to receive MDFT or enhanced services as usual (ESAU). Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback and Personal Involvement with Chemicals (PIC) subscale of the Personal Experience Inventory at intake, 3 months, 6 months, and 9 months.
- MDFT was more effective than ESAU in decreasing substance use frequency among a class of youths demonstrating greater baseline substance use and psychiatric comorbidity. However, there were no significant treatment differences in decreases in substance use for the class reporting lower levels of baseline substance use and less psychiatric comorbidity.


**Study 7 (Hendricks et al., 2011) – modest support for MDFT:**
109 adolescents in The Netherlands, aged 13 to 18 (82% male, 72% Dutch/western ethnicity), with a cannabis use disorder were randomly assigned to MDFT or CBT, both with a planned treatment duration of 5-6 months, and with study assessments at baseline and at 3, 6, 9 and 12 months following baseline. Main outcome measures were cannabis use, delinquent behavior, treatment response and recovery at one-year follow-up, and treatment intensity and retention.
- Adolescents in both treatments showed significant and clinically meaningful reductions in cannabis use and delinquency from baseline to one-year follow-up, with treatment effects in the moderate range.
- A substantial percentage of adolescents in both groups met the criteria for treatment response at month 12.
- Treatment intensity and retention was significantly higher in MDFT than in CBT.
- Post hoc subgroup analyses suggested that high problem severity subgroups at baseline may benefit more from MDFT than from CBT.

Study 8 (Rigter et al., 2013) – support for MDFT:
MDFT was compared with individual psychotherapy (IP) across several western European countries. 450 adolescents, aged 13 to 18 (85% male, 40% of first- or second-generation foreign descent), with a cannabis use disorder, were randomly assigned to the MDFT or IP condition. Positive outcomes were found in both the MDFT and IP conditions. MDFT outperformed IP on the measures of treatment retention (p<0.001) and prevalence of cannabis dependence (p=0.015). MDFT reduced the number of cannabis consumption days more than IP in a subgroup of adolescents reporting more frequent cannabis use (p=0.002). Cannabis use disorder was responsive to treatment. MDFT exceeded IP in decreasing the prevalence of cannabis dependence. MDFT is applicable in Western European outpatient settings and may show moderately greater benefits than IP in youth with more severe substance use.


Rating Lists
CEBC: 1 = Well supported by research evidence
NREPP: Rated 3.2 on substance-use related indices
ODJJP: Effective
WSIPP: Research-based

Comment
MDFT has been supported in multiple randomized trials, and the weight of evidence indicates sustained improvements in indices of substance use. Back to overview.

Moti-4 (MOTI-4)

Contact information
Program Developer: Hans Dupont, Ph.D.
Website: http://www.alcoholdrugs.nl/129/moti-4.htm [Dutch]

Description of Intervention
Developed using an intervention mapping approach, Moti-4 targets adolescents and youth aged 14-24 years who use cannabis and are at risk of cannabis use-related problems. It is based on the Theory of Planned Behavior, Self-Determination Theory, and Transtheoretical Model of Behavior Change. Intervention procedures follow a manual and a 14-item checklist, incorporating motivational interviewing, psychoeducation, self-monitoring, cognitive-behavioral techniques, feedback to the referring person, and involvement of parents/guardians when possible. Strict adherence to the protocol for the 14 items is considered essential. Each of the 14 items is to be delivered sequentially across the 4 one-hour sessions:
An Android app is available: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.strangerpark.moti4&hl=en

