

THE BEST GPS: GOALS PROGRAMS SUPPORTS

ROADS TO RECOVERY CONFERENCE

10.21.24

BEST PRACTICES IN SCHIZOPHRENIA
TREATMENT CENTER AT NORTHEAST
OHIO MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

PRESENTERS:

DANELLE HUPP, PH.D.

HARRY SIVEC, PH.D

DEB HROUDA, PH.D.



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OBJECTIVES

- Describe BeST Center-supported services available to individuals who experience psychosis and their family/natural supports
- Recognize eligibility criteria for each of the practice areas
- Describe how to access each of the practices provided by BeST Center community partners
- Define common facilitators and challenges to accessing services, and describe potential ways to overcome roadblocks to achieve recovery



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Follow along with an individual and their loved ones as they journey through
“BeST” practices within a system of care.

Join a family system as they enter into services, achieve successes, experience
roadblocks, and build skills toward living their best lives.

As your guides, we will describe evidence-based and promising best practices
encountered along the way.



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WHO WE ARE: BEST CENTER

- Best Practices in Schizophrenia Treatment (BeST) Center is a Coordinating Center of Excellence in the Department of Psychiatry at Northeast Ohio Medical University.
- Mission is to promote recovery and improve the lives of as many people with schizophrenia spectrum disorders and other serious mental health conditions – and their family/natural supports – as possible by accelerating the adoption of evidence-based and promising practices.
- Provide expert training, consultation, and technical assistance to community mental health agencies and hospital systems, including for first episode psychosis, since 2009.



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WE WILL BE ADOPTING
THE BEST PRACTICES
IN OUR INDUSTRY,
JUST LIKE EVERYONE
ELSE.



scottadams@aol.com

www.dilbert.com

IF EVERYONE IS
DOING IT, BEST
PRACTICES IS THE
SAME THING AS
MEDIocre.



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STOP MAKING
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SOUND BAD!



SORRY.



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WHAT ARE EBPs?

...AND WHY SHOULD WE CARE?



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EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES (EBPs)

- Clinical interventions
- Supported by evidence that they are effective
- Selected by providers and funders who want to deliver services to people that reflect the latest knowledge



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EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES (EBPs)

- Outcomes superior to treatment (not just placebo or no treatment)
- Multiple randomized controlled trials
- Investigators in addition to original Principal Investigator
- Well-defined or manualized
- Replicable



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EBPs: INTEGRATION OF:



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WHY EBPs GET A BAD REP

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Of course there's evidence behind this. Trust me!

- Touting a practice with some evidence as “Evidence-Based Practice”
- Doing EBP without ongoing evaluation of outcomes and/or fidelity to the model
- Adapting the EBP to the point it is no longer related to the original model
- Poor / no supervision



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BEST CENTER'S EVIDENCE-BASED AND PROMISING PRACTICE AREAS

- clinical high risk for psychosis
- coordinated specialty care for first episode psychosis
- family education and support/family-based services
- cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis
- cognitive remediation
- psychopharmacology
- integrated primary and mental health care



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MINDSET: RECOVERY EMERGES FROM **HOPE**

- **Expect recovery:** It is more common than we think!
 - Roughly 25% remission after first episode
 - 15% late recovery
 - The majority have no problems with voices or delusions at 20-year follow up
 - 20% will experience chronic and debilitating symptoms
 - As many as 60-80% show recovery or “significantly improved” in longitudinal studies worldwide



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LIKELIHOOD OF REMISSION IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

Study	Sample Size	Years Followed	Percent in Remission
Saravanan et al.	131	1	88%
Peuskens et al.	197	1	76%
Cassidy	141	2	56%
Wunderink et al.	125	2	52%
Potkin et al.	186	3	51%
Shennach-Wolff et al.	285	Not specified	48%
Jager et al.	280	“until discharge”	45%
Boter et al.	498	1	40%
Henry et al.	723	7	37%
Li et al.	90	1 month after hospitalization	33%
Lambert et al.	529	1.5	33%
Novick et al.	6642	3	33%
Rossi et al.	347	1	32%

- Remission is an attainable goal for many
- These findings support an attitude of persistent optimism in psychosis care
- Optimizing medication use likely increases odds for remission

Remission = at least 6 months with minimal symptoms, or symptom-free



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STARTING THE JOURNEY...

**Destination:
Recovery!**



**Entering the
MH System**



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Family- Based Services



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ROLE OF FAMILY/NATURAL SUPPORTS

- "Family and natural supports"
 - Think broadly and inclusively
 - Integral to involve family system throughout treatment and recovery
- A systems approach to care
 - Expectation for engagement – no longer the exception
 - Key to think about individuals within a larger system
 - Consider: religion, values, beliefs, traditions, heritage, life experiences, cultural factors
- Mental illness and its impact on the family system
 - What impacts the individual impacts the system – and vice versa
 - Shift in roles



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ROLE OF FAMILY/NATURAL SUPPORTS

- When knowledgeable and appropriately supportive families are engaged in treatment, outcomes are improved^{1,2}:
 - Reductions in psychiatric relapses^{3,4} and psychiatric hospital readmissions^{4,5}
 - Improved family well-being^{3,4,6}, family relationships⁷, social and occupational functioning^{4,6}, treatment adherence⁴, overall quality of life⁸, and work and role performance⁹
 - Decreased substance use¹⁰, perceived family burden⁷, burnout and exhaustion¹¹, economic impacts and costs of care^{4,6,12} (including shorter length of inpatient hospitalization stays¹³)
- Recommended by Schizophrenia Patient Outcomes Research Team (PORT)¹⁴



ENGAGING FAMILY/NATURAL SUPPORTS ACROSS PROGRAMS

- Enlisting family and natural supports as part of the treatment team
- Understanding the perspectives and experiences of individuals within the family system
- Reducing negative emotions and interactions within the FIRST participant's system
- Providing education and building skills
- Equipping the system to know how to handle difficult situations
- Improving outcomes for the FIRST participant and the individuals within the system



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Cognitive Health



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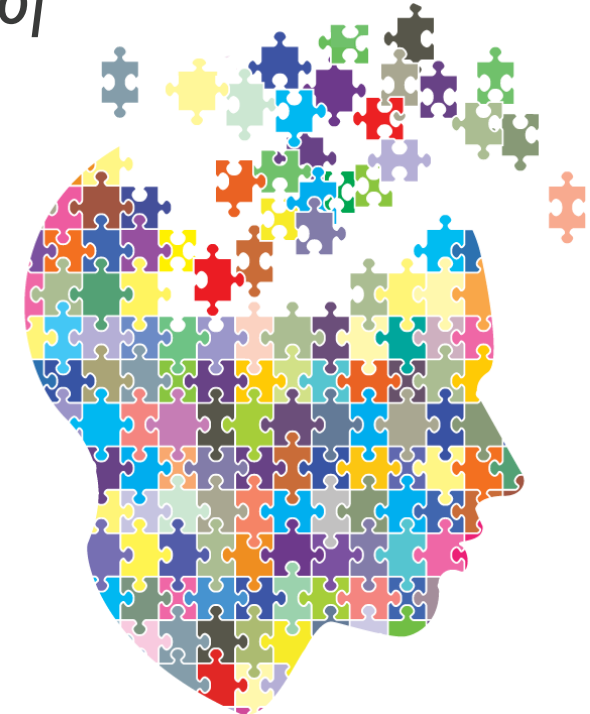


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WHAT IS COGNITION?¹

Mental processes relating to the input, storage, and use of information: to guide behavior and make sense of the world

- Attention
- Executive Functioning
- Flexibility
- Memory
- Planning
- Reaction Time
- Social Cognition



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DOMAINS OF COGNITION

Domain	Description
Processing Speed	The speed at which the brain controls the body to perform tasks
Attention	The ability to focus and sustain attention. Selectively attending to relevant information while ignoring distractions
Memory/Learning	Including episodic memory (relating to past or future events), semantic memory (knowledge of verbal memory/learning), and visuo-spatial memory/learning
Executive Functioning	The ability to monitor and regulate cognitive processes, directing and dividing attention, planning, working memory, mental flexibility, inhibition, task initiation and monitoring, multi-tasking, and decision-making



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COGNITIVE HEALTH

- A healthy brain is one that can perform all the mental processes that are collectively known as cognition. This includes the ability to learn new things, pay attention, use intuition, judgment (decision-making and problem-solving), language, memory, planning, and goal setting.³



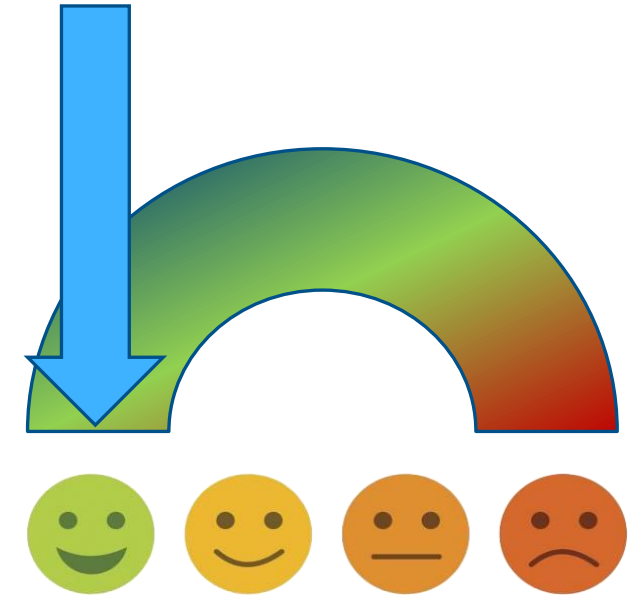
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(GOOD) COGNITIVE HEALTH⁴

- Being able to focus for stretches of time
- Being able to recall someone's name
- Keeping your schedule up to date in your mind
- Cooking a new meal
- Thinking and speaking coherently
- Using your common sense



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(POOR) COGNITIVE HEALTH!

