

The Times They Are A-Changin': A Judge and Psychiatrist Unpack Critical Issues for Treatment Courts

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Chief Justice, Superior Court of
New Hampshire

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Chief Justice, Superior Court
of New Hampshire



HISTORY

- 1989: Height of war on drugs
- Courtrooms full
- Low-level possession cases, significant substance use
- Increased incarceration
- Treatment courts born



TARGET POPULATION

- Development of 10 Key Components
- Target population: low risk → high risk
- Serious felonies, including sales
- Significant, long-established substance use



RESEARCH

- Reduce crime x2
- Cost savings increase 50%
- Mixing low risk/low need makes outcomes worse
- Standardized assessment tools improve outcomes
- Treatment court works for violent offenders



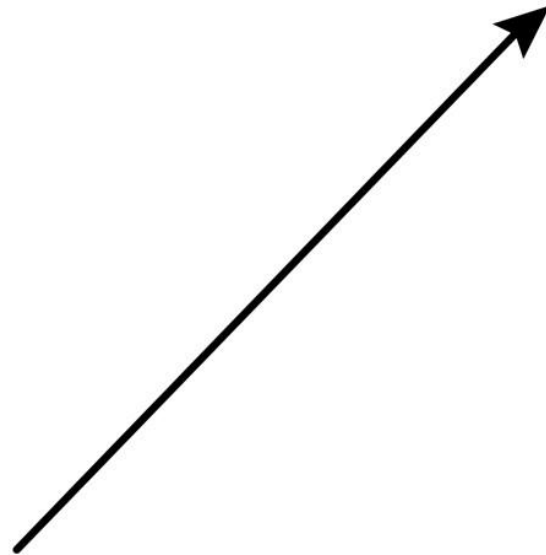
RISK/NEED RESPONSIVITY

Treatment courts



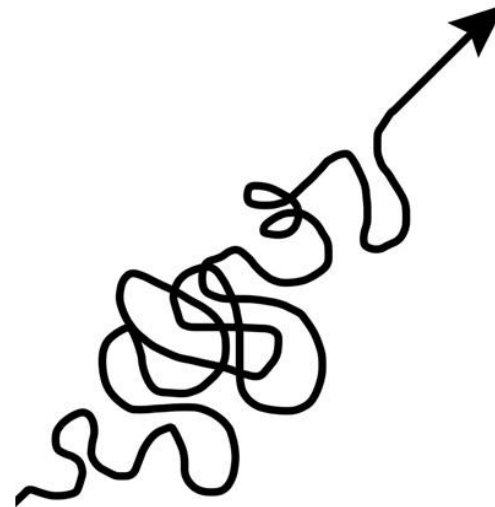
HARDEST CASES

SUCCESS



what people think
it looks like

SUCCESS



what it really
looks like

WHY WE ARE HERE

- Are we following evidence-based practices?
- Can we avoid old practices that give us comfort, but may do harm?
- EBP make sense, how do we consistently apply them in complicated cases with layers of issues?
- Is our team communicating effectively?
- Do we understand each other's roles?
- Can we integrate harm reduction practices to enhance outcomes?



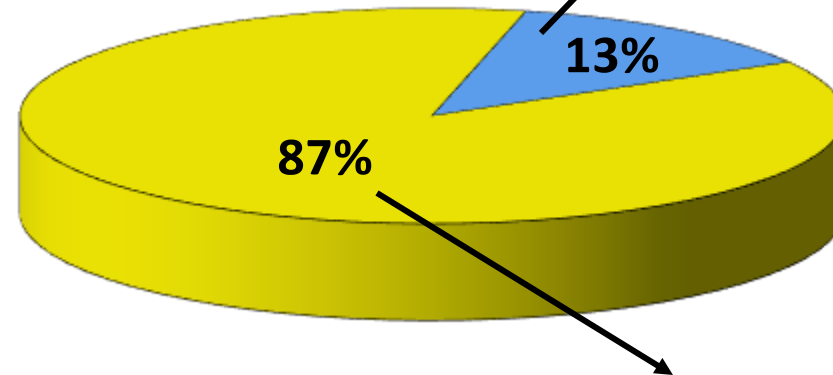
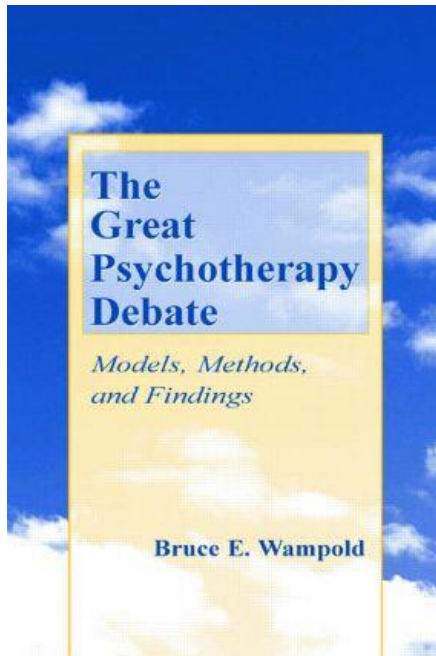
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WHAT WORKS IN TREATMENT

