



Northwest (HHS Region 10)

**ATTC**

Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network

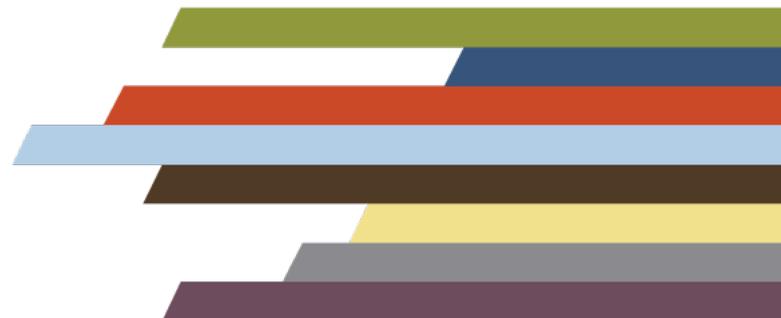
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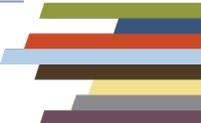
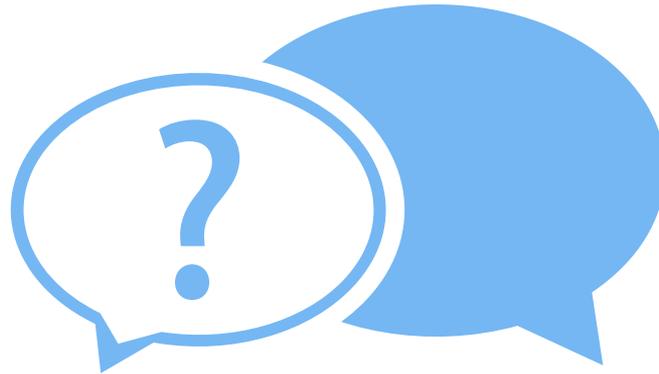
Northwest ATTC presents:  
**Implementing Contingency Management:  
The Case for Customizing to Your Setting Needs**

**Thank you for joining us!  
The webinar will begin shortly.**

- **Got questions?** Type them into the chat box at any time and they will be answered at the end of the presentation.
- An ADA-compliant recording of this presentation will be made available on our website at: <http://attcnetwork.org/northwest>



**Questions? Please type them in  
the chat box!**



# Surveys

**Look for our surveys in your inbox!**

**We greatly appreciate your feedback!**

Every survey we receive helps us improve and continue offering our programs.

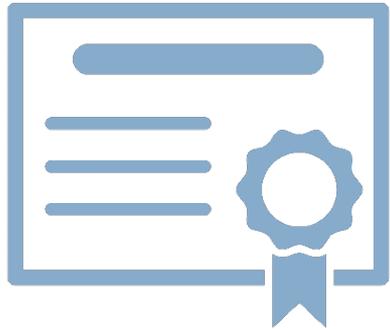


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# Certificates

## Certificates of Attendance are available for live viewers!



### Viewing Groups:

Please send each individual's name and email address to [northwest@attcnetwork.org](mailto:northwest@attcnetwork.org) within 1 business day.

Your certificate will be emailed within a week to the address you registered with.



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# Implementing Contingency Management

## The Case for Customizing to Your Setting

Bryan Hartzler, PhD.

Northwest ATTC Webinar Series

November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

# Regional Land Acknowledgement

In applying a lens of cultural humility to issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion, Northwest ATTC offers this land acknowledgement for today's event.

Our work intends to reach the addiction workforce in HHS Region 10, encompassing Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. This area rests on the traditional territories of many indigenous nations, including tribal groups with whom the United States signed treaties prior to the granting of statehoods.

Please join us in supporting efforts to affirm tribal sovereignty, and in displaying respect and gratitude for our indigenous neighbors.



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# What is Contingency Management (CM)?

Something you may already be applying, or have had applied to you...



# CM Defined...

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*“Contingency management refers to a type of behavioral therapy in which individuals are ‘reinforced’, or rewarded, for evidence of positive behavioral change.”*

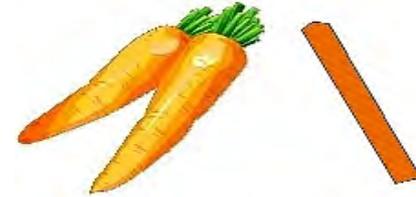


Source: Petry, 2011

# Origins

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- Originated from agrarian notions of the 'carrot and stick' as motivational tools\*



- Emerged in opioid treatment programs in 1970s, with take-home medication doses as reinforcers for substance abstinence
- Proliferated into a half-century of scientific testing of diverse applications for treatment adherence in addiction settings

\*Source: *Thorndyke effect, 1898*

# Lost In Translation....

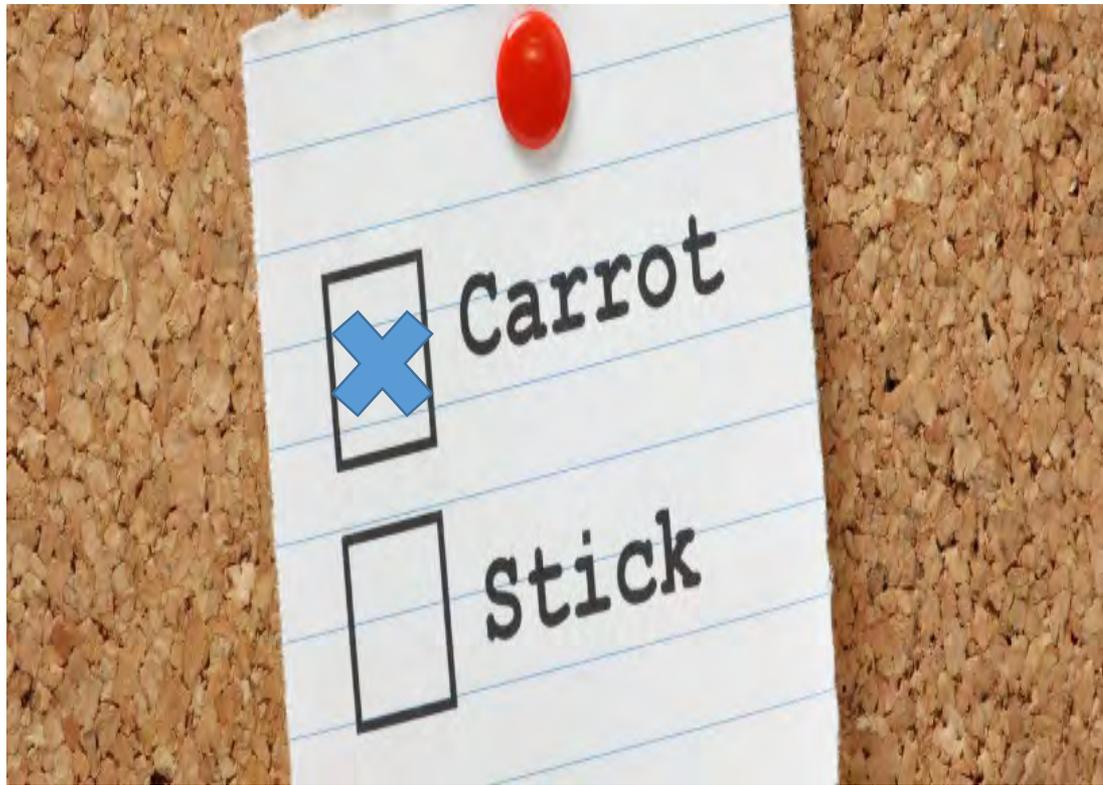
Seemingly simple concepts  
can at times be misapplied



# Let's Stick With The Carrot...

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Contemporary CM applications focus on use of reinforcement, not punishment.