- Difficulty with focus
- Not being able to recall names
- Missing appointments
- Not initiating
- Thinking and speaking is disorganized
- Using poor judgment



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COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT: RISK FACTORS⁴

- Age
- Family history
- Education level
- Brain injury
- Exposure to pesticides/toxins
- Physical inactivity
- Certain medications



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COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT: CONTRIBUTING FACTORS⁴

- Heart disease, Stroke, Diabetes, Parkinson's Disease
- Substance use
- Mental illness
 - Schizophrenia
 - Major Depressive Disorder
 - Bipolar Disorder
 - Anxiety disorders
- Diet, nutrition
- Hydration
- Sleep
- Lack of physical activity
- Lack of mental stimulation



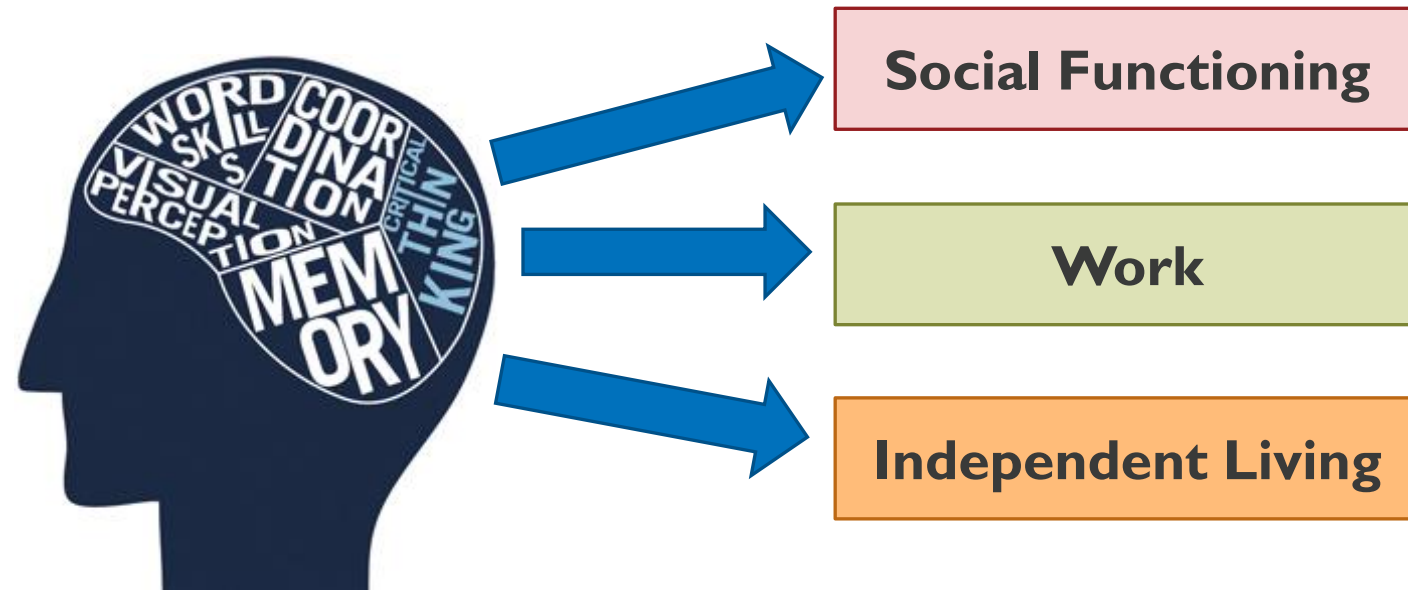
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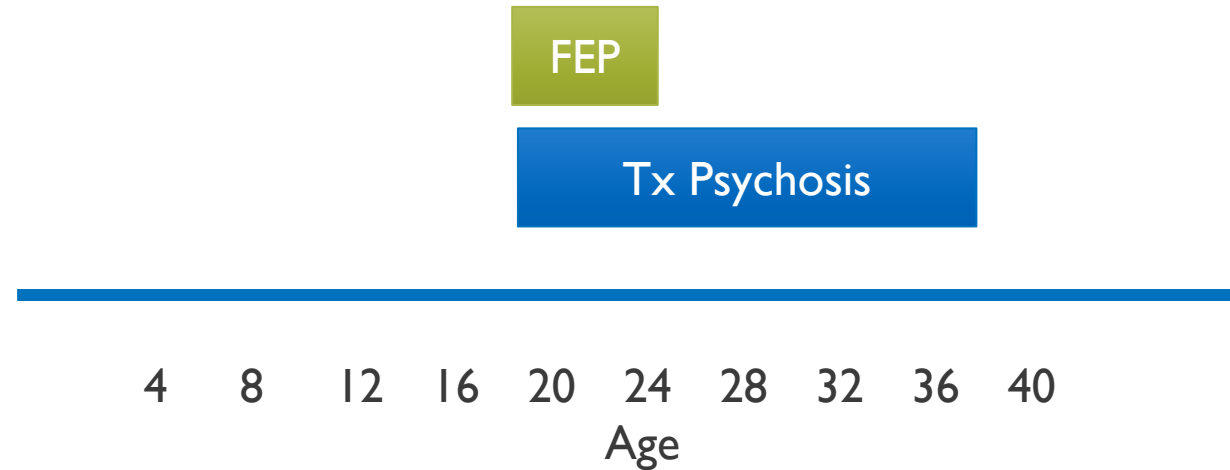
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COGNITIVE DIFFICULTIES IN PSYCHOSIS

- Apparent before onset of psychosis
- Span multiple domains
- Persist into remission
- Predict functioning



DURATION OF UNTREATED PSYCHOSIS⁵

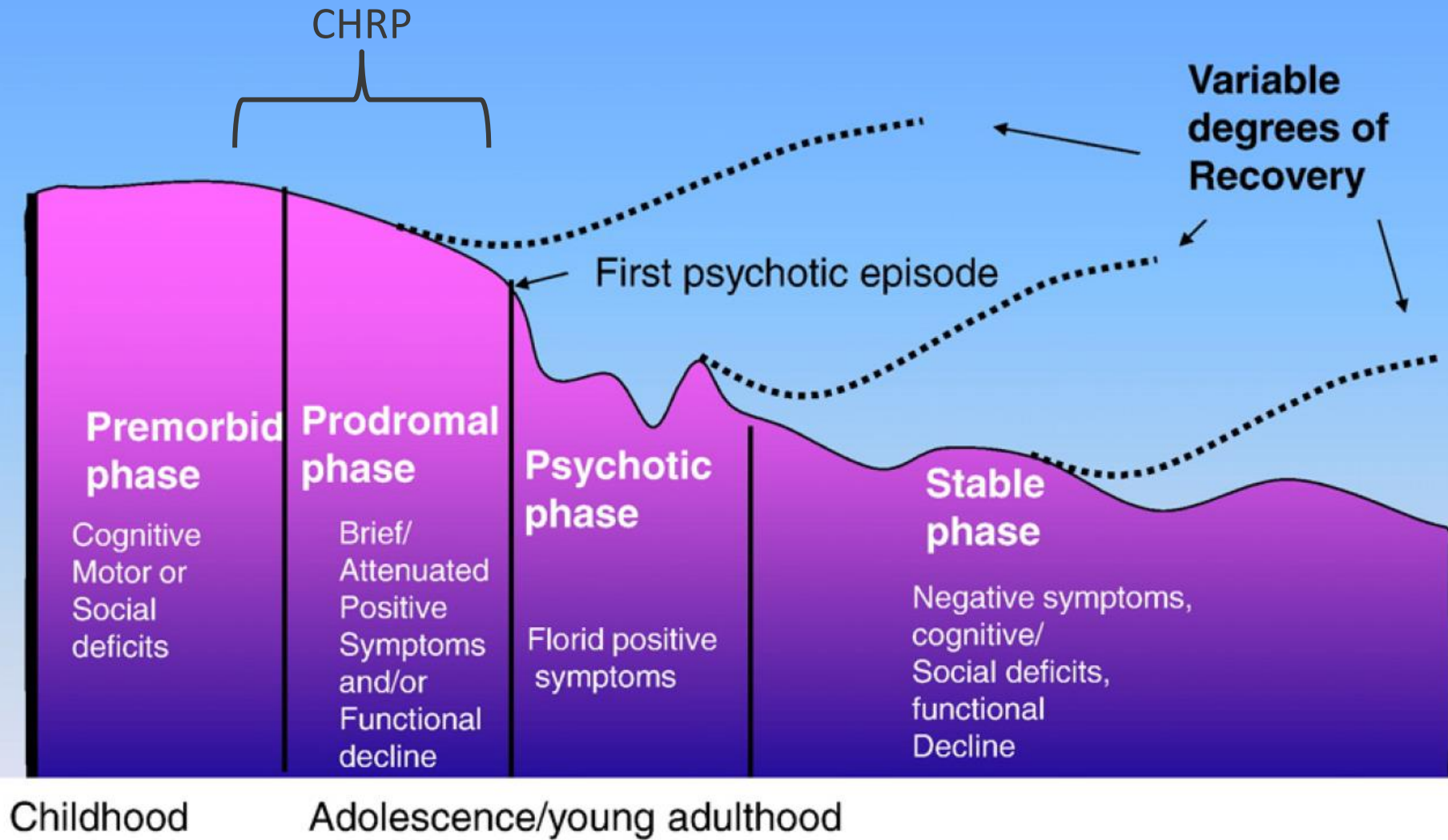


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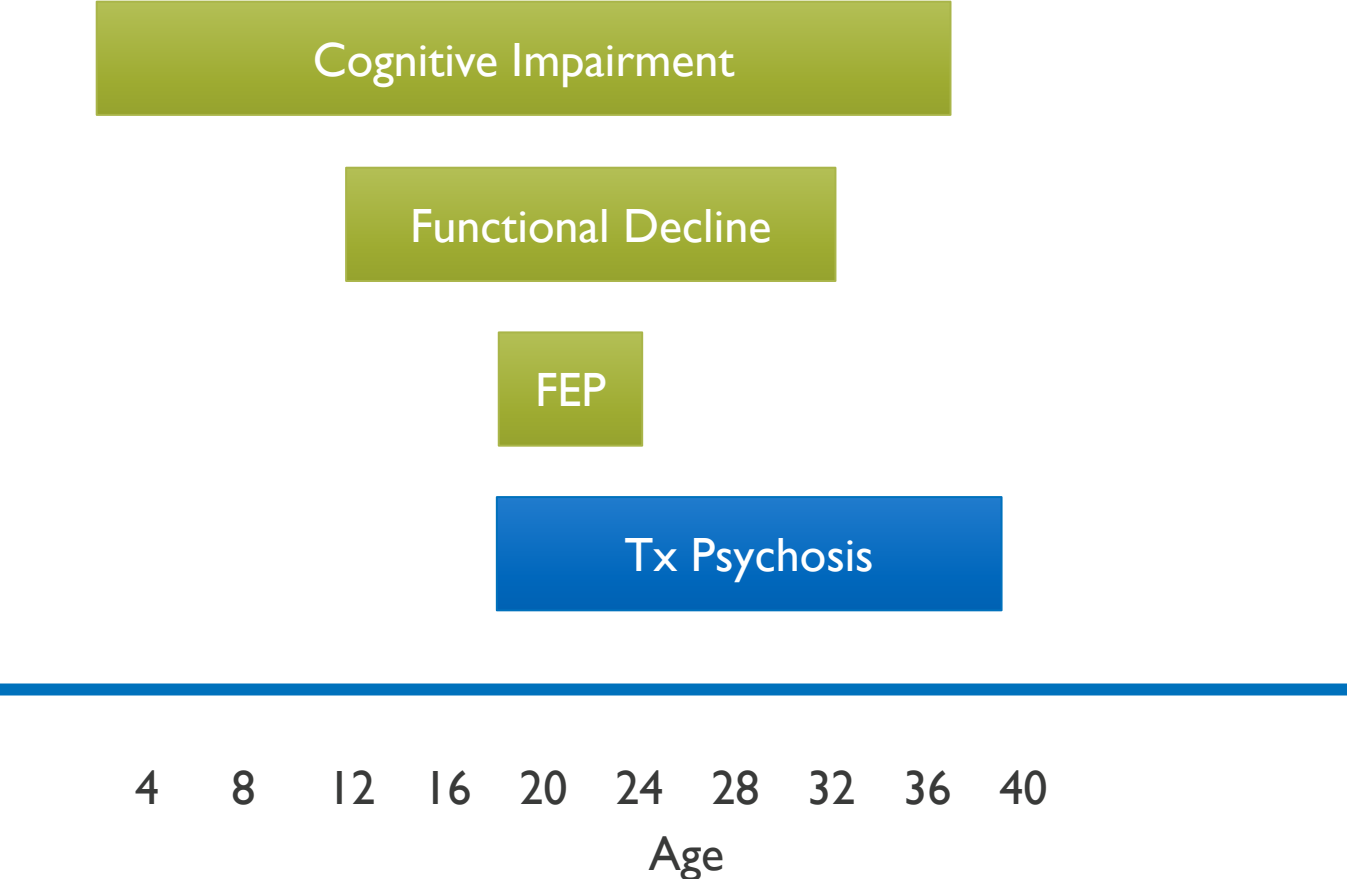