The Empirical Evidence



Treatment:

- 60% due to “alliance” factors (8%/13%)
- 30% due to “allegiance” factors (4%/13%)
- 8% due to model and technique (1/13)

Extra-therapeutic and/or client factors

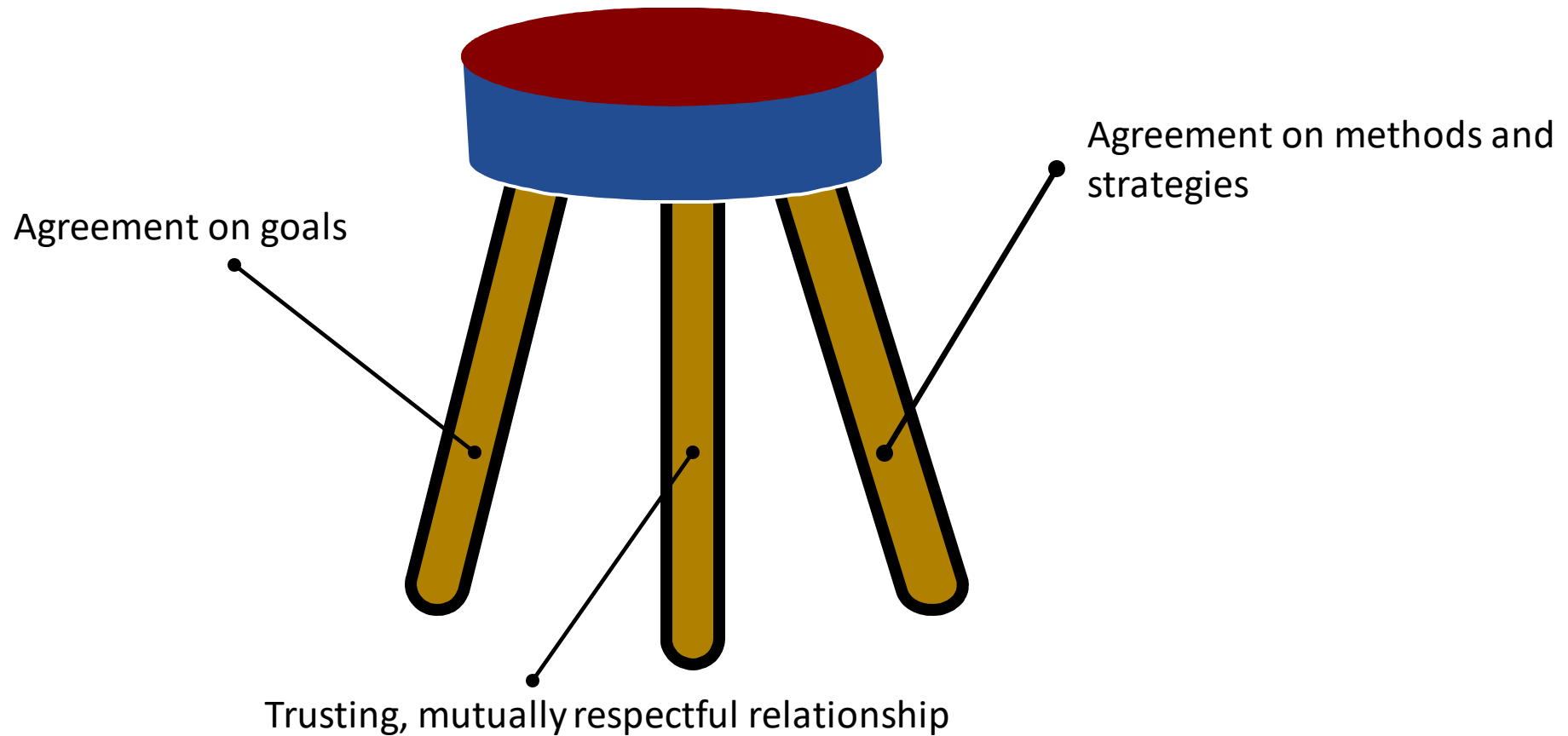
scottdmiller.com

Wampold, B. (2001). *The Great Psychotherapy Debate*. New York: Lawrence Erlbaum.