# A Family of CM Approaches

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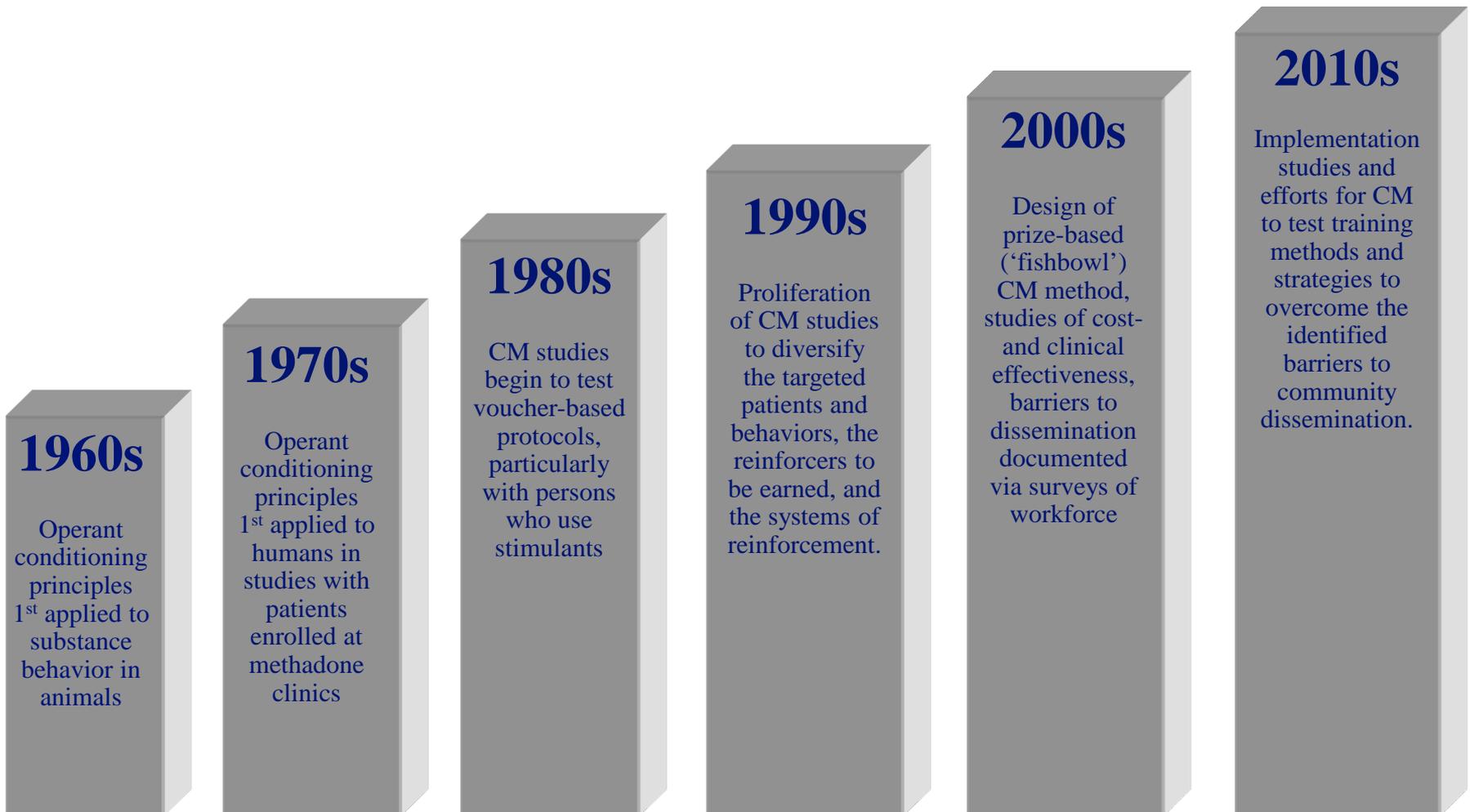
Three core tenets common to all CM approaches:

- #1 A desired, and observable, treatment-adherent client behavior is targeted
- #2 A tangible reinforcer is provided whenever the client demonstrates the target behavior
- #3 If the client does not demonstrate the target behavior, the reinforcer is withheld

*Source: Petry, 2012*

# CM Through the Years

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# Harvesting A Half-Century of Science

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- Availability of 648 unique publications describing application of CM programming in addiction treatment settings
- Efficacy for improving treatment adherence among persons with substance use disorders evidenced via 200+ published trials
- Design of procedurally-diverse CM protocols, most often utilizing setting privileges, vouchers, and prizes as reinforcers
- Absence of moderating influences among a set of demographic and economic patient background attributes
- Documentation of limited awareness or intentions to adopt within the addiction treatment community

Sources: *Forster et.al, 2019; Hartzler et.al, 2012; Hartzler et.al, 2010; Olmstead et.al, 2012*

# Why Not Greater Community Dissemination?

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Nirvana Fallacy – presumption of one perfect solution



*Source: Demsetz, 1969*

# A View From 30,000 Feet...

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# A Half-Century of CM Effectiveness Data

## Mean Effect Sizes of Varied CM Protocols



Sources: *Benishek et.al, 2014; Griffith et.al, 2000; Lussier et.al, 2006*

# The Glass is Half-Full, Right?

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Based on the collective scientific work that has been conducted on CM, there are reasons for optimism.



# What May Promote Wider CM Dissemination?

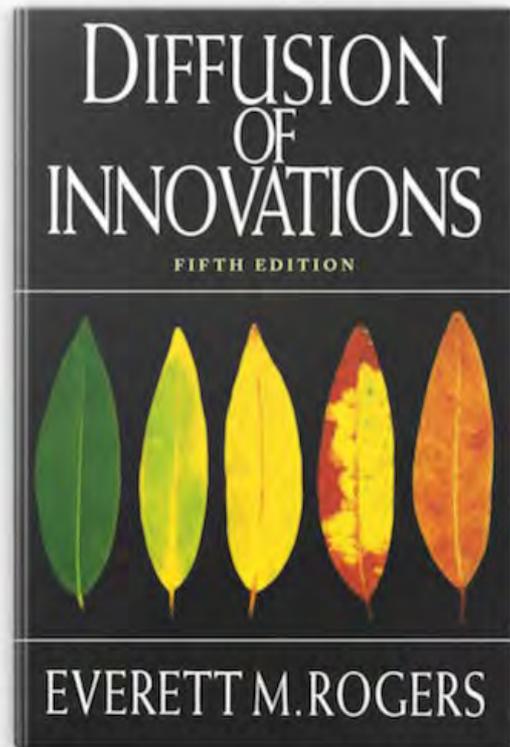
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How can we make CM programming more.....?