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Natural history and course of Schizophrenia



COGNITIVE & FUNCTIONAL DECLINE PRECEDE PSYCHOSIS⁵



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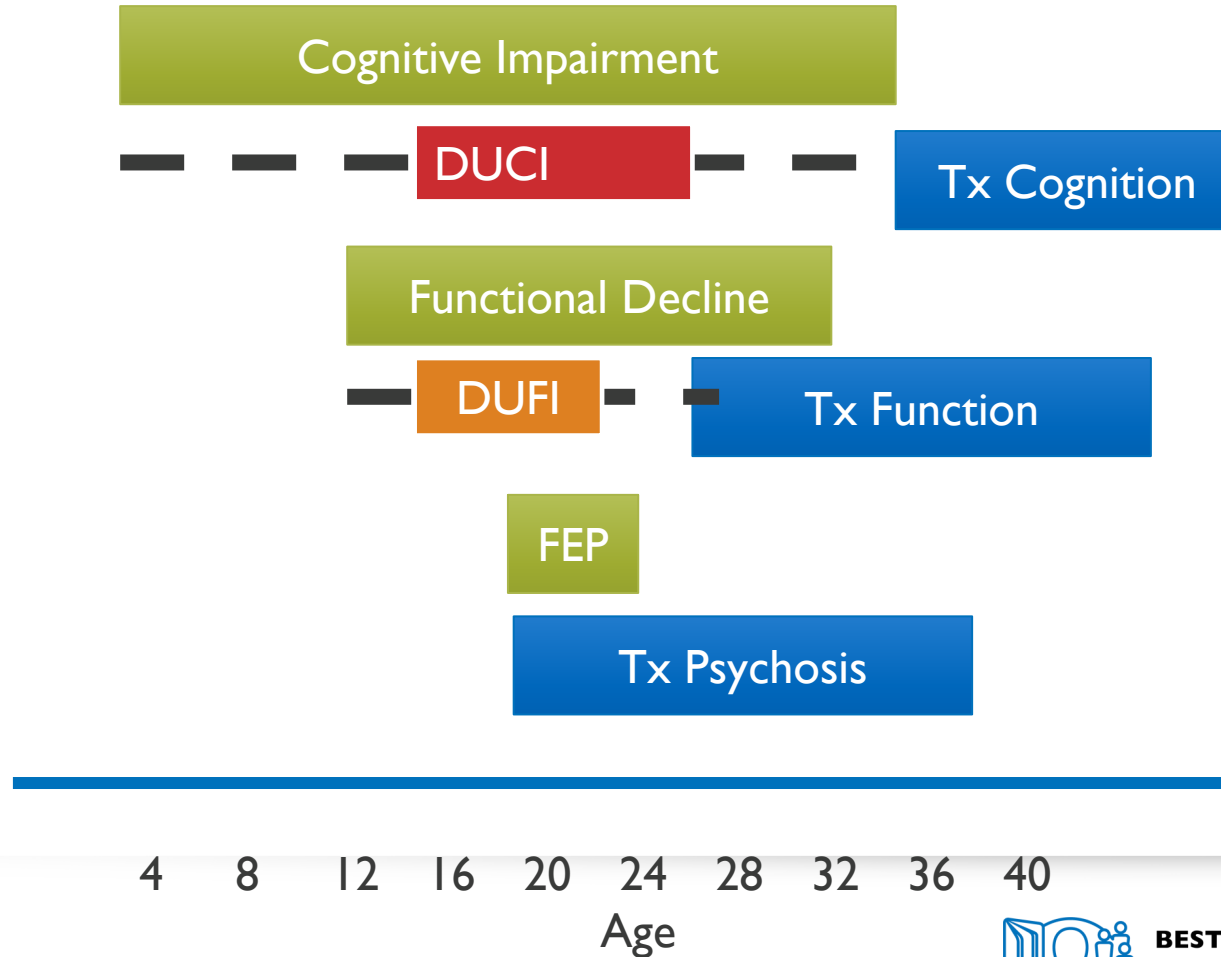


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IS DUP AS CRITICAL AS:5

DUCI (Duration Of Untxed Cognitive Impairment)?

DUFI (Duration Of Untxed Functional Impairment)?

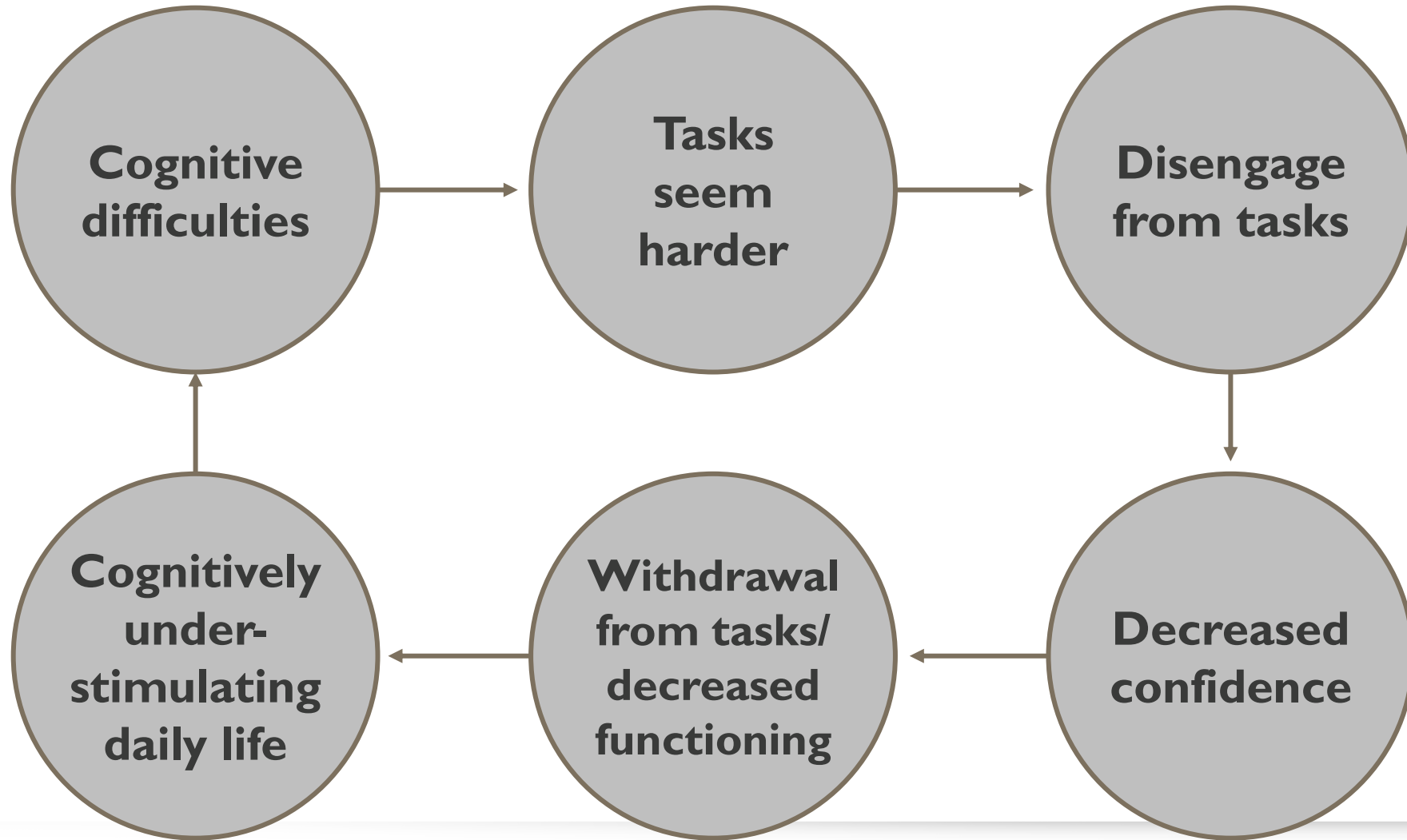


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COGNITION AND FUNCTIONING: A FEEDBACK MODEL⁵



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DON'T MISTAKE *COGNITIVE ISSUES* FOR *BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS*⁵

ATTENTION

I lost my train of thought

People say I'm not listening

I lose my concentration

I can't keep focused

My brain is cloudy

I feel like I'm in slow motion

My energy is gone

MEMORY

I can't remember anything

I'm so forgetful

I've become a procrastinator

I have no confidence

I can't make decisions

INADEQUATE
CONFUSED
OVERWHELMED

PROCESSING SPEED

EXECUTIVE FUNCTION

(COGNITIVE) HEALTH APPROACHES

- Exercise⁸
- Healthy diet⁹
- Sleep⁹
- Mental stimulation³
- Social contacts^{1,4,7}
- Manage stress



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COGNITIVE HEALTH IS THE GOAL¹⁰

- Recognizing strengths and challenges
- Shared decision-making in identifying approach(s)
- Whole person approach



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STARTING THE JOURNEY



Early indicators



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WHAT MIGHT BE EXPERIENCED OR OBSERVED BEFORE ENTERING THE MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM^{1,2}

- Increased difficulty with work or school
- Difficulty concentrating or thinking clearly
- Odd thinking or behavior
- Feeling like something is just not right
- Feeling afraid with no apparent reason
- Hearing things or voices that no one else can hear



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WHAT MIGHT BE EXPERIENCED OR OBSERVED BEFORE ENTERING THE MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM^{1,2}

- Withdrawal from usual interests, hobbies, friends, and family
- Poor personal hygiene
- Baseline functioning begins to fail/deteriorate
- Having trouble putting words and sentences together clearly – disorganized thoughts; confusion
- Emotional outbursts for no apparent reason
- Change in sleep habits



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Clinical High Risk for Psychosis



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CLINICAL HIGH RISK FOR PSYCHOSIS (CHRP)

- Mid to late 1990s: Concept of clinical high risk for psychosis originated with research from Australia and Europe, later expanded to United States
- Goal of prevention / delaying transition to psychosis
- “Prepsychotic” phase¹
 - Present with potentially prodromal symptoms¹
- Typically experience some kind of distress, so often seek help²



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CHRP

- Early warning signs are non-specific:³
 - Feel as though something is “off” / “not quite right”
 - Confusion
 - Trouble communicating clearly
 - Fearful without cause
 - Lessening interest in activities, people, self-care
 - Worsening in functioning (work, school, self-care)
 - Observations of others