Manual
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Therapy format</th>
<th>Individual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Rogerian, developmental, cognitive-behavioral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Community agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluations and Findings</td>
<td><strong>Study 1, Dupont et al., 2016 – support for Moti-4</strong>&lt;br&gt;131 adolescents in the Netherlands, aged 14 to 24 (84% male; 19% with at least 1 non-Dutch parent), who had used cannabis in the last month and were at high risk of developing cannabis use-related problems, were randomly assigned to receive either Moti-4 (4 one-hour sessions) or usual care (UC, 1 one-hour session). Participants were assessed at posttest and 6 month follow-up. Two outcome measures were used to measure the level of cannabis: an estimation of the amount of Euros per week spent on cannabis (or, if it was no-cost, value of cannabis used per week) and an estimation of the number of joints smoked each week.&lt;br&gt;- Compared to UC, Moti-4 showed a significantly larger reduction in weekly expenditure on cannabis, even more so at the 6-month follow-up.&lt;br&gt;- Compared to UC, Moti-4 showed a significantly larger reduction in weekly expenditure on cannabis at the 6-month follow-up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating Lists</td>
<td>None.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADAI Rating Comment</td>
<td>Research-based</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment</td>
<td>Moti-4 has not yet been rated by any of the U.S.-based rating lists consulted for this inventory. However, the Netherlands’ National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) has rated Moti-4 as having “good evidence of effectiveness” for reducing cannabis use but lacking evidence for other substances or addictive behaviors (<a href="https://www.loketgezondleven.nl/interventies/i-database/1401113">https://www.loketgezondleven.nl/interventies/i-database/1401113</a>). Supported by a well-controlled RCT showing sustained positive outcomes over a period of 6 months, Moti-4 is considered research-based. Back to overview.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Multisystemic Therapy (MST)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Developers: Scott W. Henggeler, <a href="mailto:mhenggesw@musc.edu">mhenggesw@musc.edu</a> and Charles Borduin. For information about program development, treatment model dissemination, and training, contact: Melanie Duncan, <a href="mailto:melanie.duncan@mstservices.com">melanie.duncan@mstservices.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mstservices.com/">http://www.mstservices.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Intervention</td>
<td>Multisystemic Therapy (MST) is an intensive, family-based treatment approach for improving the antisocial behavior of serious juvenile offenders. MST seeks to reduce youth criminal activity and other kinds of negative behavior (for example, drug abuse) in a cost-effective manner by limiting the need for incarceration or other types of out-of-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
home placement. Adaptations of MST have also been developed for child abuse and neglect, psychiatric issues, substance abuse, and problem sexual behavior.

MST model is based on the belief that youth behavior is determined by multiple factors, such as youth's social and cognitive development, family relations, peer interactions, and community influences, and that each of these factors can be targeted to promote positive behavioral change. Thus, depending on the youth's individual circumstances, MST treatment may aim to improve a caregiver's discipline practices, decrease the youth's interaction with deviant peers, improve the youth's school performance, or aim to produce other positive results. The MST approach is guided by nine principles:

- Finding the Fit—how youth problems relate to youth's environment
- Focusing on Positives and Strengths—build on strengths currently present in youth's lives
- Increasing Responsibility—promote responsible behavior
- Present-Focused, Action-Oriented and Well-Defined—focus on actions that can happen immediately and have clear outcomes that can be measured
- Targeting Sequences—target the interaction between youth and external influences
- Developmentally Appropriate—appropriate to youth's age and developmental needs
- Continuous Effort—families are expected to show effort on a daily or weekly basis
- Evaluation and Accountability—the MST team is responsible for overcoming barriers to success, and intervention effects are monitored continuously
- Generalization—youth's caregivers are equipped to handle all family issues after intervention ends.

MST treatment is conducted in natural settings (for example, in the youth's home, school, or community) under the premise that youths and their families must learn how to function more effectively within their natural environment if they are to sustain improvements after treatment concludes. Specific systems to target for treatment are determined by each youth's situation; however, the focus of MST is to teach parents how to be more effective at managing their child's activities and develop positive support systems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Therapy format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Therapy type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural settings, for example, in the youth’s home, school, or community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluations and Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study 1 (Henggeler et al., 1999) – no support for MST: 118 juvenile offenders, aged 12-17 (79% male, 47% White, 50% African American), meeting DSM-III-R criteria for substance abuse or dependence were randomly assigned to receive either MST or usual community services (UCS). Outcomes were assessed using the Personal Experience Inventory at baseline, post-treatment, and at a 6-month...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
post-treatment follow-up.

- Youth reports of alcohol/marijuana use decreased significantly from baseline to post-treatment, but the conditions did not differ. Significant decreases were not maintained at 6-month follow-up.


**Study 2 (Henggeler et al., 2006) – support for MST:**
161 juvenile offenders meeting diagnostic criteria for substance abuse or dependence, aged 12-17 (83% male, 31% White, 67% African American), meeting *DSM-IV* criteria for substance abuse or dependence were randomly assigned to receive either family court with usual community services (FC-UCS), drug court with usual community services (DC-UCS), drug court with MST (DC-MST), or drug court with MST enhanced with contingency management (DC-MST+CM). Outcomes were assessed with the Form 90 and urine drug screens at pretreatment, 4 months, and 12 months.

