

Part I



Issues in Treating SUDs Among Safety-Sensitive Patients

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Closing Thoughts

In “safety-sensitive” populations:

- **Substance use disorders are often more prevalent and always more dangerous.**
- **Substance Use Disorders include far more than just “Addictions”**
- **SUD’s can be managed safely and effectively with regular monitoring**

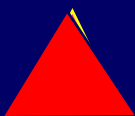
Key Terms

Use – Any use of any substance.
Driven largely by market forces

Misuse – Use that can harm self or others. Driven by consequences.

Addiction – Compulsive use.
Driven by progressive brain changes.

Substance Use Among US Adults

Serious  In Treatment ~ 4,500,000

Misuse is Important

1. Major Cause of Harms
2. Leads to Addiction
3. Can be identified

Little/No
Use

Use

Who Cares About Misuse ?

Substance **Misuse** is related to:

28% of college rape and IPV

44% of injuries among 12-25

63% of disabilities among 12-25

74% of all deaths among 12-25

Figures even higher for minorities

OK, What Do We Do?

1. Among Misusers:

Identify and engage

Intervene with consequences,

Monitor regularly

2. Among Serious SUDs:

Treat w/Chronic Care Model,

Monitor regularly

Substance Use Among US Adults

Very
Se
Use

**Chronic Care
Model**

ment ~ 4,500,000

tion ~ 23,000,000

**Early
Intervention**

armful – 40,000,000
Use”

Prevention

ittle or No Use

Lit
Use

Treating Serious Addiction

Chronic Care Model

Diagnostic Criteria for Substance Use Disorders

- Using in larger amounts or for longer than intended
- Wanting to cut down/stop using, but not managing to

Continuing to use, even when physical or psychological problems may be made worse by use

In Summary:

Diminished Control of Use

Continuing to use, even when physical or psychological problems may be made worse by use

- Increasing tolerance
- Withdrawal symptoms

What Could Cause Diminished Control?

Incremental, Substance-induced change:

- **Gene Expression**
- **Stress response systems**
- **Brain circuits controlling**
 - **motivation,**
 - **inhibition**
 - **reward sensitivity**

The changes endure long after drug cessation

Treatment Implications?!

1. **Addiction is NOT just more misuse –**
enduring brain changes = enduring vulnerability
2. **An acquired chronic illness –**
requires a Continuing Care approach
3. **Treatment goals are the same as**
other chronic illnesses
 1. Reduce symptoms to non-problem levels
 2. Improve health and function
 3. Teach/Train Self Management

Is there Effective Continuing Care For Addiction?

YES!

**Treatment of Addicted Physicians
Physician Health Plans**

Physician Health Plans

- **49** PHPs
 - All authorized by state licensing boards
 - Most treat many types of health professionals
- **Do NOT provide treatment**
 - Assess, Intervene, Evaluate, Refer, Monitor, Report and Advocate
 - All under authority of Board

McLellan, DuPont, Skipper 2008, BMJ

and Pilots Health Plans

- **Phase 1 - Evaluation**
 - Evaluate/diagnose/ Explain PHP
 - Result is **3 – 5 year** contract
- **Phase 2 –Treatment – 6 mo.**
 - Residential followed by IOP
- **Phase 3 – Monitoring & Support –**
 - 4 years.

Evaluation and Contracting

- **Phase 1 - Evaluation**
 - Evaluate/diagnose/ Explain PHP
 - Result is **3 – 5 year** contract
 - Monitoring reports to Board – **4 yrs**

Treatment Phase

- **Phase 2 – ~1 yr**
 - Residential treatment **30 – 90 days**
 - Intensive Outpatient ~ **4-6 months**
 - **Return to practice** ~ month 3
 - Aftercare program ~ **4-6 months**

But That's Not the End

Monitoring Phase

- **Phase 3 – 4 yrs**

- AA / Caduceus Society meetings
- Family Therapy
- **Urine Drug Screens** - random
- Worksite visits

Distribution of PHP Patients

Physicians consecutively enrolled into 16 state physician health programmes (n=904)

Transferred and lost to follow-up (n=102):
Transferred in good standing (n=78)
Left care with no referral (n=24)

Followed by record checks (n=802)

Completed contract (n=515):
No longer being monitored
(n=448)
Completed contract but being
monitored voluntarily (n=67)

Contract extenders (n=132):
Still being monitored (n=132)

Failed to complete contract
(n=155):
Voluntarily stopped or
retired (n=85)
Involuntarily stopped or
licence revoked (n=48)
Died (n=22; 6 suicides)

Results *Through* Five Years

No Positive Urine Through
5 Years

78%

Results *Through* Five Years

Second Positive Urine
After One Slip

26%

Physician Status at 5 years by PHP Contract Performance

		Completed		Extended		Failed		Total
Measure		515		132		155		802
		n (%)		n (%)		n (%)		n (%)
Practicing Medicine		477 (92)		97 (73)		15(10)		589 (73)
Working, not Clinical		13 (3)		12 (9)		17 (11)		42 (5)
Retired/Left Practice		7 (1)		3 (2)		18 (12)		28 (4)
License Revoked		9 (1)		14 (11)		64 (41)		87 (11)
Died		3 (1)		0 (0)		27 (17)		30 (4)
Unknown		6 (1)		6 (5)		14 (9)		26 (3)

Physicians treated in standard residential care

181 patients **NOT** part of PHP
Received 65+ days of Resid. Treat.
At 6-months post discharge

44% relapse

Closing Thoughts

In “safety-sensitive” populations:

- **Substance use disorders are often more**

BUT

**We also need attractive, effective
early interventions for misuse and
“pre-addiction”**

- **Even serious SUD’s can be managed safely
and effectively** with regular monitoring

Thank You