Miller, S.D., Mee-Lee, D., & Plum, B. (2005). Making Treatment Count. In J. Lebow (ed.). *Handbook of Clinical Family Therapy*. New York: Wiley.

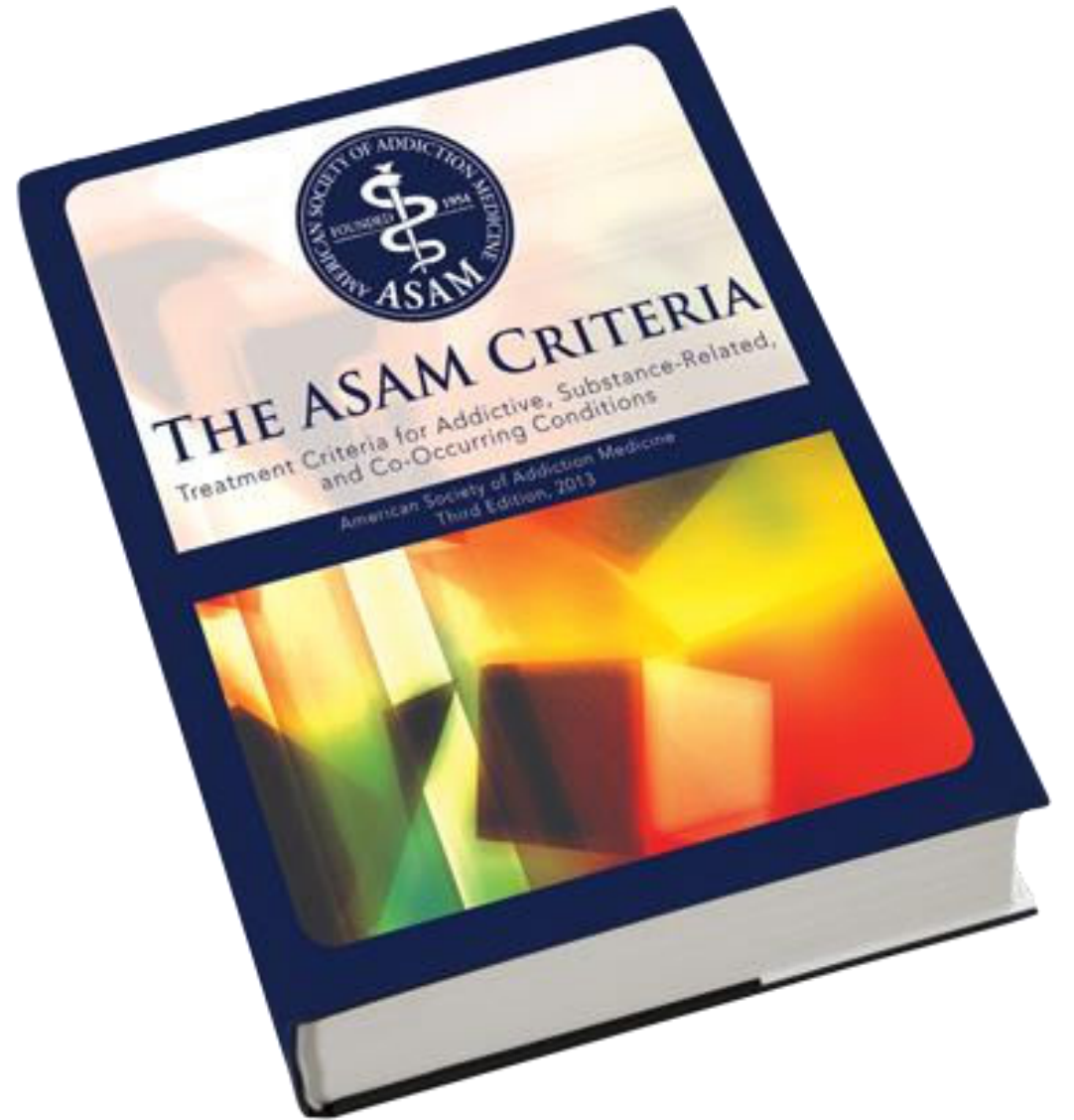
THE THERAPEUTIC ALLIANCE

Miller & Rollnick (2013): Motivational Interviewing – Helping People Change, page 39