- For alcohol use, significant effects were observed only for youths in the DC/MST/CM condition. Self-reported alcohol use decreased significantly from pretreatment to 4 months ($p < .009$) and 12 months ($p < .008$).
- For the first 4 months of drug court, youths in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions had significantly lower percentages of positive drug screens than did their DC counterparts ($ps < .001$; DC = 69%, DC/MST = 28%, DC/MST/CM = 18%).
- At 12 months, controlling for baseline scores, youths in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions reported significantly less heavy alcohol use than did those in the FC condition.
- For the time period between 4 and 12 months, youths in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions had significantly lower percentages of positive drug screens than did their DC counterparts ($ps < .001$; DC = 45%, DC/MST = 7%, DC/MST/CM = 17%).
- In comparison with DC youths, counterparts in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions had very large ESs for negative urine screens at T2 (1.38 and 2.05, respectively) and T3 (1.27 and .82, respectively).
- Marijuana use decreased rapidly to 4 months and then either leveled off or increased slightly to T3. At T3, however, controlling for T1 scores, youths in the DC/MST and DC/MST/CM conditions reported less marijuana use than FC counterparts.


**Study 3 (Timmons-Mitchell et al., 2006) – support for MST:**
93 youth who appeared before a county family court (78% male, 78% White, 16% African American), were randomly assigned to receive either MST or treatment as usual (TAU). Substance use outcomes were assessed with the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) at pretreatment, discharge, and 6 months post-
GLM analysis of the CAFAS substance use scale indicated a significant Time effect, $F(2) = 6.45, p = .002$, and a nonsignificant trend for the Time $\times$ Group interaction effect, $F(2) = 3.13, p = .048$.

In the MST condition, substance use scores changed from 10.6 to 4.0 to 6.5. In the TAU condition, substance use scores changed from 12.0 to 10.7 to 13.1.

**Rating Lists**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blueprints rating</th>
<th>Model program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEBC: 1</td>
<td>Well supported by research evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NREPP: 3.3</td>
<td>on scale of 0–4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADAI Rating**

| Promising |

**Comment**

MST is considered promising with regard to adolescent substance abuse. The evidence for MST is stronger for outcomes other than substance abuse-related outcomes. We identified three RCTs that examined MST effects on substance abuse-related outcomes. In Study 1, there was no support for MST with regard to adolescent substance abuse. In Study 2, the effects of MST were not examined on their own; MST was examined only in conjunction with drug court and drug court + contingency management. The effects appear promising, but it was unclear to what extent MST was responsible for improvements in substance abuse outcomes. In Study 3, the condition by time interaction was marginally significant; improvements from baseline to discharge were not clearly maintained at 6 month follow-up. Furthermore, youth in Study 3 did not report high rates of substance use at baseline. More studies are needed to substantiate the effectiveness of MST for substance abuse outcomes with adolescents. Back to overview.

**Seeking Safety for Adolescents (SSA)**

| Program Developer: Lisa Najavits, Ph.D. |

| Website: | http://www.treatment-innovations.org/seeking-safety.html |

**Description of Intervention**

Seeking Safety is an evidence-based, present-focused counseling model to help people attain safety from trauma and/or substance abuse. It directly addresses both trauma and addiction, without requiring clients to delve into the trauma narrative. It can be conducted in group or individual format; for men and women; adults or adolescents; for any length of treatment; any level of care (e.g., outpatient, inpatient, residential); any type of trauma, any type of substance. Clients do not have to meet formal criteria for PTSD or substance abuse-- it is often used as a general model to teach coping skills. Seeking Safety has been successfully implemented for many years across vulnerable populations including homeless, criminal justice, domestic violence, severely mentally ill, veterans and military, and others. Seeking Safety offers 25 topics that can be conducted in any order and as few or many as time allows: Introduction/Case Management, Safety, PTSD: Taking Back Your Power, When Substances Control You, Honesty,

**Manual**

**Therapy format** Individual, group

**Therapy type** Cognitive-behavioral

**Setting** Outpatient clinic, community agency

**Evaluations and Findings**

**Study 1 (Najavits et al., 2006) -- support for SSA:**
33 adolescent females, average age 16 years, with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance use disorder (SUD) who reported active substance use within the past 60 days (79% White), were randomly assigned to receive SSA+ treatment as usual or treatment as usual (TAU) alone. Outcomes were assessed using the Personal Experiences Inventory at intake, post-treatment, and at a 3-month follow-up.

- For chemical involvement problem severity, seven of ten subscales showed significant outcomes, with SSA better than TAU. Effect sizes ranged from 0.37 to 1.17. Subscales that were not significant were personal consequences of drug use, social–recreational drug use, and personal involvement with chemicals.