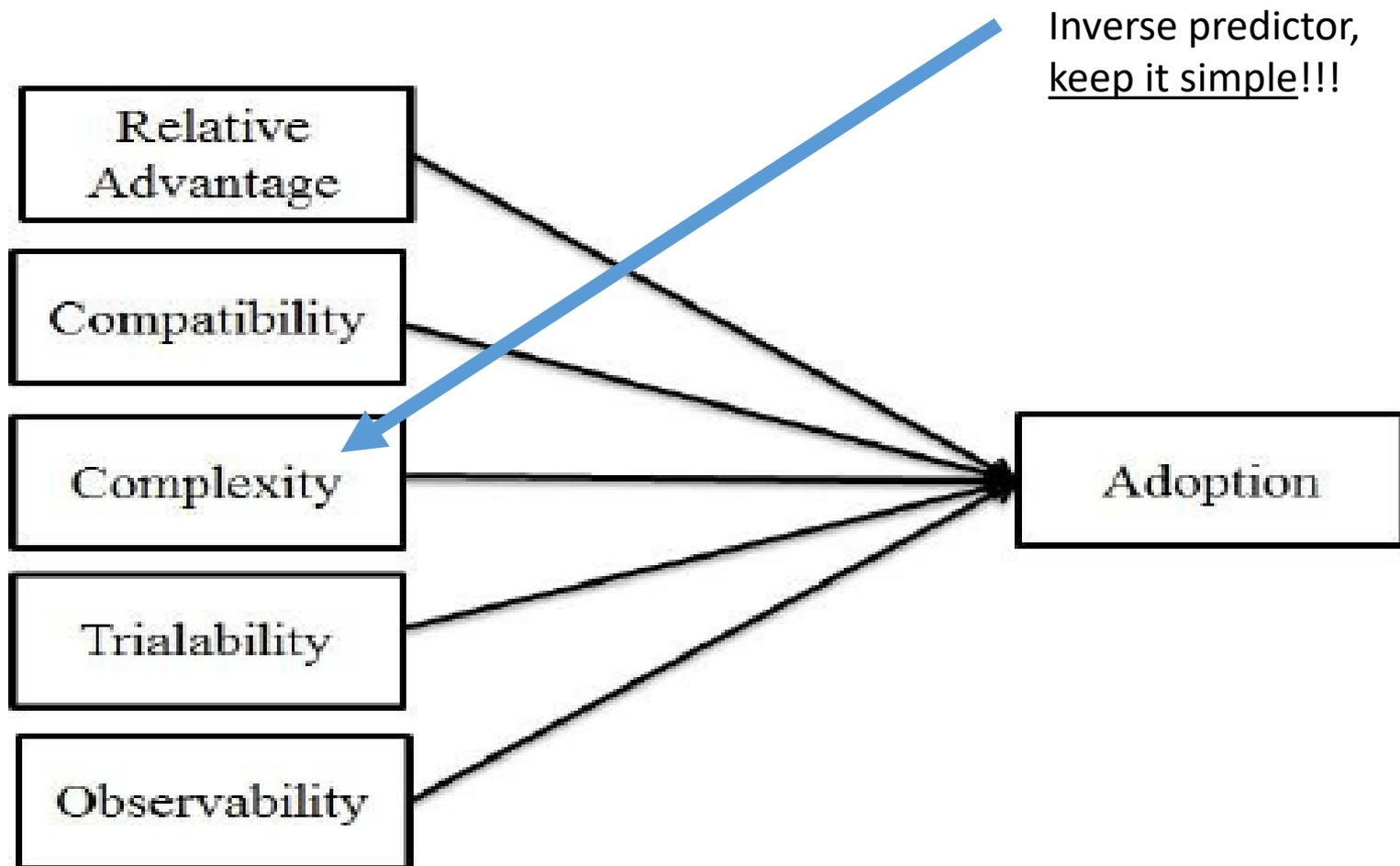
# Wait a second, some of this sounds familiar...

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# Diffusion of Innovations

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Source: Rogers, 2003

# The Times, They Are (Still) a-Changing...

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Sources of continual change for the treatment community:

- Staffing/Turnover
- Professional Requirements/Initiatives
- Availability of New Treatments
- Funding Streams
- Policy\*
- And, in 2020, to boot there emerged a global pandemic...



# Current Federal Policy Constraint

The Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General, under the Trump Administration, restricts the value of reinforcers a patient can earn, as follows:

*“Currently, only \$75 a year is allowed per patient, whether the payer is Medicaid or a SOR grant.”*

The screenshot shows the cover of the journal 'ALCOHOLISM DRUG ABUSE WEEKLY' with the subtitle 'News for policy and program decision-makers'. The cover includes the following information:

- Volume 32 Number 33
- August 24, 2020
- Print ISSN 1042-1394
- Online ISSN 1556-7591

The main article is titled 'HHS OIG doubles down on constraints against contingency management'. A 'Bottom Line...' box contains the text: 'The request to increase allow payments to patients in contingency management for stimulant use disorder was rejected by the federal government, which calls it a "kickback."'

The article text states: 'Stimulant use disorders are on the rise resulting in exacerbation of the opioid epidemic, with stimulants often present in opioid overdoses. Subcontractors are lining up to implement the new stimulant use disorder treatment provisions of the \$1 billion annual State Opioid Response (SOR) federal grant program. And contingency management (CM), in which patients are given monetary rewards for not using drugs, is the best — by far — treatment for stimulant use disorder. Against this backdrop, with tone-deaf timing, the federal government is insisting that CM is not an allowable cost, leaving SOR grantees and their patients with less than optimal treatment options. The federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has held, and last week upheld, that these rewards are actually "kickbacks," because they come out of funding that goes to the treatment provider. Last month a group headed by H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., dean's executive professor at Santa Clara University, wrote See CONTINGENCY MANAGEMENT page 2'

# What May Promote Wider CM Dissemination?

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Settings need to be able to customize CM programming to their needs and resources, and be poised to adapt that CM programming to perpetually changing circumstances.



# A Case Example

A single-site, Type III effectiveness/implementation hybrid trial was conducted at an urban opioid treatment program.