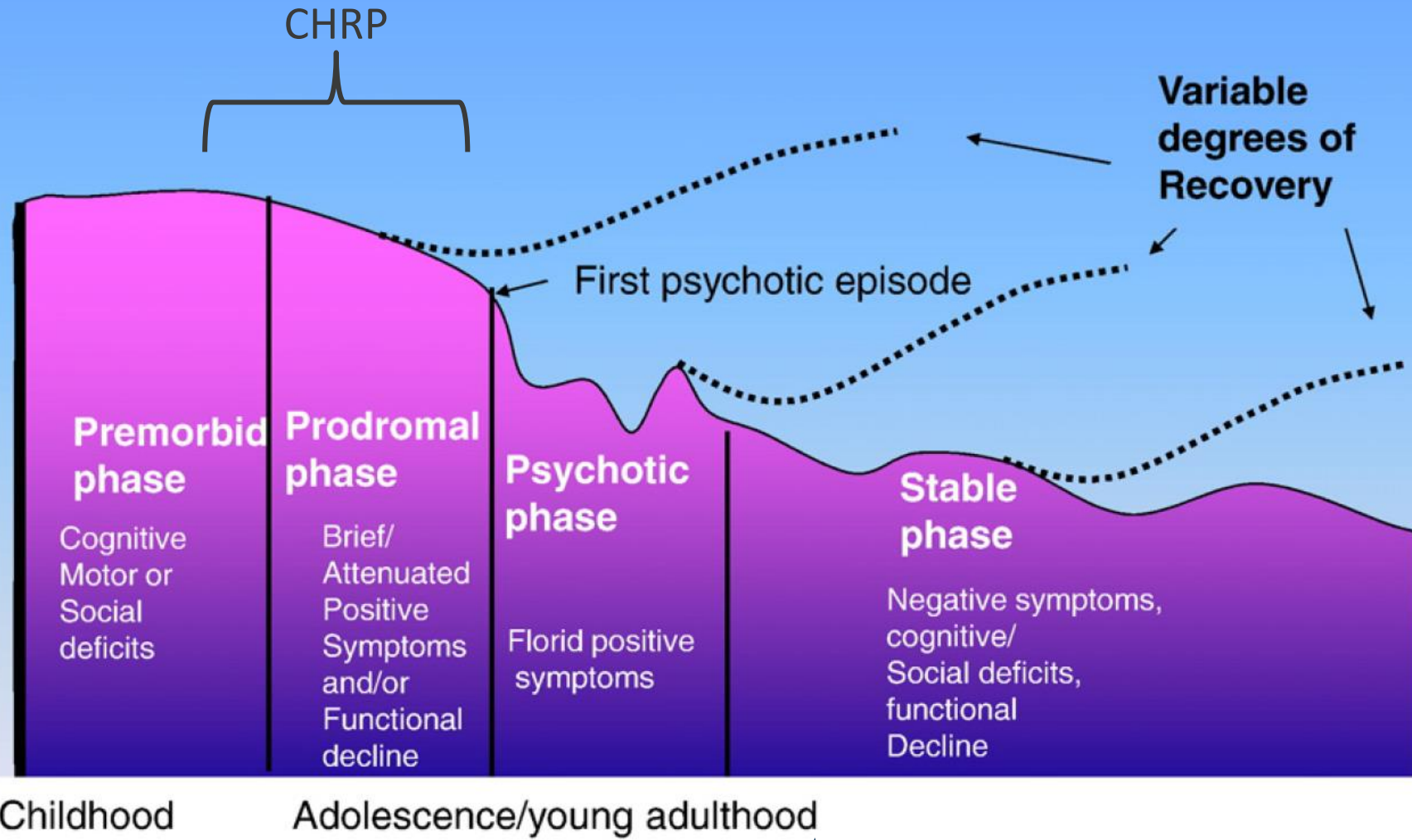


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Natural history and course of Schizophrenia



CRITERIA AND COMORBIDITIES

- CHRPs syndromes:
 - Attenuated Positive Symptom Psychosis Risk Syndrome (APS)
 - Brief Intermittent Psychotic Symptom Psychosis-Risk Syndrome (BIPS)
 - Genetic Risk and Deterioration Psychosis Risk Syndrome (GRD)
- At baseline, more than 70% of CHR population had at least 1 diagnosable disorder⁴
 - Most common comorbid diagnoses: **anxiety and depressive disorders⁷** and social phobia⁴ (as cited in 12)
 - Many CHRPs individuals have 2-3 comorbid diagnoses⁷



TREATMENT

- Prevention is powerful
- Targeted psychosocial interventions reduce frequency of conversion to psychosis (or delay the onset of symptoms, with better outcomes)⁹
- International reviews emphasize:^{10,11,11a}
 - Tailored therapy (titrated to need)
 - Assessment
 - Case/care management
 - Close involvement of family and natural supports



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CHRP OUTCOMES

- To predict transition to psychosis, look for presence of a combination of specific subclinical symptoms and risk factors⁹
- Current conversion to psychosis rates:
 - At one year: 15%⁶
 - At two years: 20%⁶
 - At four years: 25-30%⁶



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CHR-P OUTCOMES AND LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP

- Trend is that transition to psychosis plateaus after 3 years, 25-30%⁶, but there is evidence of late transition after 4 years¹³
- In one long term study, roughly half of CHR_p participants reach remission of CHR_p symptoms, however: ¹³
 - Many present with other diagnoses
 - Many present with poor functional outcomes
 - In this sample, 28% achieve full recovery (clinically and functionally)



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CHR-P OUTCOMES AND LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP

- Take home message: Importance of continued monitoring and service beyond initial 2-3 years



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First Episode Psychosis



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THE TRANSITION FROM RISK STATES TO FIRST EPISODE

- **CHRP:**

- Recognizes changes are occurring⁴
- Can appreciate altered perceptions are not real⁴
- Maintains some insight into psychotic-like experiences⁴
- Some ambivalence/questioning about reality of experiences – can offer or induce doubt²
- Experiences are bothersome and/or affect daily life²

- **FIRST Episode:**

- Clear symptoms of psychosis develop
- 100% conviction about unusual experiences²
 - Believes experiences to be indisputably true
- Symptoms significantly interfere with daily life²



COMMON CHALLENGES ASSOCIATED WITH EARLY PSYCHOSIS FOR STUDENTS

Symptoms	Academic, Interpersonal, and/or Environmental Challenges
Disorganized thinking	Difficulty following lectures, tracking conversations, completing reading assignments
Perceptual experiences (e.g., hearing voices, seeing images)	Distraction while trying to concentrate during tests, exams, and presentations
Suspicious or unusual thoughts	Anxiety or fear of others; challenges or withdrawal from relationships and friends, classmates, family, and instructors
Cognitive problems	Trouble with memory, attention, or planning
Depression and/or negative thoughts	Low motivation for self-care, exercise, low self-esteem, demoralization, internalized stigma, fatigue or trouble sleeping, feeling overwhelmed or low stress tolerance, suicide, or self-harm thoughts



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FIRST

FIRST Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis

A comprehensive, team-based treatment program aimed at improving the mental health and quality of life for individuals who have experienced a first episode of psychosis

- Promotes early identification
- Provides best treatment practices as soon as possible
- Coordinated specialty care shows positive outcomes¹

A partnership of:

- Community mental health agencies
- Local mental health and recovery boards
- Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- BeST Center



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FIRST CRITERIA

FIRST is appropriate for individuals:

- Diagnosed with schizophrenia, schizoaffective, schizophreniform, or other specified/unspecified schizophrenia-spectrum disorder; bipolar disorder with psychotic features; or other psychotic disorder
- Between 15-40 years of age
- Experiencing no more than 18 months of psychotic symptoms, whether treated or untreated
- Willing to consent to participate in at least two of the five treatment modalities



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FIRST GOALS

- Reduce the symptoms of psychotic illnesses
- Improve individual and family functioning
- Reduce the chance of relapse of psychosis
- Promote recovery and improve the long-term course of the illness
- Decrease the overall costs of treatment



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FIRST PROGRAM

- FIRST treatment is a manualized, team-based approach
- The duration for FIRST treatment is typically three to five years, depending on the individual's needs and preferences
- There are 5 service areas to select from
 - Some teams also have RN's and Peer Recovery Supporters



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FIRST SERVICES

- **Individual Resiliency Training**

- Helps individuals gain insight into their illness and develop tools for coping
- Focuses on strengthening problem-solving abilities



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FIRST SERVICES

- **Case Management**

- Assists with coordination of medical and mental health care
- Educates individuals on community resources and assists with integration into the community
- Provides illness education, skills training, and motivational enhancement
- Provides crisis management as needed



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FIRST SERVICES

- **Psychiatric Care**

- Focuses on providing medications and interventions
- Emphasis on shared decision-making



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FIRST SERVICES

- **Supported Employment / Education**
 - Focuses on rapid return to or initiation of employment or education
 - Takes place at community sites
 - Is driven by participants' needs and preferences



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FIRST SERVICES

- **Family Education and Support**
- **Family Psychoeducation**
 - Not therapy for families; focus is on skill-building, education, and support
 - Evidence-based, longer-term intervention
 - Involves the family system as part of the treatment team – individual participant in FIRST and identified family/natural supports
 - Allows family system to ask questions and work through concerns before a situation becomes a crisis



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FIRST SERVICES



- **Family Psychoeducation**

- Work with a trained Clinician to learn about and practice skills in:

- Personal and family system goal-setting
- Defining Recovery
- Resiliency
- Communication
- Problem-solving
- Psychosis and medication information
- Coping
- Substance use
- Collaborating with providers
- Relapse prevention



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Pharmacotherapy



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PHARMACOTHERAPY

MEDICATIONS AS TOOLS FOR RECOVERY



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GOALS OF PHARMACOTHERAPY

- Remission of symptoms
- Restoration of function
- Fullest possible level of recovery



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OPTIMIZING MEDICATION

- Choosing goal of remission
- Accurate diagnosis
- Rational medication selection
- Minimizing side effects
- Systematic monitoring of therapeutic response
- Evidence-based and logic-based changes in cases of inadequate therapeutic response



ACCURATE DIAGNOSIS

- Psychosis is like fever
 - Relatively easy to recognize
 - Nonspecific symptom; can arise from many different underlying conditions
- Medications only work if the things that the medication affects are the things that are producing the symptoms
 - Antibiotics can reduce a fever caused by bacterial infection
 - Fever caused by viral infection is “treatment-resistant” to antibiotics

The first step in antipsychotic pharmacotherapy is to clarify the diagnosis



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MANY CAUSES OF PSYCHOSIS

- Pharmacological psychosis
 - Over 100 different medications or recreational drugs can produce psychosis as a side effect or during withdrawal
- Medical psychosis
 - At least 50 different medical diseases can have psychosis as a symptom
 - Reports of between 5-7% of psychosis with an underlying medical cause^{1,2}
- Psychiatric psychosis
 - At least 6 different psychiatric syndromes are associated with psychosis as a symptom



MONITORING RESPONSE

- Remission of symptoms is the goal of treatment
- Side effects should be avoided or minimized to acceptable level
- Medications should produce desired results within a defined time frame (6 to 16 weeks)
- All individuals, family/natural supports, and providers/treatment teams are able to track interventions and outcomes!



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RESPONSE TRACKING TEMPLATE EXAMPLE

Summary of outpatient clinic notes

Date	Clonazepam	Venlafaxine	Abilify	Seroquel	Trazodone	Buspirone	Chart note observations
4/23/19	1	150	5		50		Doing fairly well. Anxiety fairly well-managed.
9/1/19	1	150	5 (↓ to 2.5)		50		No mood complaints. % tremors in her right arm. Admits trouble writing at times. ↓ Decrease Abilify to 2.5 (from 5)
3/2/20	1 ↑ 1.5 mg/day	150	0		50		Experiencing some increased anxiety. Worried about glaucoma and (?) Parkinson's. Neurologist told her to stop Abilify, which she did. She is staying focused on issues and health which she is not able to control. "Encouraged to learn different techniques how to cope with her anxiety symptoms" ↑ Increase clonazepam to 0.5 mg up to TID
6/16/20	1.5	150 ↑ 187 mg/d			50		P 69; BP 133/86; 5' 3", 112 lbs, BMI 19.8 Slightly better, but Very nervous/shaky in the mornings. Somatically preoccupied High degree of anxiety, excessive amount of worries, has trouble relaxing.
8/4/20	1.5	187			50	↑ 30	Feeling somewhat better. Feels that extra venlafaxine has helped. Anxious and overwhelmed in the morning until she starts taking her medications. ↑ Buspirone added.
8/10/20	1.5	187				30	Calls with report of hearing voices



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RESPONDING TO INADEQUATE RESPONSE

- If results are inadequate:
 - Re-assess diagnosis
 - Search for sources of interference (unexpected side effect from some other drug, excessive stress, etc.)
 - Consider change of medication
 - Clozapine is often recommended when there is an inadequate response to two antipsychotic medications^{3,4}



BEST CENTER PHARMACOTHERAPY SERVICES

- Training for prescribing clinicians
- Weekly online education, telementoring, and case consultation for prescribing clinicians
- On-demand consultation with clinicians from FIRST teams
- Clinician assistance with medication selection, side effect management, inadequate treatment response
- Clozapine assistance for prescribing clinicians
- Lectures to interested groups about psychosis, schizophrenia, or medications



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ROADBLOCK...RECALCULATING!



Family-Based Services: LINC



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LOVED ONES INVOLVED IN A NETWORK OF CARE

- Unique and innovative short-term family psychoeducation and engagement program
- *Not* therapy
 - It is psychoeducation and skill-building using a manualized approach to care
- Offers supportive education and assistance with coordinating care to those diagnosed with **schizophrenia spectrum, bipolar I or II, or major depressive disorders** and their identified family/natural supports



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LOVED ONES INVOLVED IN A NETWORK OF CARE

- Provides individuals and their family systems with practical, immediate help and support when they need it most...during:
 - Crisis/hospitalization
 - Critical transition between inpatient and outpatient treatment
 - Intensive Outpatient Services (IOP)
- Individuals and family/natural supports are introduced to the program during a psychiatric hospitalization or participation in a psychiatric IOP at **MetroHealth**
 - Program continues in the outpatient setting with a LINC-trained clinician at MetroHealth



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LOVED ONES INVOLVED IN A NETWORK OF CARE

- Goals:
 - Increase the availability and access to services that focus on adult clients' family systems
 - Engage loved ones more strategically and proactively in client care
 - Improve inpatient-to-outpatient coordination by creating a seamless system of care centered on proactive family education and support and close care coordination
 - Decrease re-hospitalization rates (thus decreasing overall costs of care);
 - Improve communication and problem-solving skills among individuals and their family/natural supports
 - Benefit all members of a treatment team: the client, family/natural supports, and providers



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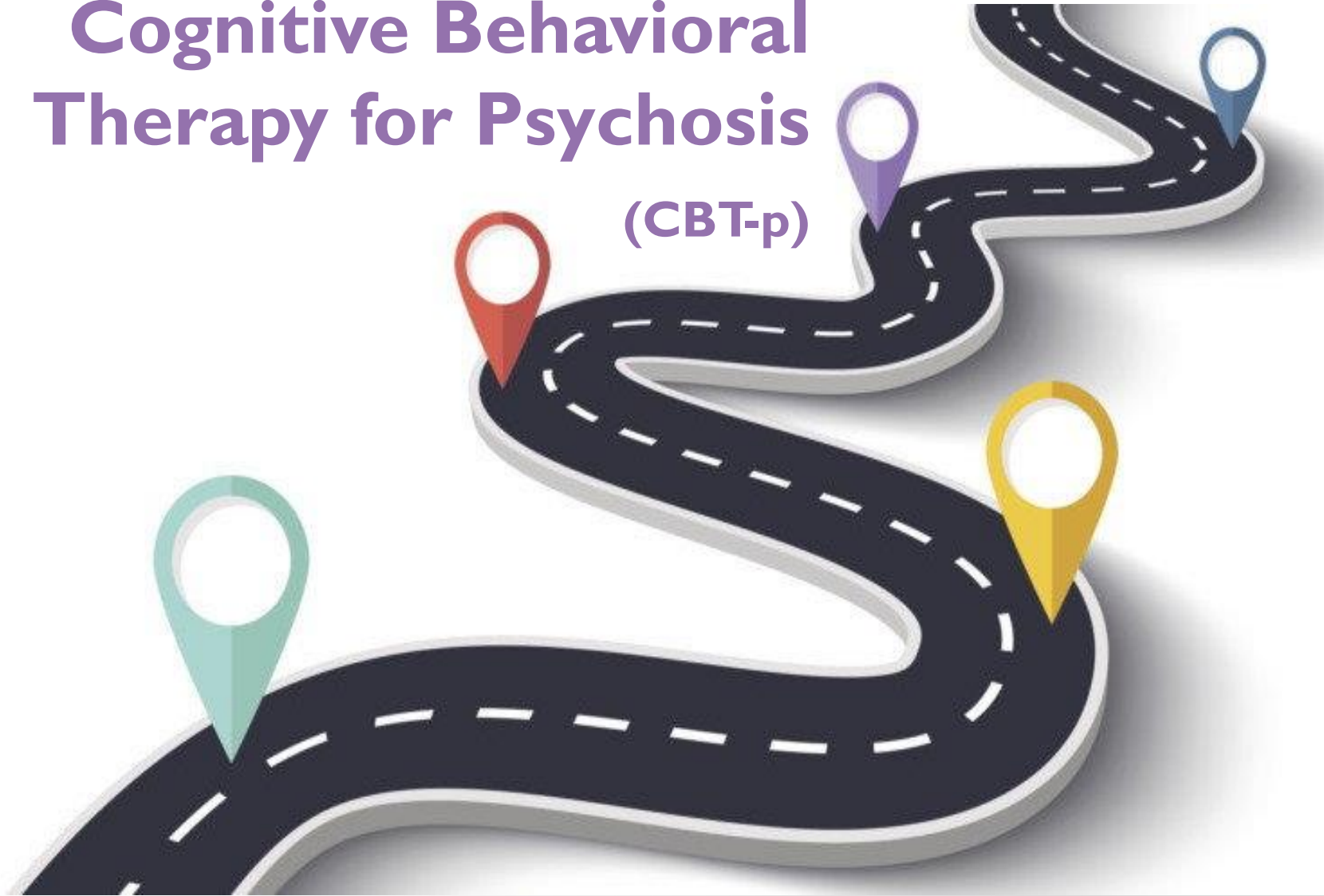
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Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis

(CBT-p)



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ESSENTIAL FEATURES OF CBT¹

Therapeutic alliance

Action-oriented and collaborative

- Guided Discovery/Socratic Dialogue for learning
- Individual's goal orientation for direction
- Feedback loops encouraged in order to individualize the approach

Formulation-driven

Structure to sessions and time-limited

Use of a variety of cognitive and behavioral strategies

Use of homework to generalize skills



RECOVERY ENHANCEMENT PRACTICES IN CBT-p¹²

- View schizophrenia/psychosis with a **recovery mindset**
 - Hope and Optimism
- Develop a **trusting relationship**
 - Build from strengths, interests, values
- Approach all concerns with an **open and curious** mind
- **Teach and learn together**
 - Provide information that normalizes experience (to address stigma)
 - Show how cognitive model helps one understand experience
 - Solve challenges together: Shared decision-making!

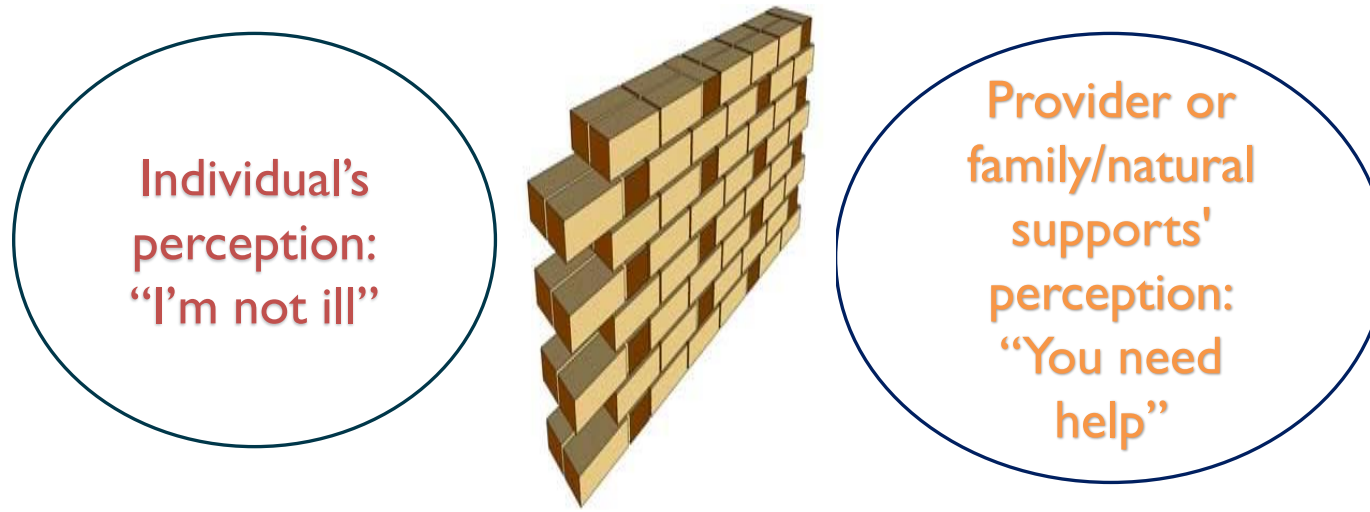


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REMEMBER, THERE MAY BE A GAP IN PERSPECTIVES



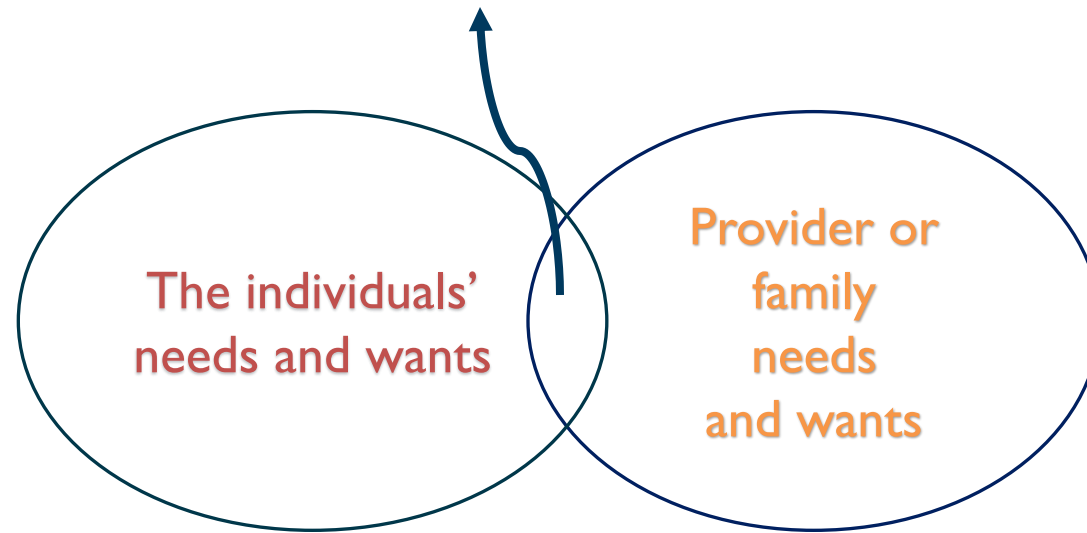
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ENGAGEMENT IS ABOUT FINDING COMMON GROUND