**Rating Lists**

| CEBC: 3 = Promising research evidence |
| NREPP = 2.1-3.3, examining the one adolescent study among several for adults |

**Comment**

Seeking Safety is well-supported with research evidence for adults with PTSD and substance abuse. We could find only one small RCT examining SSA. While results are encouraging, more studies are needed to substantiate the effectiveness of Seeking Safety for this population. [Back to overview](#).

**Strengths-Oriented Family Therapy (SOFT)**

**Contact information**

**Program Developers:**
Douglas C. Smith, Ph.D., (217) 333-5308, smithdc@illinois.edu
James A. Hall, Ph.D., (317) 274-8812, jah6@iu.edu
**Description of Intervention**

SOFT combines a pre-treatment motivational family session, solution-focused family therapy, multifamily skills training groups, and targeted case management to comprise a distinct family-based intervention. SOFT has three unique features compared to other family treatments for adolescent substance abuse: (1) a pretreatment family motivational enhancement session called the Strengths-Oriented Referral for Teens (SORT) (Smith & Hall, 2007), (2) a foundation in solution-focused language and treatment techniques, and (3) a formal strengths and resources assessment in the early stages of treatment. Overall, the SOFT approach contains four main activities: (1) family-based assessment and motivational feedback (that is, SORT), (2) work with individual families that progresses through three stages, (3) multifamily groups, and (4) SOFT case management, as needed. During SOFT treatment, adolescents and their parents attended ten weekly multifamily groups and five conjoint family therapy sessions.

**Manual**

Contact the developers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Website:</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Therapy format</td>
<td>Family, group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therapy type</td>
<td>Social justice orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>Outpatient clinic, community agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Evaluations and Findings**

*Study 1, Smith et al., 2006 — weak support for SOFT*

98 adolescents, aged 12 to 18 (71% male; 76% White), who were referred to adolescent outpatient treatment, and covered by either public or private insurance, were randomly assigned to receive either SOFT or The Seven Challenges (7C). Using data on past year symptoms, 1% were diagnosed with alcohol dependence, 12% with marijuana dependence, 12% with some AOD dependence, 22% with alcohol abuse, 37% with marijuana abuse, and 38% with some AOD abuse. Using lifetime data, 90% were diagnosed with substance abuse and 47% with substance dependence. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3 and 6 months.

- No significant differences were found between the two conditions
- The percentages of abstinent participants in 7C and SOFT were 8% and 3% at baseline, 34% and 27% at 3 months, and 39% and 31% at 6 months, respectively.
- The percentages of symptom free adolescents in 7C and SOFT were 33% and 26% at baseline, 50% and 60% at month 3, and 61% and 60% at month 6, respectively.
- Clients in both treatments were significantly more likely to be abstainers or in full remission at the three and six month interviews than at baseline.
- For 7C participants, the odds of continued use at month 3 and month 6 were reduced by 93% and 95% respectively, and the odds of continued substance-related problems at month 3 and month 6 were reduced by 52% and 69%, respectively.
- For SOFT participants, the odds of continued use (SFS) at month 3 and month 6 were reduced by 94% and 95% respectively, and the odds of continued substance-related problems (SPS) at month 3 and month 6 were reduced by 76% and 76%, respectively.

### Rating Lists
None

### ADAI Rating
Promising

### Comment
SOFT appears promising at this time; more data are needed to support the intervention, particularly in light of the methodological problems in Study 1. Generalizability of the findings is unclear as participants were required to have insurance, and it appears that the majority of the sample did not have a past year diagnosis of a substance use disorder; approximately 30% of the sample was symptom-free at baseline. [Back to overview.](#)

### Structural Ecosystems Therapy (SET)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Program Developer: Program Developer: Michael Robbins (<a href="mailto:mrobbins@ori.org">mrobbins@ori.org</a>), Seth Schwartz, and José Szapocznik</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Description of Intervention
Structural Ecosystems Therapy is a manualized family- and ecological-based intervention for adolescent drug abuse. Within-family components of SET are based on Brief Strategic Family Therapy: (a) joining with family members, (b) tracking and eliciting family interactions to assess family relationships, (c) reframing to create a context for behavior change to occur, and (d) restructuring maladaptive family relationships. The ecological components of SET borrow from the social contextual theories of Bronfenbrenner (1986) to include assessment and intervention into the adolescent's and family's relationships with the peer group, schools, and juvenile justice system: (a) joining with members of the ecology, (b) tracking ecological relationships, (c) reframing problems in the ecology, and (d) restructuring ecological relationships. SET is intended to be delivered during 12–16 BSFT-style family therapy sessions (e.g., sessions conducted with multiple family members) and 12 ecosystemic therapy sessions (e.g., sessions with family members and individuals from the family's social ecology).