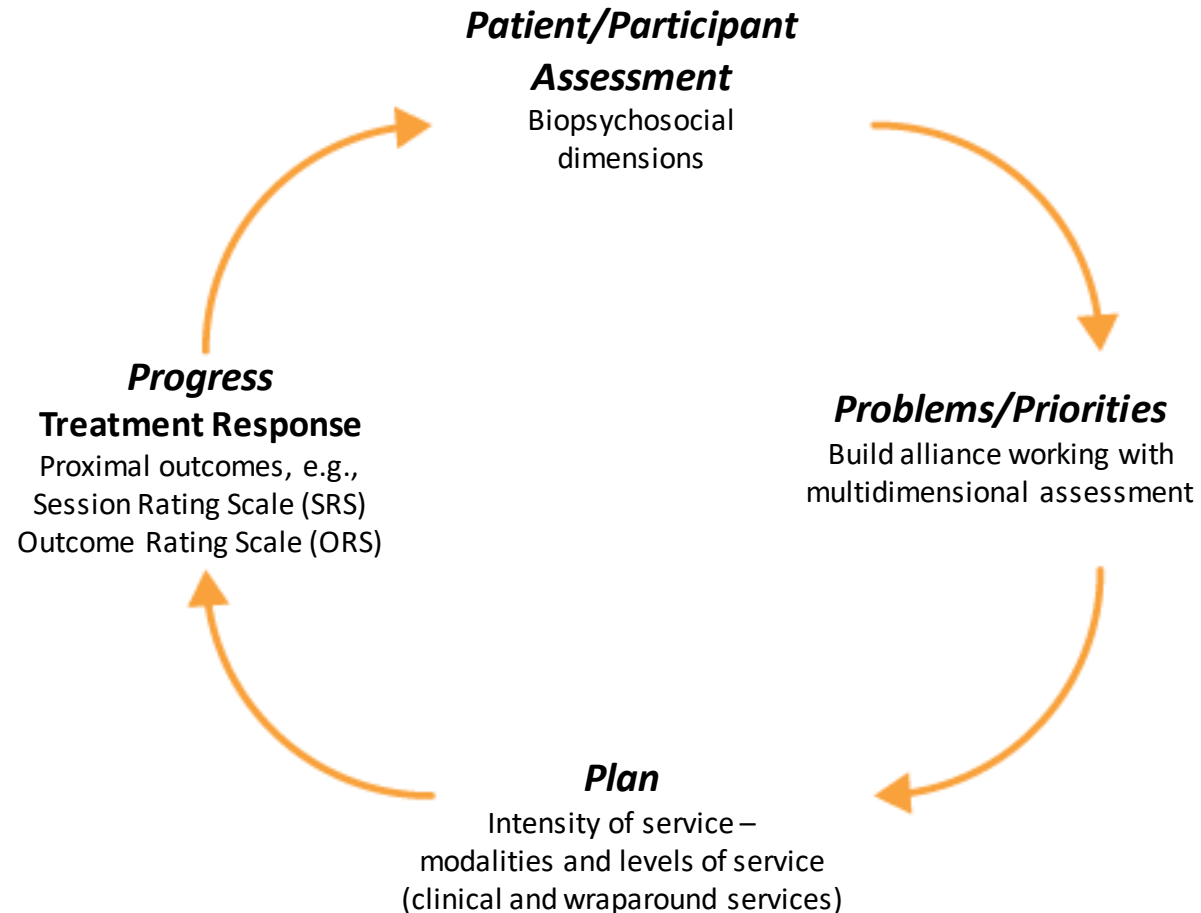




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- ASAM.org
 - ChangeCompanies.net



Feedback-informed Treatment (Miller) Practice-based Evidence; Measurement-based Practice (Kelly)



Mee-Lee, David (2001): "Persons with Addictive Disorders, System Failures, and Managed Care" Chapter 9, pp. 225-265 in "Managed Behavioral Health Care Handbook"

ASAM CRITERIA: MULTIDIMENSIONAL ASSESSMENT

1. Acute intoxication and/or withdrawal potential
2. Biomedical conditions and complications
3. Emotional, behavioral, or cognitive conditions and complications
4. Readiness to change
5. Relapse/continued use, continued problem potential
6. Recovery environment

BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL TREATMENT

Treatment Matching – Modalities

- **Motivate** – Dimension 4
- **Manage** – All six dimensions
- **Medication** – Dimensions 1, 2, 3, 5 – MAT
- **Meetings** – Dimensions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- **Monitor** – All six dimensions

THE ASAM CRITERIA

Treatment Levels of Service

0.5 – Early Intervention

1 – Outpatient Treatment

2 – Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization

3 – Residential/Inpatient Treatment

4 – Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Treatment

The ASAM Criteria, pages 112 -117

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