- Census of 1500+, monthly enrollment ~30 new patients
- Difficulty engaging their new patients in weekly counseling
- 23 direct-care staff members, of multidisciplinary composition
- Enthusiasm for other EBPs, but hesitant about CM



Source: Hartzler et al., 2014

# Salient Trial Design Features

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- CM programming customized to the setting, based on its needs and resources, via a collaborative intervention design process
- Designation of local team of 'CM implementation champions' with whom purveyor recurrently met to address systems issues
- CM training provided for all direct-care staff, as four ½ day workshops occurring on-site over four weeks, with emphasis on skill development
- Development of an on-site 'CM library,' encompassing copies of all training materials including recorded training sessions

# Salient Trial Design Features

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- Designation of a 90-day period of provisional implementation to occur soon after conclusion of training
- Ongoing purveyor availability for consultation for all staff, including the ‘CM champions,’ clinical supervisors, and nonclinical staff
- Clinical effectiveness determined via independent chart review, with comparison to matched historical control patients
- Focus group at trial conclusion with leadership and ‘CM champions’ to discuss setting experiences and the prospect of sustainment

# Collaborative Intervention Design

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*Shared design responsibility amongst a therapy purveyor and partnering treatment organization, enabling the resulting intervention to be both theoretically-informed and matched to the setting's fiscal and logistical implementation capacities.\**

This is conceptually consistent with principles of:

- User-Centered Product Design
- Collaborative Intervention Planning Framework
- Community-Based Participatory Research
- Dynamic Sustainability Framework



\*Sources: Hartzler et.al, 2014, 2015; 2016

# Dynamic Sustainability Framework (DSF)

	<b>Traditional View</b>	<b>DSF View</b>
<b>Adaptation</b>	<b>Bad; avoided/eliminated</b>	<b>Inevitable; encouraged, monitored and guided by evidence</b>
Context assessment	Initial or during implementation	Ongoing
Outcomes assessment	During study by researchers	Incorporated as part of organization
Review of evidence	Initial- from efficacy studies	Ongoing; from convergent sources including replications
Staffing issues ( <i>e.g.</i> , turnover) and variations	Ignored/feared	Planned for; investigated
Generates new knowledge	No	Yes, feedback to other areas of science and to earlier stages

Source: Chambers, Glasgow, & Stange, 2013

# Dimensions of CM Programming

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Target Population – new enrollees in 1<sup>st</sup> 90 days of services

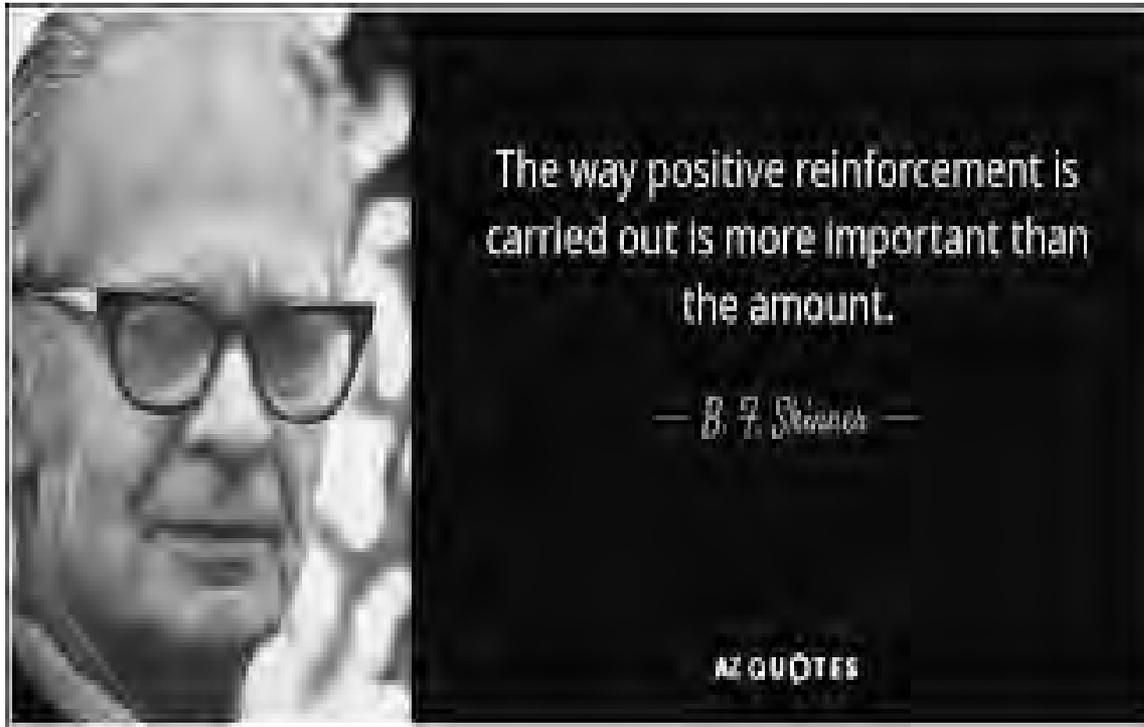
Target Behavior – attendance of weekly counseling visits

Reinforcers – \$10 gift cards, single-use take-home doses

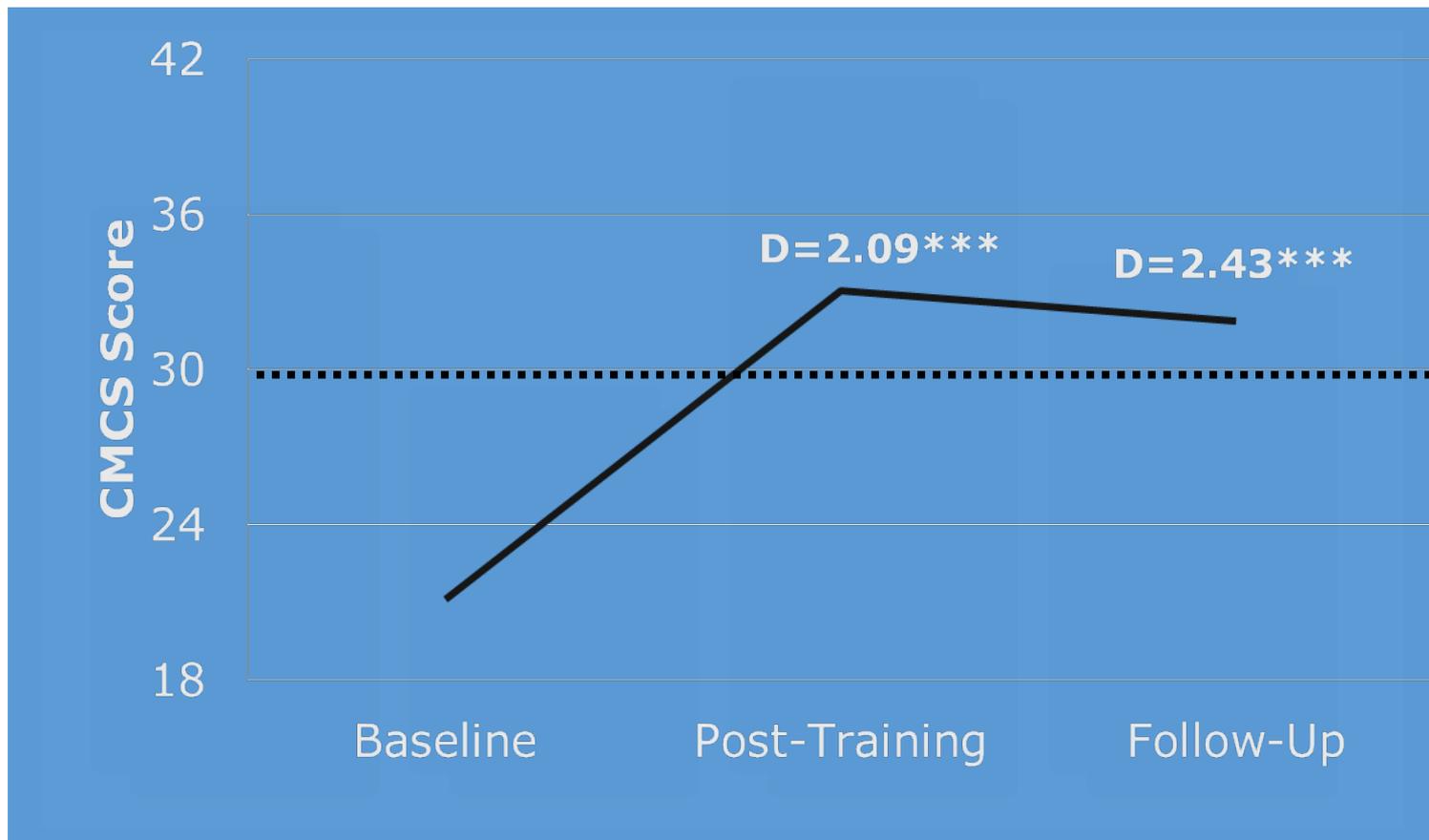
Reinforcement System – ‘point-system’ akin to a token economy, incorporating priming and escalation features

# Fidelity Matters

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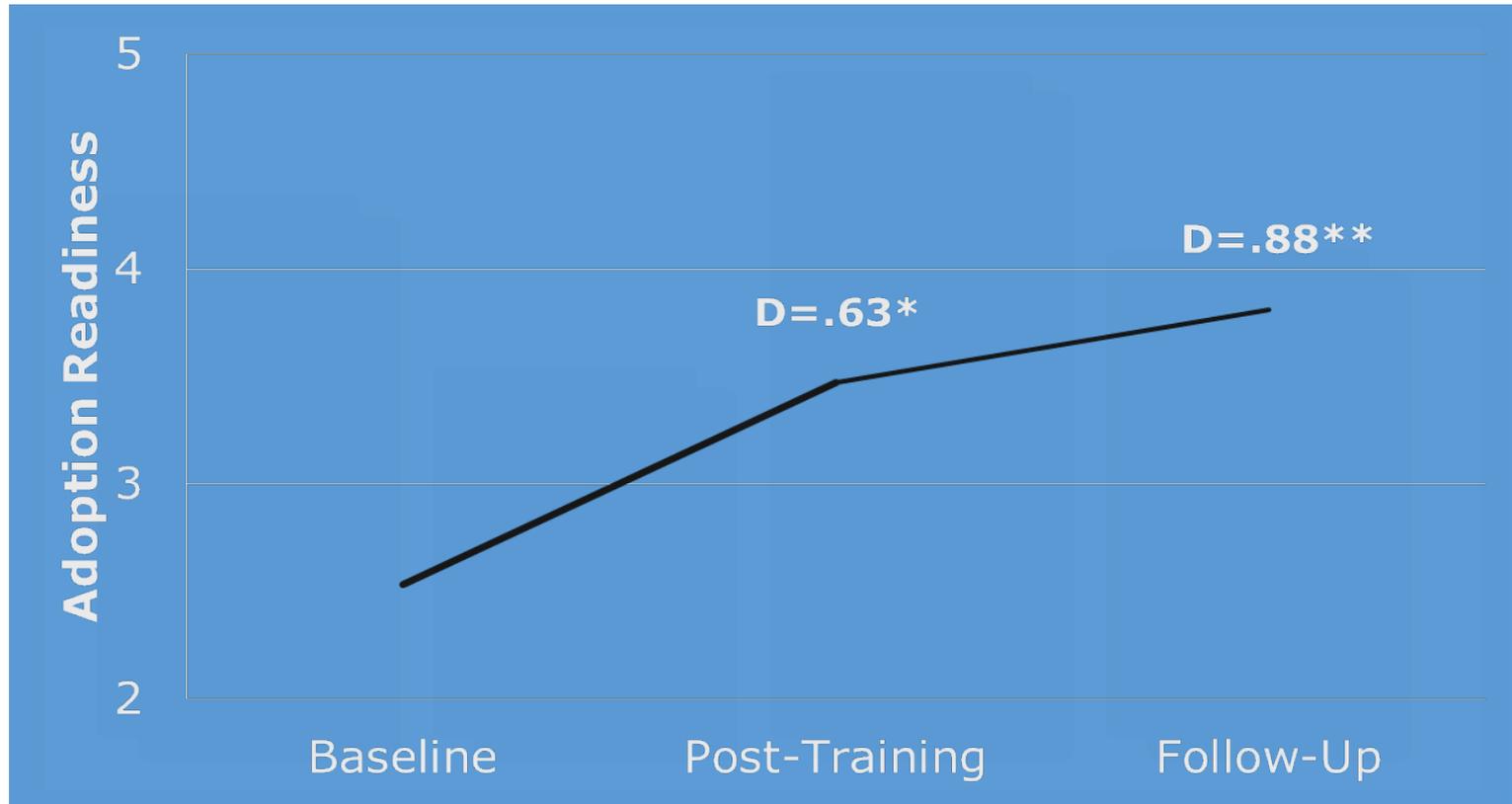
# Impacts of Training on CM Delivery Skills



..... Skills-based Competency Threshold

\*\*\* $p < .001$

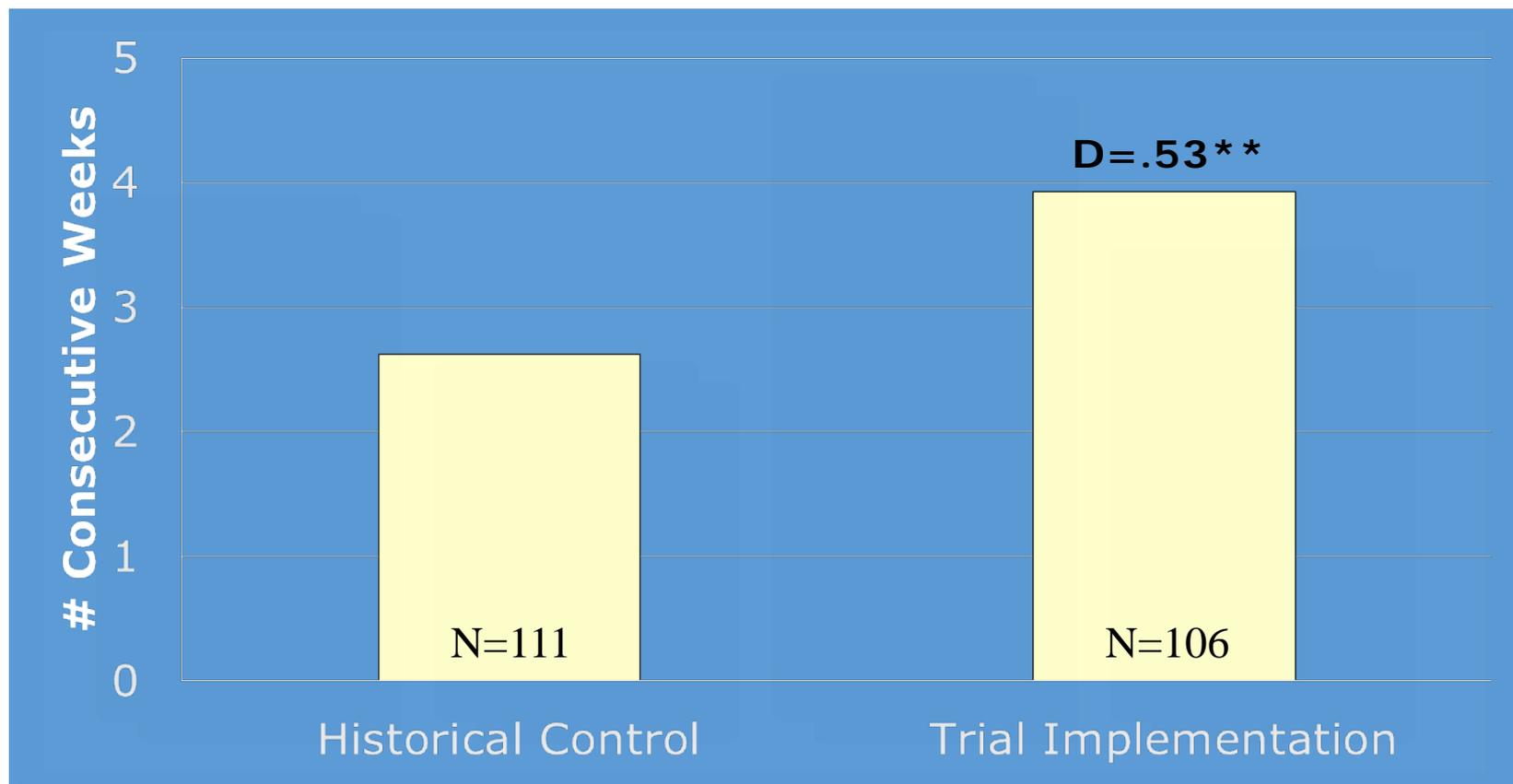
# Impacts of Training on CM Adoption



90-day staff penetration = 100%

$**p < .01$ ,  $p < .05$

# Was the CM Programming Effective?

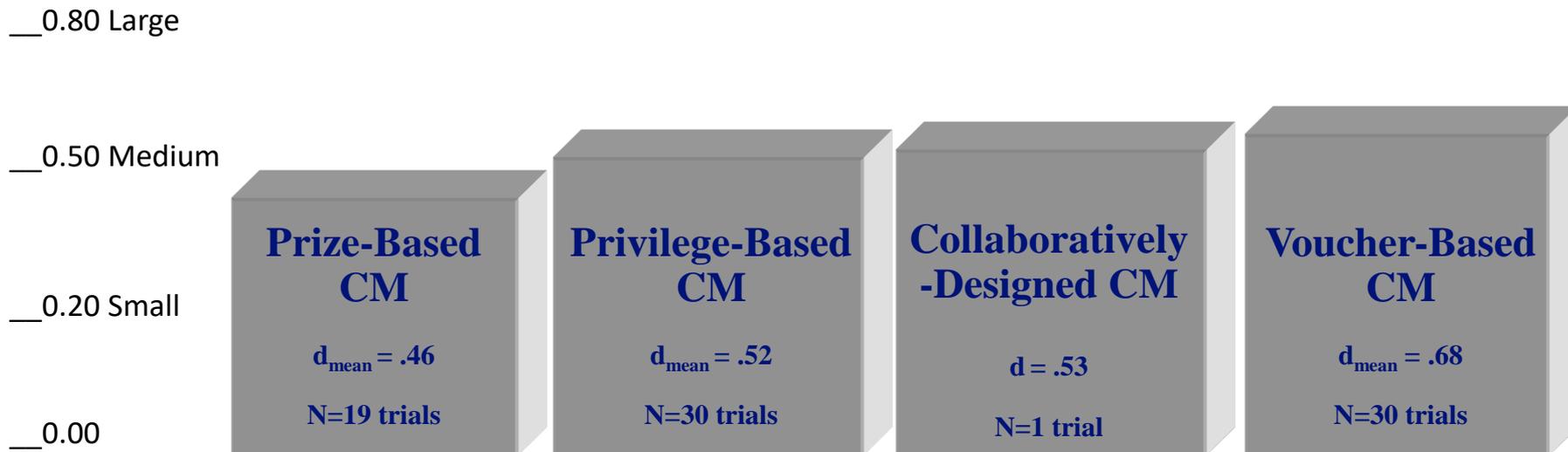


16% Increase in Overall Counseling Attendance

\*\*p<.01

# How Does that Compare, from 30,000 Feet?

## Mean Effect Sizes of Varied CM Protocols

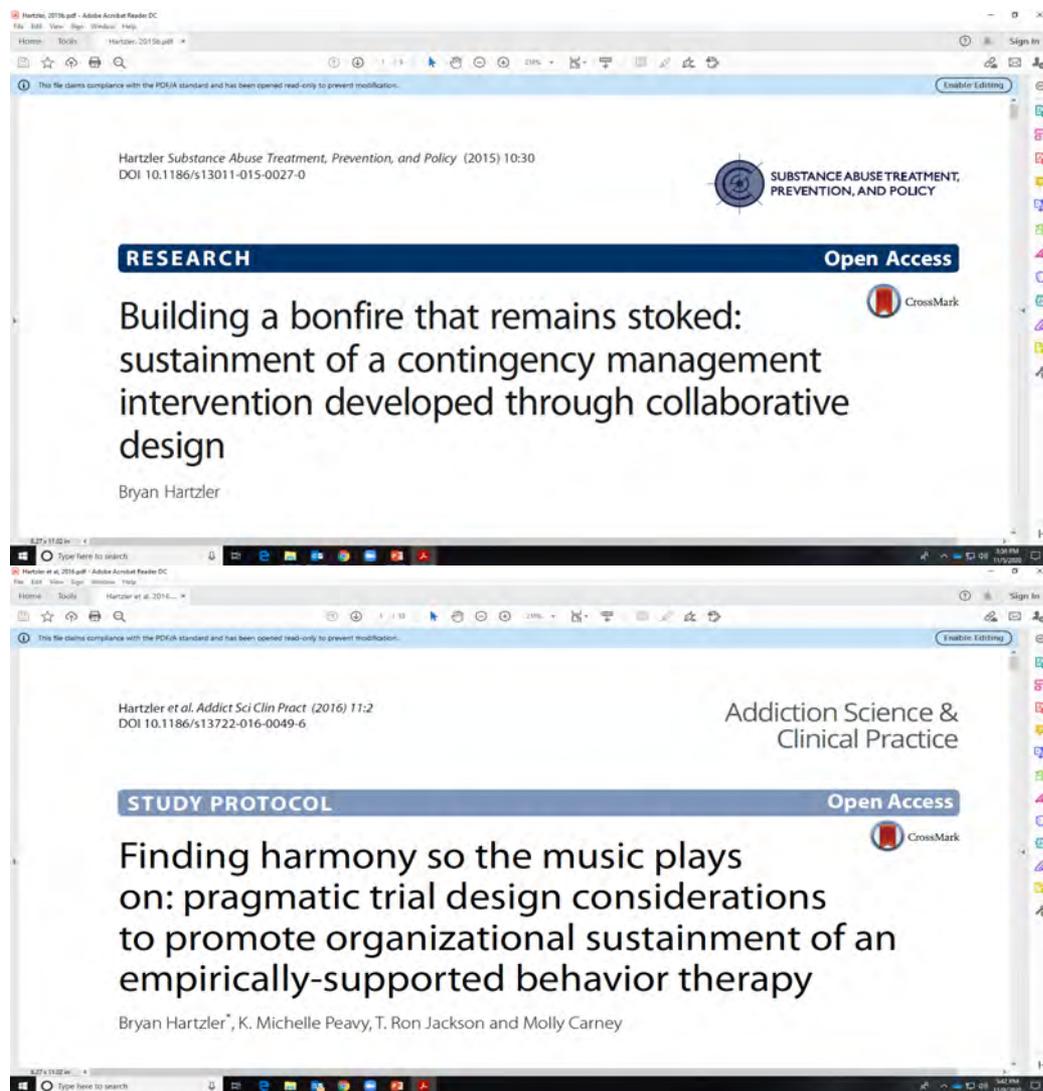


Sources: *Benishek et.al, 2014; Griffith et.al, 2000; Hartzler et.al, 2014; Lussier et.al, 2006*

# What Happened Next?

- OTP leadership decided to sustain CM programming as part of routine care
- Some features amended, like amending reinforcers that may be earned
- CM programming sustained for 2+ years post-trial
- Integration of CM library materials into onboarding for new staff
- Similar CM programming enacted at two additional sites during OTP expansion

Sources: Hartzler, 2015; Hartzler et.al, 2016



# Management Views: Relative Advantage

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*'My hope was to better engage clients, like 'we know this takes effort for you and we recognize it.' There's definitely therapeutic benefit, that's what I've heard from our staff and the patients.'*

*'It is an extra component added to an already loaded initial burden that counselors have...but it seems to be worth it to staff, I hear from them about how rapport with new patients is better now.'*

*'We weren't going to invest in something that didn't give us some return. But [the CM intervention] gives us that return. We're going forward with this, it's in the treatment manual and will continue to be part of the services we provide here.'*

# Management Views: Compatibility

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*'The counselors, they see these folks every week anyway, and deliver [the CM intervention] in the context of a session we already pay staff time for. So...there's no added cost there.'*

*'The timing matches when patients' treatment changes anyway, concluding as counseling frequency goes down and patients are becoming stable. It's well-matched to the layout of our program.'*

*'We had the right people in place, and this seemed like the right thing to do for our clinic. My anxiety was eliminated, and I had confidence about how it would fit here and go forward.'*

# Management Views: Complexity (Simplicity)

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*'In terms of the logistics, we've come up with solutions for just about everything that's come up. The implementation doesn't need to be all that sophisticated to be done successfully.'*

*'What made [the CM intervention] manageable was that it was circumscribed in scope, and we had two point-people that all questions could be directed to. That was critical.'*

*'Many other [CM approaches] would be too complicated to pull off in a consistent way. This was do-able enough that we trained a new staff member who then used [the CM intervention] with her whole caseload.'*

# Management Views: Trialability

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*'Most of the counselors are interested in continuing with [the CM intervention]. If people hated it, that would be different. But that's not the case here. Assuming the data show positive effects, we're all inclined to continue with this.'*

*'[CM procedures] may take away five minutes of a session...but if you have people coming in more regularly you get to focus on things other than noncompliance.'*

*'We've got an electronic record system where staff can grab patient information quickly, so that made a big difference in terms of accessing what they needed, and for documentation.'*

# Management Views: Observability

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*'I was really pleased to see so many of the counselors participate, in the training and then using it with patients. They've done a good job of implementing it and are pretty positive about it.'*

*'It's one thing to say "the literature suggests this, that, or the other works," and it's another thing altogether for us to now have the experience of having it actually happen.'*

*'Another thing we got was [patient] feedback to include other incentives, like lock-boxes for take-homes. That was a great suggestion, and we can offer things like that as incentives.'*

# Tips for Customizing your CM programming

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**Consider your setting's needs and resources**

# Client eligibility

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Tips for implementing CM include choosing clients:

- Who constitute a well-defined population or subgroup
- Among whom you want to increase adherence
- For whom the implementation costs will be affordable



# Target Behavior

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Tips for implementing CM include targeting a behavior:

- That is observable (not reliant on self-report)
- For which a binary outcome (yes, no) will be clear
- That is clinically meaningful, predictive of success



# Tangible Reinforcers

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Tips for implementing CM include identifying:

- Goods/services your clients value (ask them)
- A set of reinforcers to enable individual choice
- Bulk purchasing options, storage solutions



# Reinforcement System

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Tips for implementing CM include devising a system to:

- Make use of recurrent contacts between staff/clients
- Be compatible with other intersecting clinic operations (i.e., billing/accounting; records/documentation)
- Keep procedures simple for clinical staff (ask them)



# Additional considerations

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As with implementing any systemic change, consider:

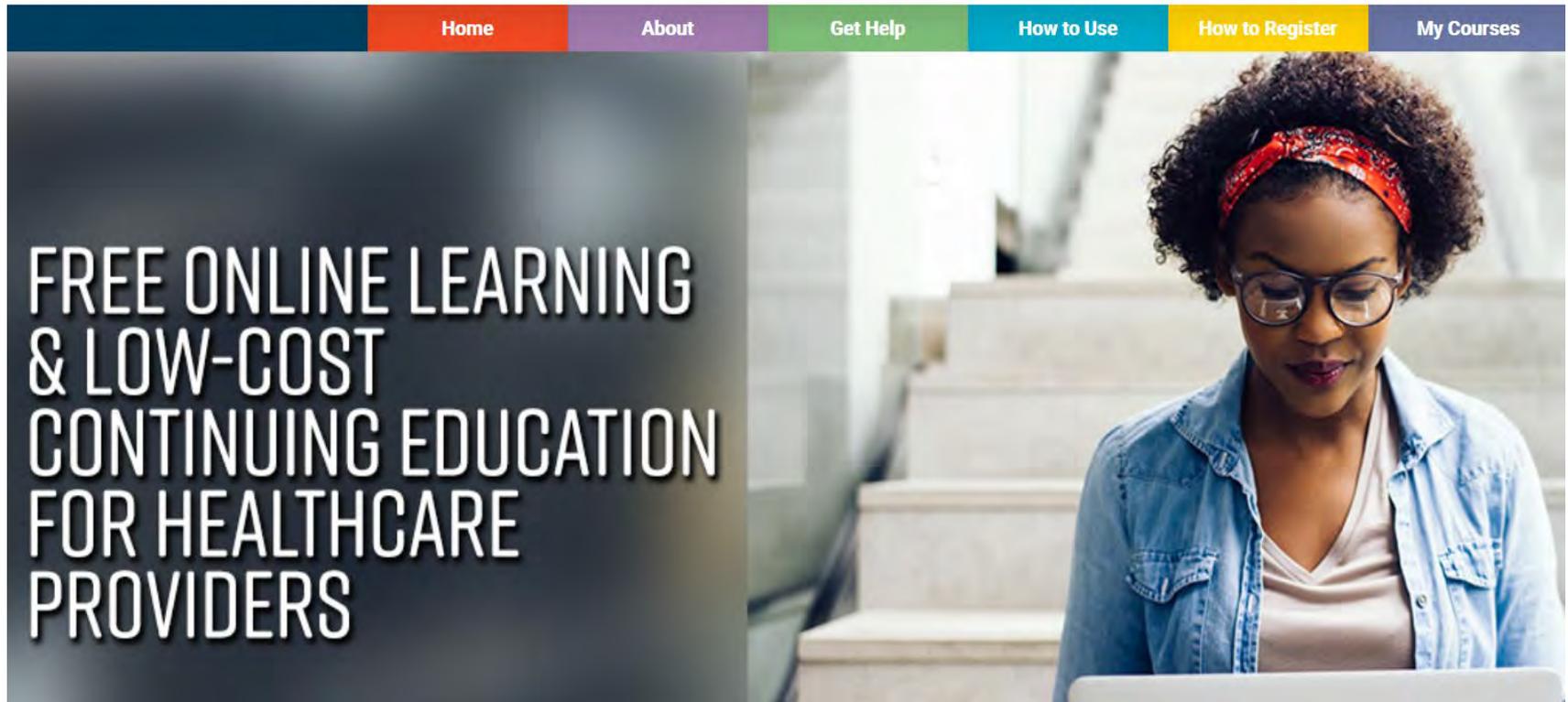
- Eliciting perspectives in initial exploration/planning phases (i.e., managers, staff, clients, community)
- Collecting baseline information about the clinical challenge you seek to address
- Starting small, with expansion after initial success observed during a provisional implementation period
- Utilizing available resources for ongoing reference

# Acknowledgements

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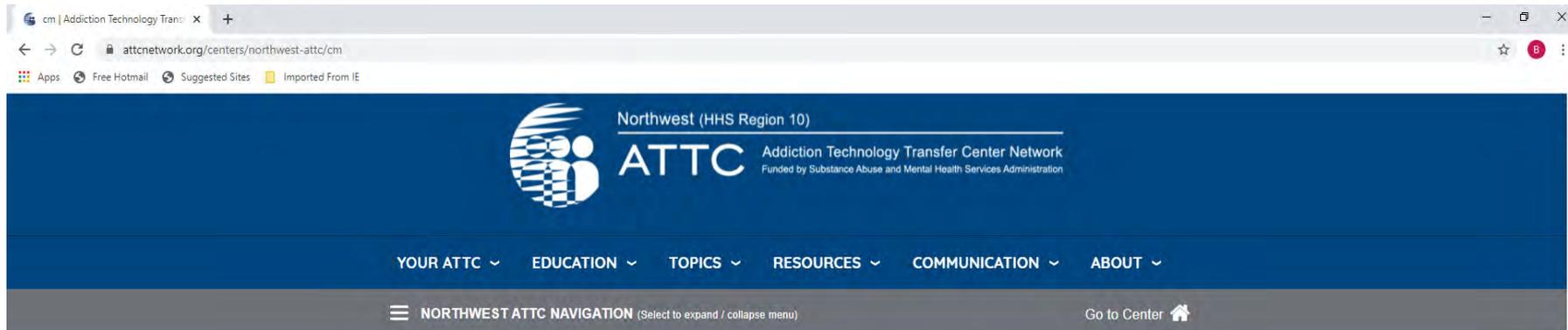
- National Institute on Drug Abuse K23 DA025678  
*Integrating Behavioral Interventions in Substance Abuse Treatment* (Hartzler, PI)
- Don Calsyn, Mentor
- Dennis Donovan, Mentor
- Brinn E. Jones, Research Assistant
- Evergreen Treatment Services
  - Ron Jackson, Executive Director
  - Molly Carney, Deputy Executive Director
  - Carol Davidson, Clinical Director
  - Esther Ricardo-Bulis, Research Liaison
  - Collective Staff and Patients
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration TI080201  
*HHS Region 10 Addiction Technology Transfer Center* (Hartzler, PI)
- Meg Brunner, Web Computing Specialist
- Erinn McGraw, Visual Communications Specialist
- Susan Stoner, Data Operations Specialist

# Available Resources



Online training product: ***Contingency Management for Healthcare Organizations***

# Available Resources



## Contingency Management for Healthcare Settings

This online course, developed by the Northwest ATTC, features separate modules for each of the three common personnel roles in healthcare organizations: **decision-makers**, **clinical supervisors**, and **direct care staff**. Organizations can use this training as a bridge to more intensive technical assistance.

All three modules include an introduction to contingency management (CM) describing:

- its core elements,
- 3 scientifically-supported systems,
- how it can be used in healthcare settings to have a positive impact on clients.

Each module also offers unique content on how each role can successfully integrate CM into their program.

**CEU Available!** 1.0 Decision Makers, 2.5 Clinical Supervisors, 2.0 Direct Care Staff

**Find the course on HealtheKnowledge\***

(\*Note: **If you do not already have an account on HealtheKnowledge**, you will be prompted to set one up before you can continue on to the course site. If you register and it doesn't take you back to the course page, click "**Home**" in the menu and look for it under the category "**Special Topics in Behavioral Health**" or return to this page and click the link again. **For more assistance**, visit the **How to Use HealtheKnowledge** site or contact their support staff.)



# Online Course

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Thanks for your time and interest.

# Look for our surveys in your inbox!

**We greatly appreciate your feedback!**

Every survey we receive helps us improve and continue offering our programs.

[https://bit.ly/ImplementingCM\\_November18](https://bit.ly/ImplementingCM_November18)



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gracias cảm ơn bạn धन्यवाद 고맙습니다  
 شڪرا جزيلا salamat благодарю вас 谢谢  
 Dziękuję Ci **Thank** ευχαριστώ  
 quyana tack **you!** አመሰግናለሁ  
 धन्यवाद danke asante grazie  
 hík'wu? merci הודת obrigado ขอบคุณ  
 ありがとうございます спасибі mahalo

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