#### Manual

#### Therapy format

#### Therapy type
Family

#### Setting
Outpatient clinic, community agency
### Evaluations and Findings

**Study 1, Robbins et al., 2008 – weak support for SET**

190 African American or Hispanic/Latino adolescents (86% male; 0% White) with a DSM-IV diagnosis of substance abuse or dependence, who were living with at least one adult caregiver, were randomly assigned to receive either brief strategic family therapy (BSFT), Structural Ecosystems Therapy (SET, which was BSFT plus up to 12 ecological sessions), or a referral to community services (CS). Participants were assessed with the Timeline Followback and Adolescent Drug Abuse Diagnosis interview at baseline and 3, 6, 9, 12, and 18 months post-randomization.

- BSFT was no more effective than CS at reducing number of days drug use in the preceding 30 days.
- SET was more effective than BSFT and CS at reducing number of days drug use in the preceding 30 days, but only among Hispanic/Latino adolescents.
- Dose (number of sessions) did not moderate the effect of the interventions.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Lists</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAI Rating</td>
<td>Promising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment</td>
<td>SET was more effective than BSFT and CS, on only one dependent variable and only among Hispanic/Latino adolescents. This level of evidence is insufficient for a rating of research-based, but SET is appropriately considered a promising practice. <a href="#">Back to overview.</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Teen Marijuana Check-Up (TMCU) – an adaptation of Motivational Enhancement Therapy

**Contact information**

**Program Developer: Denise Walker, PhD**

http://depts.washington.edu/iprg/substance%20abuse.html

**Website:**

**Description of Intervention**

The Teen Marijuana Check-Up (TMCU) was developed as an alternative approach for adolescents to address concerns about marijuana use outside of formal treatment. The TMCU is a program that includes a specific advertisement and recruitment strategy as well as an MET intervention designed for delivery in the schools. Aimed at a voluntary, non-treatment-seeking population recruited from high schools, the program was advertised as an opportunity to “take stock” of marijuana use and was intended to facilitate a candid, in-depth evaluation of an individual’s use. The brevity of the MET and its low barriers to access encourage participation with minimal effort. In MET, ambivalence about marijuana use is viewed as normal, adolescents are not labeled as having a problem with marijuana, and adolescents are treated as experts and decision makers regarding their marijuana use. Thus, it is meant to appeal to those in earlier stages of change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluations and Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study 1, Walker et al., 2006 – no support for TMCU</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97 adolescents who used marijuana on at least 9 of the last 30 days (48% male; 53% White) were randomly assigned to receive the TMCU either immediately or after a 3-month delay. Baseline and 3-month follow-up assessments, consisting of the Global Appraisal of Individual Needs, were administered by an audio-computer-assisted self-interviewing program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Both groups significantly reduced marijuana use at the 3-month follow-up ($p &lt; .001$); however, no between-group differences were observed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Study 2, Walker et al., 2011 – support for TMCU** |
| 310 adolescents who used marijuana on at least 9 of the last 30 days (61% male; 66% White) were randomly assigned to receive the TMCU, an educational feedback control (EFC), or a no assessment delayed feedback control (DFC). At the conclusion of session two for EFC and MET, all participants were informed that additional sessions were available for those who wanted help in stopping their cannabis use. The four optional 50-min CBT sessions were delivered in an individual format. Baseline (all but the DFC group), 3-month, and 12-month follow-up assessments, consisting of the Global Appraisal of Individual Needs, were administered by an audio-computer-assisted self-interviewing program. |
| - Participants in both the TMCU ($p < .001$) and EFC ($p < .05$) conditions reported significantly fewer days of cannabis use compared to DFC. However, the frequency of cannabis use did not differ significantly between the TMCU and EFC conditions ($p > .05$). |
| - At 3 months, abstinence rates were 4% (TMCU), 2% (EFC), and 1% (DFC). At 12 months, abstinence rates were 12% (TMCU) and 5% (EFC). At neither time point were there significant differences between groups. |
| - TMCU participants reported significantly fewer problems and abuse and dependence criteria relative to the DFC condition at 3 months ($p < .05$). The EFC condition typically fell between the TMCU and DFC conditions on each measure and did not differ significantly from TMCU. |
| - Baseline cannabis use remained reduced at 12 months, but there was no significant difference by condition in the overall analysis. |
### The Seven Challenges (7C)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Program Developer: Robert Schwebel, Ph.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://sevenchallenges.com/">http://sevenchallenges.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of Intervention</strong></td>
<td>The Seven Challenges (7C) program is designed for adolescents with drug problems, to motivate a decision and commitment to change, and to support success in implementing the desired changes. The Program simultaneously helps young people address their drug problems as well as their co-occurring life skill deficits, situational problems, and psychological problems. The challenges provide a framework for helping youth think through their own decisions about their lives and their use of alcohol and other drugs. Counselors using The Seven Challenges program teach youth to identify and work on the issues most relevant to them. In sessions, as youth discuss the issues that matter most, counselors seamlessly integrate the challenges as part of the conversation. <a href="http://sevenchallenges.com/">http://sevenchallenges.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy format</strong></td>
<td>Individual, group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Therapy type</strong></td>
<td>Developmental, holistic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Setting</strong></td>
<td>Community agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Evaluations and Findings** | **Study 1, Smith et al., 2006 – weak support for 7C**  
98 adolescents, aged 12 to 18 (71% male; 76% White), who were referred to adolescent outpatient treatment, and covered by either public or private insurance, were randomly assigned to receive either Strengths-oriented Family Therapy (SOFT) or 7C. Using data on past year symptoms, 1% were diagnosed with alcohol dependence, 12% with... |
marijuana dependence, 12% with some AOD dependence, 22% with alcohol abuse, 37% with marijuana abuse, and 38% with some AOD abuse. Using lifetime data, 90% were diagnosed with substance abuse and 47% with substance dependence. Participants were assessed with the GAIN at baseline and 3 and 6 months.