Find the Common Ground: a meaningful value, aspiration, or goal



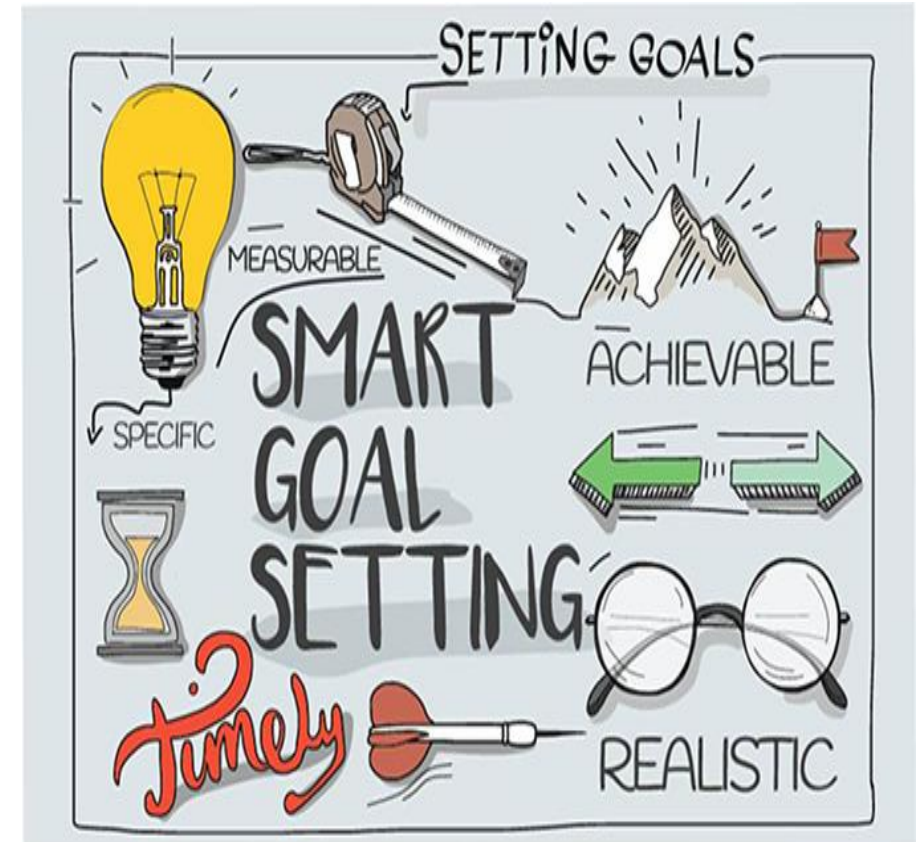
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CBT-p GOALS

- Reduce distress and impairment
- Promote empowerment and recovery
- Use skills to progress toward personal, valued goal(s)



ADDITIONAL GOALS OF CBT-p

- Foster a curious attitude about symptoms/experiences
- Adopt “living with symptoms” strategy
- Move from “What’s the matter with you?” to “**What matters to you?**”²

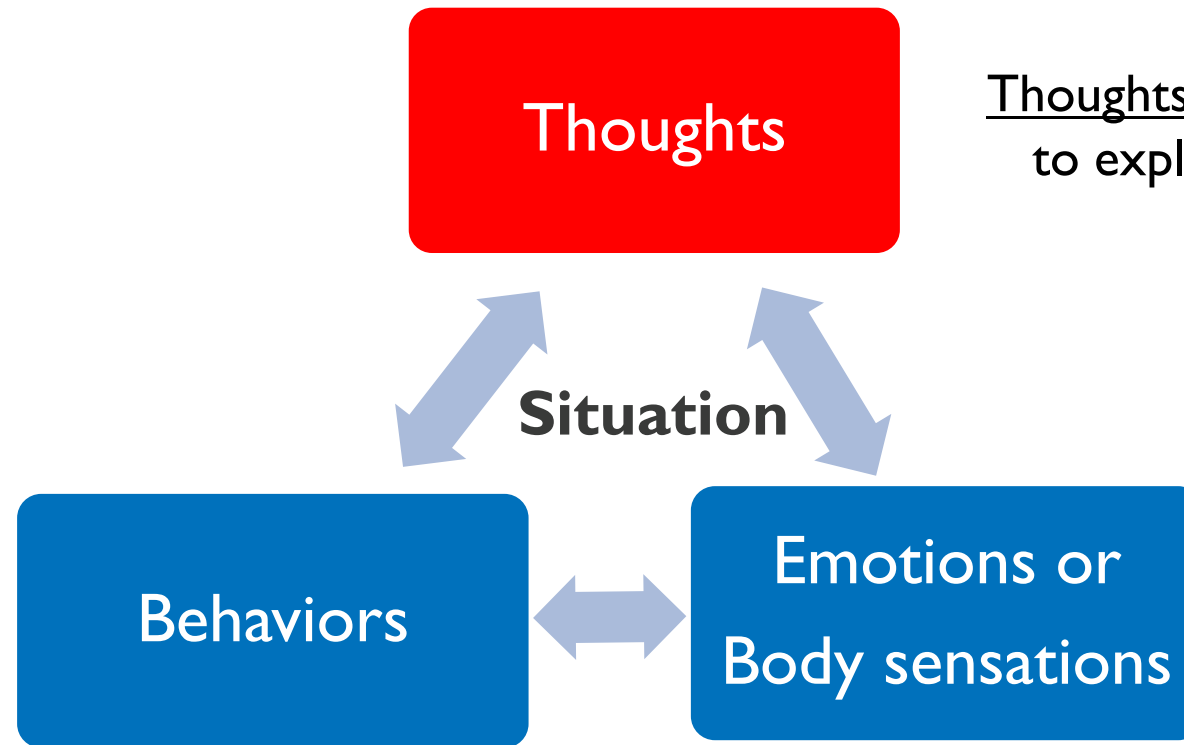


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COGNITIVE MODEL



Thoughts: Words or images that are used to explain an experience or situation

Behaviors: What is happening, where, when, and how we respond to that situation

Emotions: Physiological responses to stimuli; A feeling is a label we give an emotion

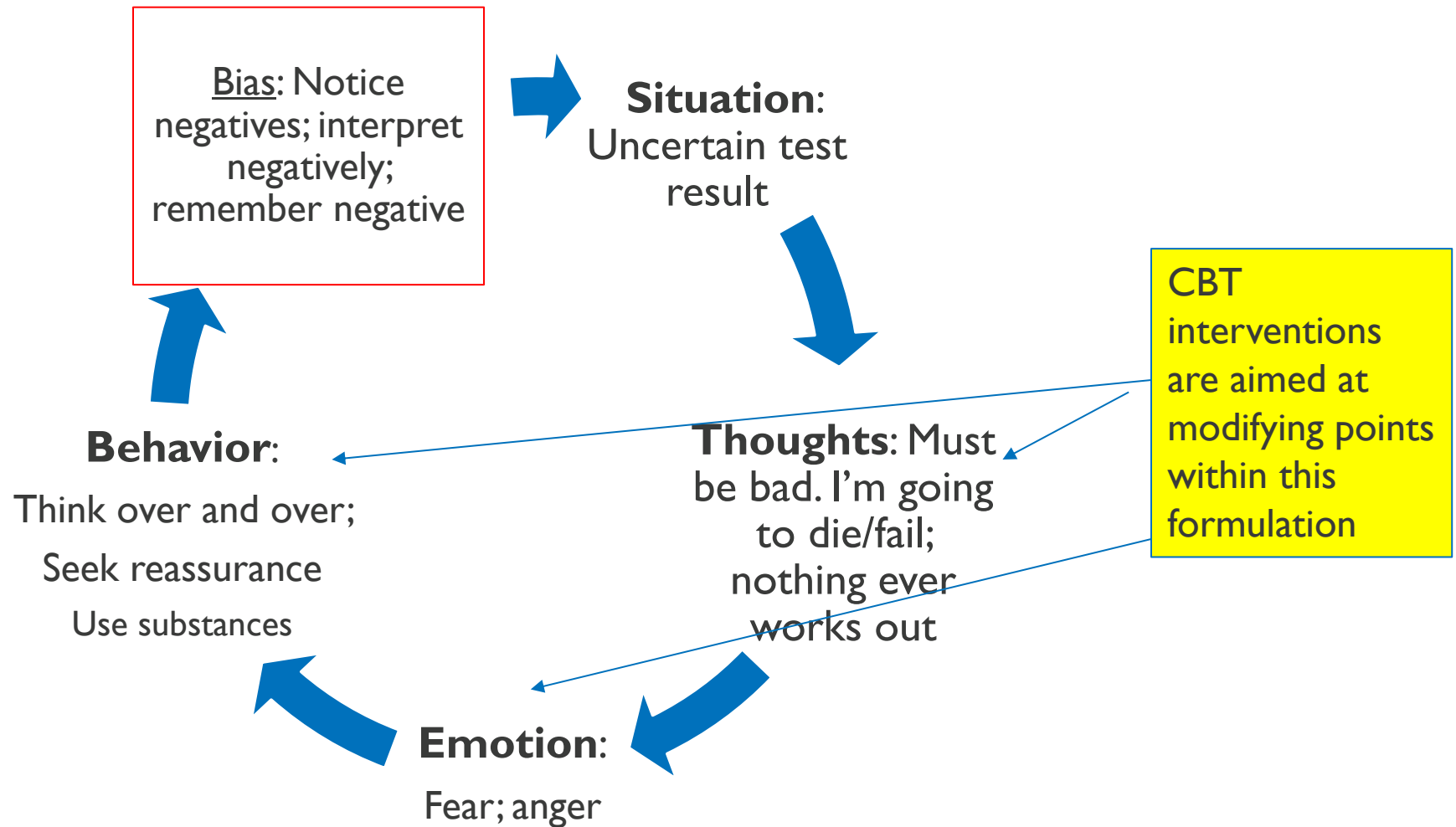


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HOW STRESSFUL SITUATIONS BECOME SUFFERING



INTERVENTIONS ARE COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS TO:

- Learn new ways to make sense of distressing experience
- Learn ways to lower distress- coping strategy enhancement
- Learn strategies to test beliefs and slowly move toward personally meaningful goals

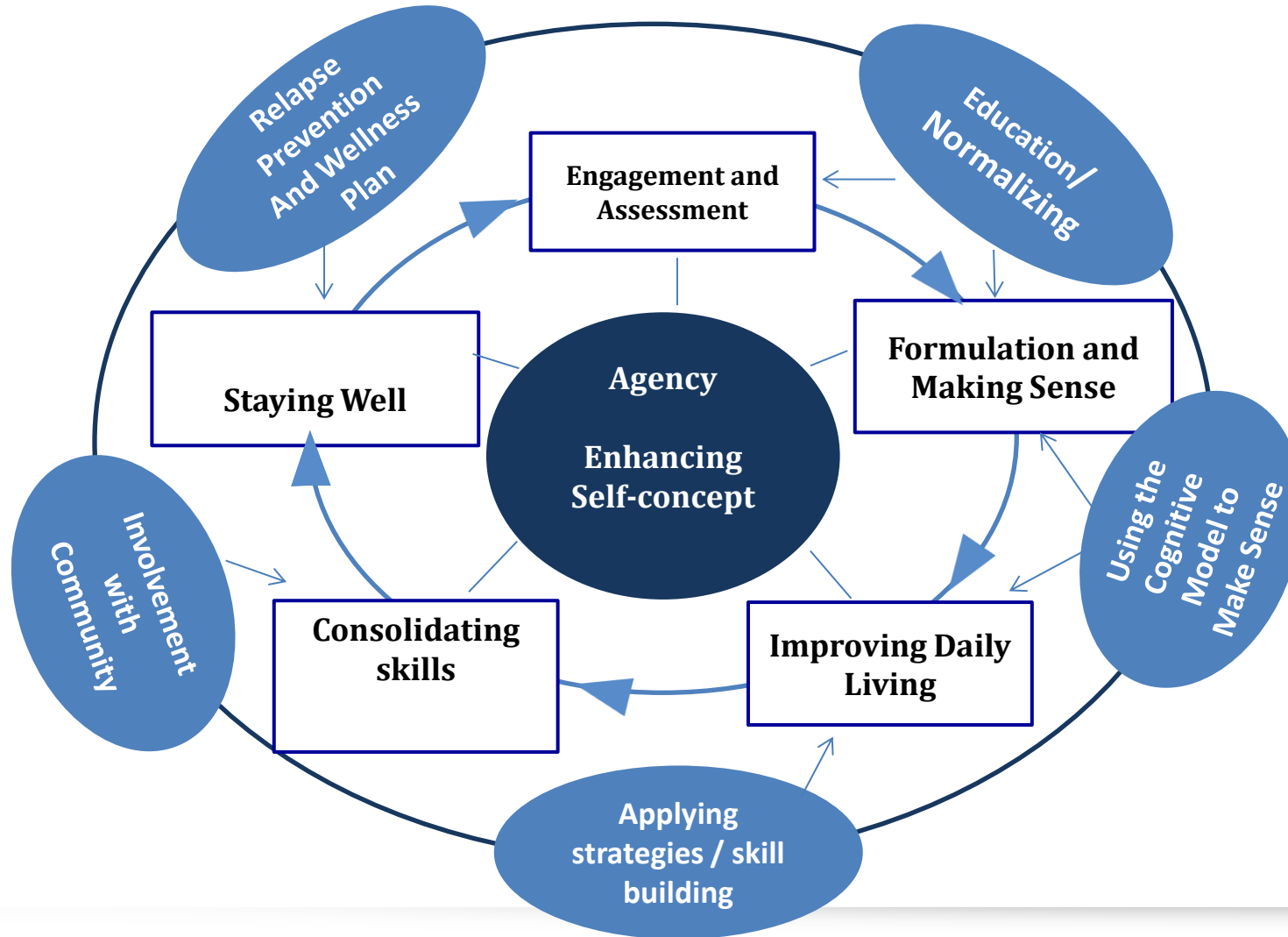


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SUMMARY OF PHASES IN CBT-p^{3,4,5}



CBT-p SUMMARY

- CBT-p offers a modest but meaningful benefit in managing symptoms^{6,7}
- Benefits demonstrated across numerous studies⁸
- CBT-p is a recovery-oriented treatment^{9,10}
 - Well-being and personal recovery are primary focus
- Individuals are very satisfied with CBT-p¹¹



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Integrated Care



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WHY INTEGRATE CARE?

- Because individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) and/or substance use disorders suffer markedly worse physical health outcomes and have shorter lifespans due to those outcomes
- Persons with SMI engage in higher risk behaviors (e.g., smoking, substance use, lack of physical activity, poor diet) at higher rates than the general population and are often exposed to a higher rate of adverse social drivers of health
- Side effects of psychiatric medications are well documented (e.g., glucose dysregulation, weight gain)



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WHY INTEGRATE CARE?

- Community mental health system has become the de facto primary care system
- Persons with SMI engage primary care and preventive medicine less and are more likely to experience poor-quality medical care overall
- Primary care clinicians may lack knowledge/training on how to best treat mental illness
 - But they can learn to effectively treat mild to moderate symptoms of mental illness (resulting in better division of labor across the system)
- Effective management of chronic disease requires effective management of co-occurring behavioral health issues



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INTEGRATED CARE MODELS IN OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS PRODUCE POSITIVE OUTCOMES^{3,4,5}

- Increased access to primary care and primary care utilization
- Reductions in ED visits
- Increased receipt of preventive health care
- Increased screening and monitoring of physical health conditions
- Improved monitoring of metabolic side effects of psychiatric medications
- Reduction in cardiometabolic risk factors
 - Improvements in blood pressure control, weight, body mass index, triglycerides, blood pressure control, total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, tobacco use⁶



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CHALLENGES TO INTEGRATING CARE

- Location
- Practice culture
- Financing
- Communication



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LOW HANGING FRUIT & HIGH-REWARD IDEAS

- Universal screening (physical and mental health risk factors)
- Monitoring and treatment of the metabolic side effects of psychiatric medications
- Peer support and training in self-management skills
- Telehealth technology (if physical co-location isn't possible)
- Intentional teamwork
- Cultural humility (with patients and one another)
- Social Care



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Cognitive Remediation



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COGNITIVE REMEDIATION (CR)

“By focusing on cognitive health in addition to mental health, cognitive remediation seeks to improve critical thinking skills, enabling people to be more effective in their daily lives and pursue their goals for recovery in a purposeful and meaningful way.”³

- Action-Based Cognitive Remediation (ABCRC)¹
- Cognitive Enhancement Therapy (CET)²



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WHY WE NEED CR

Deficits in **Cognition** (information processing, memory, attention, learning, executive functioning, etc.) are prevalent in psychosis/serious mental illness¹

- Lack of independence⁵
- Difficulty with education⁵
- Difficulty with employment⁵
- Problems in relationships⁵
- Link to lower quality of life¹



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CORE COMPONENTS OF CR^I

- Didactic Introduction
- Cognitive Training
- Strategy Monitoring
- Real-World Simulation
- Transfer to real-world / bridging



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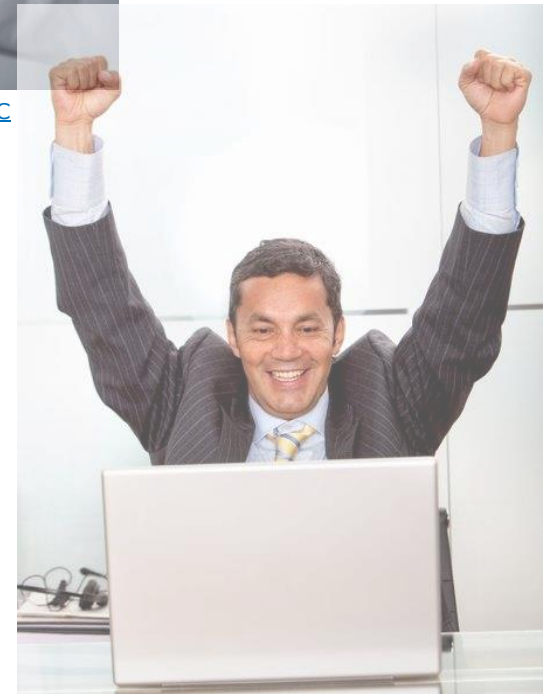
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GOALS OF CR^I

- Process
- Strategies
- Flexible thinking
- Experiment
- From “failure” (bad) to challenge (good)
 - *“It’s not that I can’t do it, it’s that my approach did not work.”*



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ACTION-BASED COGNITIVE REMEDICATION (ABCR)



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WHAT IS ACTION-BASED COGNITIVE REMEDIATION (ABCR)?

- ABCR is an 8-week, 16-session, manualized group-based intervention for remediating neurocognitive and social cognitive deficits in individuals with psychosis⁷
 - Computer training + the use of strategies with everyday activities to promote the transfer of cognitive improvement to the participants' daily lives⁸
 - Hopes to increase the likelihood that cognitive gains will improve quality of life⁸



HOW DO WE KNOW ABCR WORKS?!

- Independent and community living skills
- Increases in self-confidence
- More likely to be employed
 - Decrease in job related stress



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WHO IS APPROPRIATE FOR ABCR?⁹

- A schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, or a mood disorder with psychotic features diagnosis
- Ability to read and write
- Age of 18 or older
- No substance use that seriously affects performance
- Willing and able to consistently attend scheduled group meetings



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COGNITIVE ENHANCEMENT THERAPY (CET)



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WHAT IS COGNITIVE ENHANCEMENT THERAPY (CET)?¹⁰

- An 18-month recovery-phase intervention for remediating neurocognitive and social-cognitive deficits in schizophrenia
- Increase mental stamina, active information processing and the spontaneous negotiation of unrehearsed social challenges
 - Enhance perspective taking, social context appraisal and other social cognition components



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WHAT DOES CET LOOK LIKE?¹⁰

- **Neurocognitive Training**
 - 60 hours of computer-based training in attention, memory, and problem-solving
- **Social-Cognitive Group Therapy**
 - 45 group sessions - development of social wisdom and success in interpersonal interactions
 - Training in perspective-taking, gistfulness, non-verbal communication, emotion perception, etc.
- **Individual Coaching**
 - Non-group issues, homework, tailoring treatment and developing and updating recovery plan



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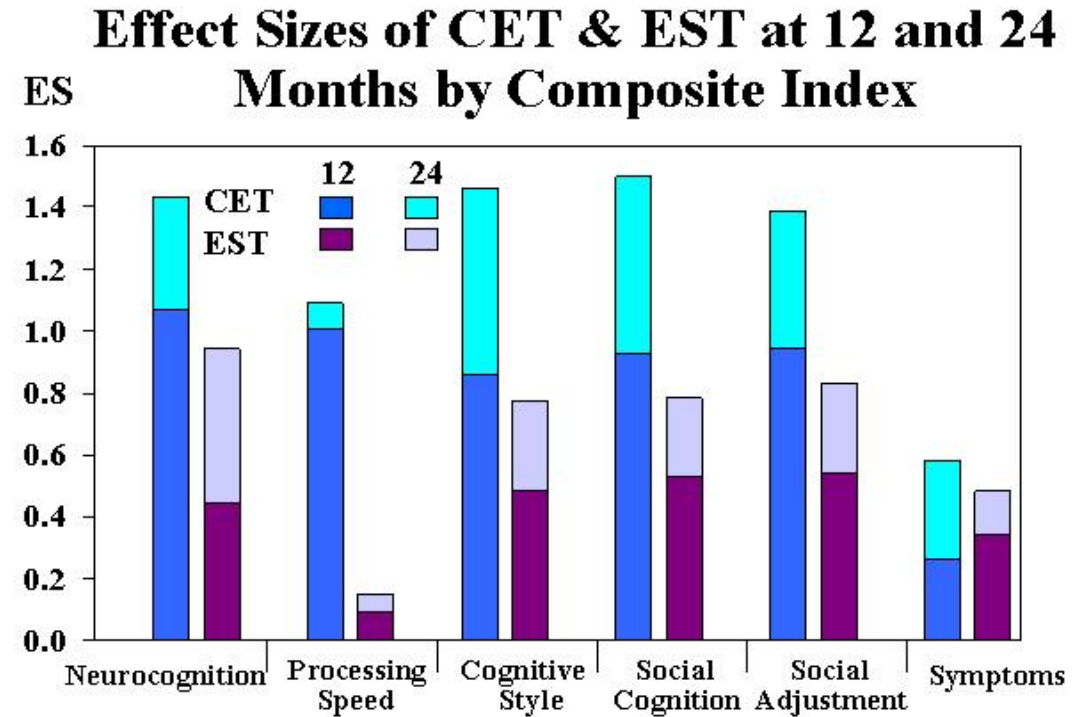


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HOW DO WE KNOW CET WORKS?¹⁰

- 30 years of research and counting!

- CET has been shown to have remarkable and enduring effects in a two-year randomized study



WHO IS APPROPRIATE FOR CET?¹⁰

- A schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder diagnosis
- Symptomatically stable
- Medication and treatment adherence
- 6th grade reading level
- Age of 16 or older
- No substance use that seriously affects performance
- Agreeable to group sessions being monitored or recorded
- Willing to make an 18-month commitment



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COGNITIVE ADAPTIVE APPROACHES¹¹

- Reminders
- Tools
- Structuring the environment
- Preparing for challenges
- Accommodations at work or school



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RECOVERY!



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RECOVERY IS...

A process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential

SAMHSA's working definition of recovery¹



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POTENTIAL BARRIERS²

- Socioeconomic disadvantages
- Distrust of traditional mental health services
- Pathologizing of cultural beliefs or legitimate social concerns
- Lack of culturally diverse teams



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OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO ACCESSING SERVICES

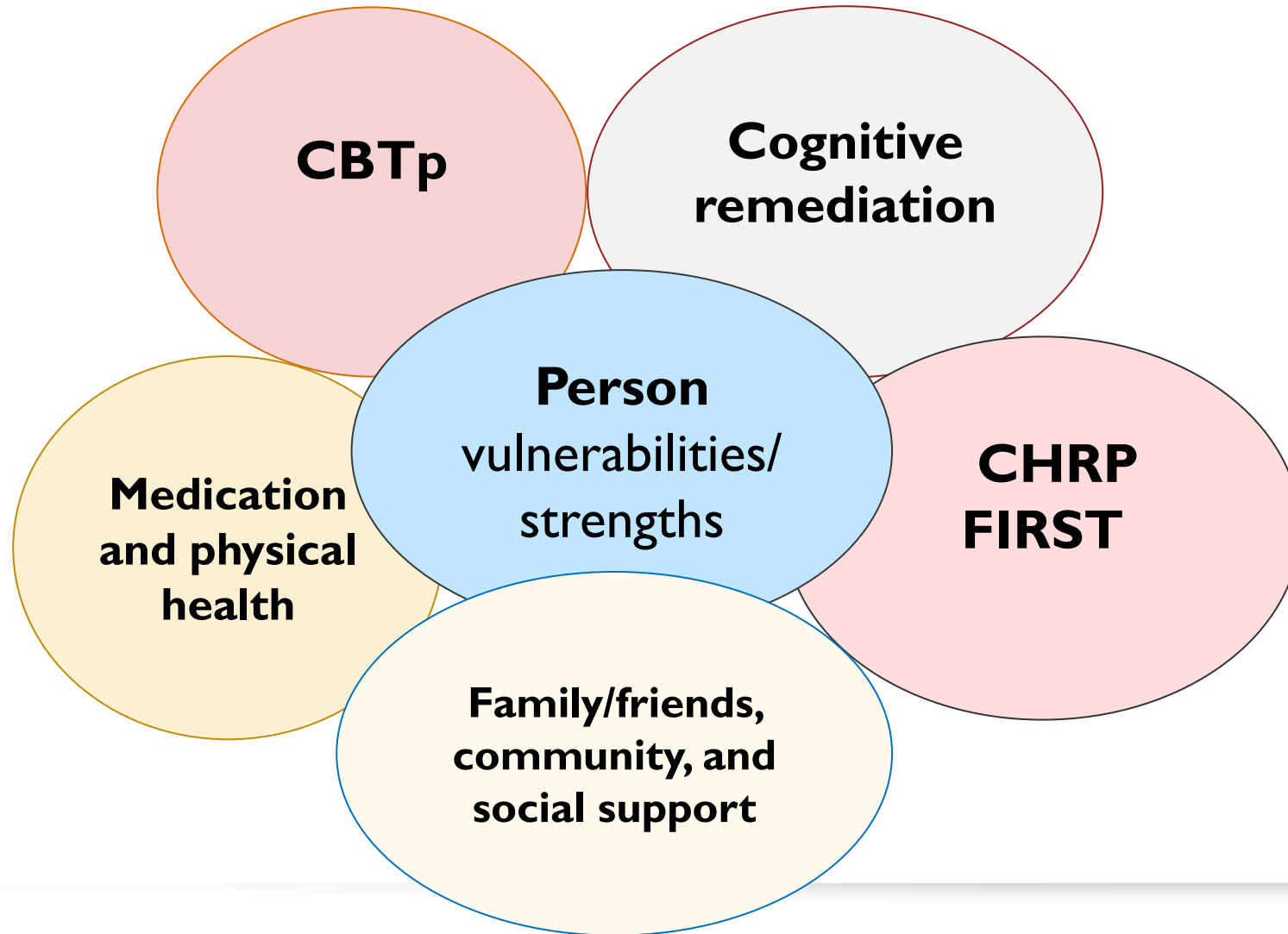


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AN INTEGRATED TEAM APPROACH



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OTHER WAYS TO OVERCOME BARRIERS

- Address and reduce stigma³
- Diversify outreach approaches
- Better communication and coordination with individuals, family/natural supports, and systems of care/providers
- Improve advocacy efforts
 - More resources – money and workforce support
 - Increasing joy in work
- Maintain hope
 - **Recovery is the expectation!**



RECOVERY HAPPENS!

- Individuals recovering from psychosis experiences can do anything they want to in their lives
 - Finish school
 - Go to college – and graduate
 - Get a good job
 - Have meaningful relationships
 - Enjoy life
 - Enjoy hobbies and special interests
 - Become independent
 - Be an active member of a family
 - Develop friendships
 - The list goes on!

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!



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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **Ohio Certified Peer Supporters**

<https://mha.ohio.gov/community-partners/peer-supporters>

- Adult

- Youth

- Family

- <https://namiohio.org/family-peer-support/>



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RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS



Ohio Systems of Care (SOC) ECHO for Youth Involved with Multiple Systems

- Ideal forum for addressing the complex needs of children, youth, and families served by Ohio Systems of Care for youth involved with multiple systems
- A public service offered by Best Practices in Schizophrenia Treatment (BeST) Center at NEOMED, Center for Innovative Practices at Case Western Reserve University, Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, Ohio Department of Medicaid and Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services
- Learn more at: <https://socoohio.org/soc-echo>
- Register at: <https://iecho.org/public/program/PRGM1713974538045ODNZAWZZNR>



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RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS



Ohio Alcohol Use Disorder/Substance Use Disorder Project ECHO

- Health care professionals will learn about identification, trends, implementation practices, and more while they share cases and network with colleagues across the care spectrum
- The Ohio AUD/SUD ECHO is funded through an earmark to train physicians and care teams in best practices for alcohol and other substance disorders
- Register at: <https://iecho.org/program/PRGMI699453832468D964KDSQU5/details>
- Visit www.neomed.edu/SUDeducation or email SUDeducation@neomed.edu for more information on additional substance use education initiatives at NEOMED



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RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS



Deflection ECHO

- A virtual learning community that provides a health-facing response to substance use that engages, deflects, and supports strong community partnerships
- This collaborative focuses on bringing justice and treatment systems together for supportive community outcomes. Law enforcement, medical responders, addiction treatment providers, peers, and individuals with lived experience partner to work together to bring evidence-based solutions to substance use crises.
- A public service offered by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence (CJCCoE) in NEOMED's Department of Psychiatry through American Rescue Plan Act funding awarded by the Office of Criminal Justice Services
- Register at: <https://iecho.org/program/PRGMI6975527956900ISGSBE8B7/detail>



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RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS

Integrated Care at NEOMED (IC@N) TeleECHO

- **Interprofessional** / multidisciplinary support on real cases and situations encountered in practice
- Register at: iecho.org



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A NOTE ABOUT PROJECT ECHO_s

- The above Project ECHO_s are open to anyone working professionally in mental health (including substance use treatment), physical health, and/or integrated mental and physical healthcare.
- Individuals living with mental health conditions and their family/natural supports are able to view recorded informational didactics from Project ECHO_s at:

www.youtube.com/@NEOMEDProjectECHO



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LAB TESTS FOR MEDICAL DISORDERS

- Complete lists of suggested lab tests appear in *Psychosis Care in Primary Care*
- Free PDF upon request; email bestcenter@neomed.edu
- Download PDF



PSYCHOSIS CARE IN PRIMARY CARE: *A primary care clinician's guide to psychosis*

Erik Messamore, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychiatry,
Northeast Ohio Medical University, and Best Practices in Schizophrenia
Treatment (BeST) Center Medical Director



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Q&A

To learn more:

If you are interested in learning more or potentially bringing a BeST Center program to your area/organization, contact us at:

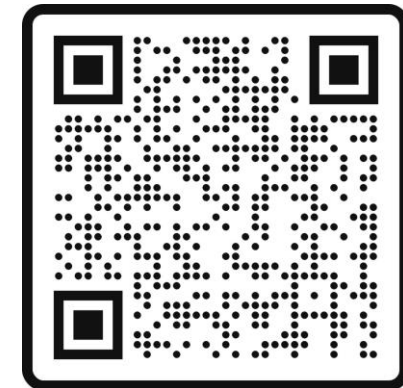


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