- No significant differences were found between the two conditions
- The percentages of abstinent participants in 7C and SOFT were 8% and 3% at baseline, 34% and 27% at 3 months, and 39% and 31% at 6 months, respectively.
- The percentages of symptom free adolescents in 7C and SOFT were 33% and 26% at baseline, 50% and 60% at month 3, and 61% and 60% at month 6, respectively.
- Clients in both treatments were significantly more likely to be abstainers or in full remission at the three and six month interviews than at baseline.
- For 7C participants, the odds of continued use at month 3 and month 6 were reduced by 93% and 95% respectively, and the odds of continued substance-related problems at month 3 and month 6 were reduced by 52% and 69%, respectively.
- For SOFT participants, the odds of continued use (SFS) at month 3 and month 6 were reduced by 94% and 95% respectively, and the odds of continued substance-related problems (SPS) at month 3 and month 6 were reduced by 76% and 76%, respectively.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Lists</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CEBC:</strong> 3 = Promising research evidence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NREPP:</strong> Rated 2.8 on substance use and related problems, 2.3 on symptoms of mental health problems.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADAI Rating</th>
<th>Promising</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Comment | 7C appears promising at this time; more data are needed to support the intervention, particularly in light of the methodological problems in Study 1. Generalizability of the findings is unclear as participants were required to have insurance, and it appears that the majority of the sample did not have a past year diagnosis of a substance use disorder; approximately 30% of the sample was symptom-free at baseline. [Back to overview.](#) |
Rating Lists

- Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development. (Ratings = Model (highest) or Promising) [http://www.blueprintsprograms.com/allPrograms.php](http://www.blueprintsprograms.com/allPrograms.php)
- CEBC: California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse. (Ratings from 1 to 5, with 1= Well-supported by research evidence; 2= Supported by research evidence; 3= Promising research evidence, etc.) [http://www.cebc4cw.org/topic/substance-abuse-treatment-adolescent/](http://www.cebc4cw.org/topic/substance-abuse-treatment-adolescent/)
- NREPP: SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (Ratings scale 0.0-4.0) [http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/](http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/)

Literature Reviews


**Excluded Treatments:**

• Phone-based treatments, e.g. Cannabis Information and Helpline in Gates et al. (2012)
• Web-, internet-, or smartphone-based treatments, e.g. "Quit the Shit" in Tossman et al. (2011)
• Treatments primarily delivered on college campuses, e.g. BASICS in Dimeff et al. (1999)
• Treatments primarily delivered in correctional settings, e.g. drug court

**Citation:** Stoner, SA; and Sutherland, Nancy. Treating Youth Substance Use: An Inventory of Evidence Based Practices. Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute, University of Washington, December 2016. URL: http://adai.uw.edu/pubs/pdf/2016youthtxsudmh_inventory.pdf

This report was produced with support from the Washington State DHSH Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR).