

Target Populations: Review of Findings in 3 Sites Experimenting Seamless System of Care

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This project was funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse under grant R01DA10705 and the National Institute of Justice. The Washington-Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) and the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) provided financial support for the seamless model. All opinions are those of the authors and do not reflect the opinion of the sponsoring agencies.

Purposes

- Describe a seamless system of care for drug-using offenders
- Present preliminary research findings from three clinical trials of one such approach
- Examine target population issues affecting outcomes from correctional interventions

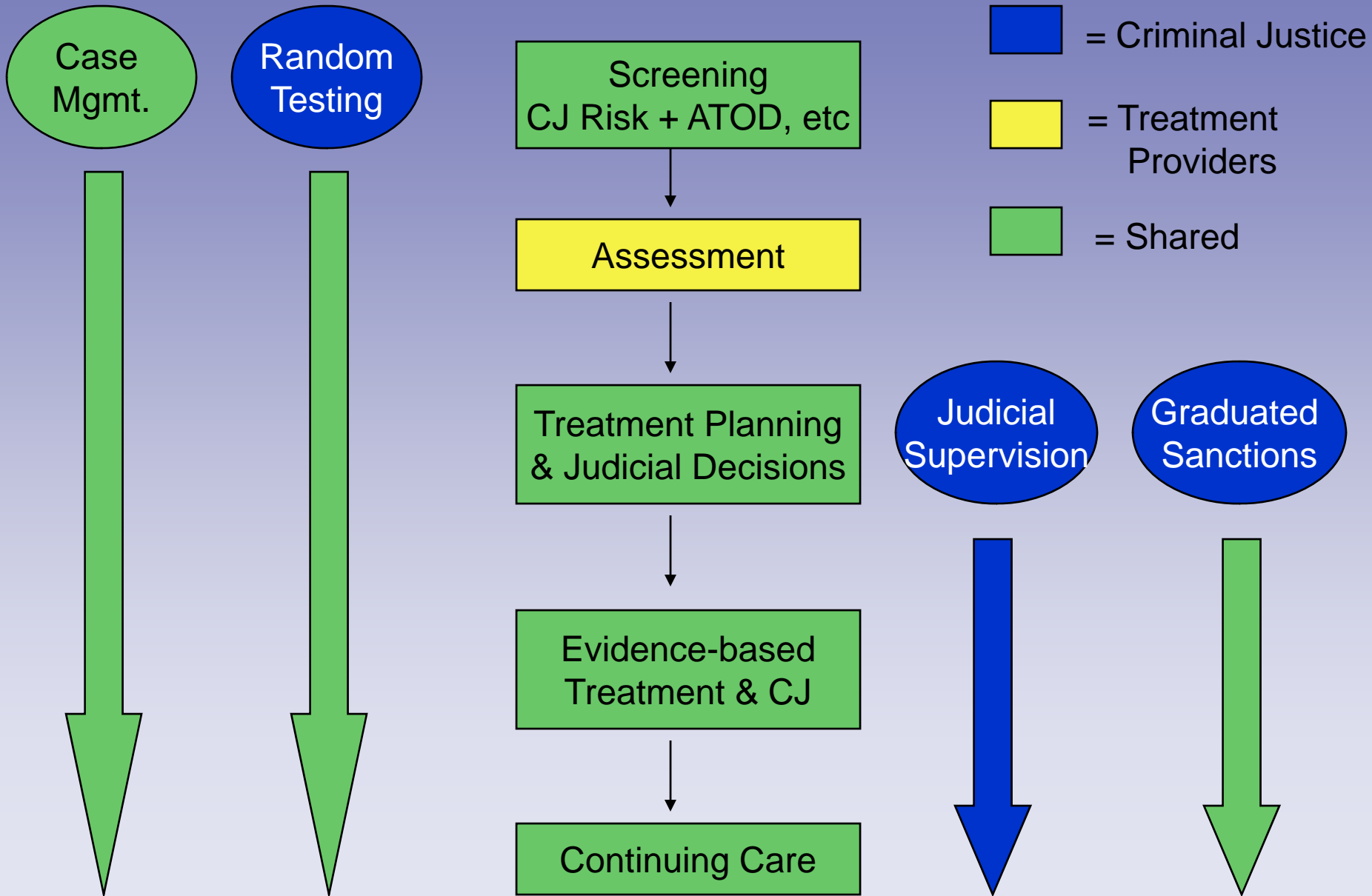
Background

- Over 4 million adults are involved in the criminal justice system in the community with nearly 70 percent have some some type of substance abuse disorder
- Two-thirds of both adult male and female felony arrestees had an illegal drug in their bodies at the time of arrest; Close to 50% were drug dependent (ADAM, 2000)
- Half of the probationers have court ordered conditions of treatment

Treatment, Testing, Sanctions Innovations

- Major National Experiments:
Drug Court, Break the Cycle, TASC,
HIDTA Seamless System
- Mixed Results but generally no difference
in outcomes
- ??????? WHY

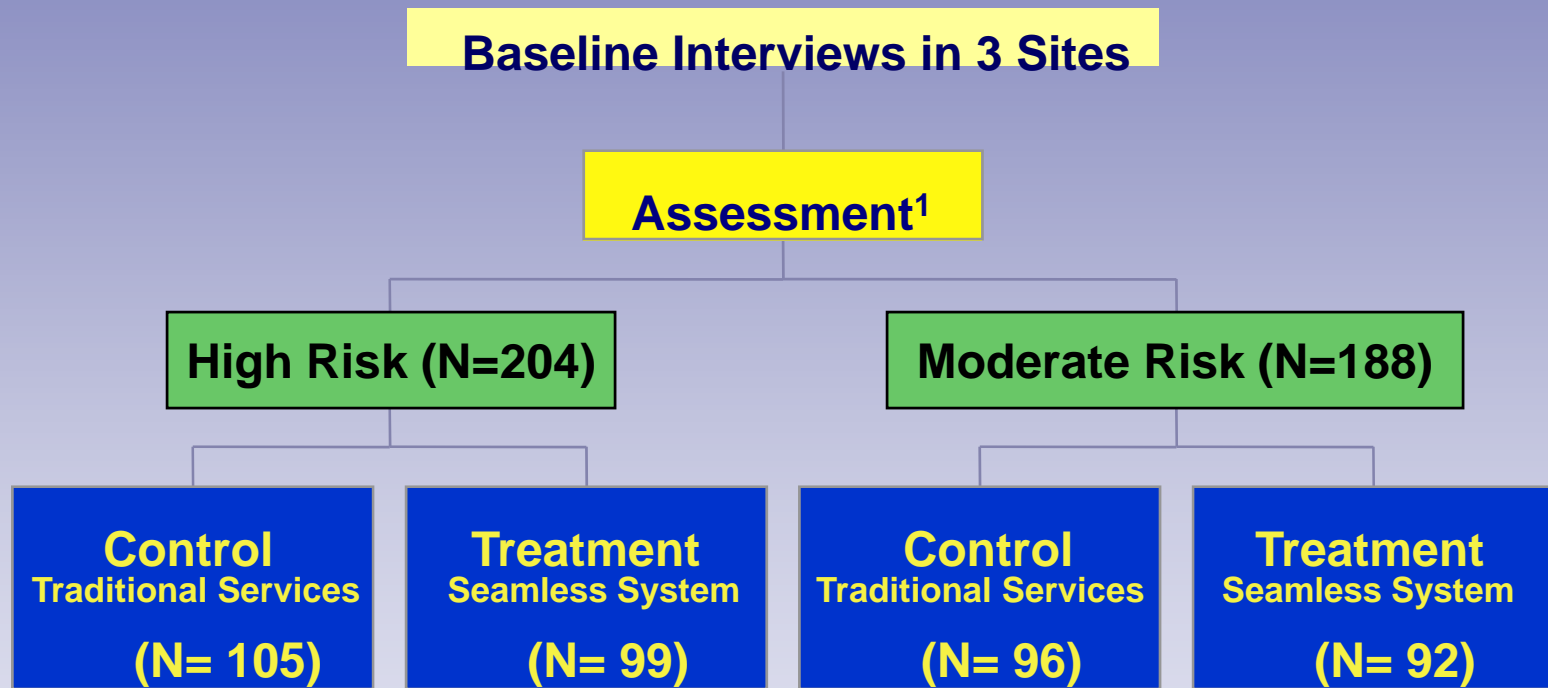
Seamless Inter-Agency Collaboration Model



Research Design

The larger study is a multi-year, multi-site randomized trial experiment of four sites (see Weisburd and Taxman, 2000).

The current study presents preliminary findings of first year outcomes from 3 sites.



Follow-up Interviews completed approximately 12 months post baseline;
3 sites with varying response rates from 65 to 91 percent

¹ Risk Assessment Tool modeled after the Wisconsin model (see Van Voorhis and Brown, 1997)

Seamless System

- On-site assessment for treatment and accelerated entrance into treatment
- Two levels of intensive cognitive behavior therapy (e.g. group therapy, individual therapy, & aftercare)
- Co-run group therapy session
- All offender therapy session
- Intense supervision at least 2 times per week & group therapy
- Drug testing 3x/month
- Graduated sanctions

Traditional Supervision

- Referral for assessment at public health agency
- Four-week drug education classes
- Intense supervision at least 2 times per week
- Drug testing 3x/month
- Graduated sanctions









Study Methods

- Personal interviews with clients in 3 sites (n=392)
- Review of official arrest records
- Collection of urine samples in 2 sites

Randomization was Successful!!

	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
%Male	82	88	70*
%Black	95	83	60
Mean Age	33	25	34
Mean Employment Days	11	14	14
%Never Married	76	76	80

Impact on Treatment Participation

	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
%Tx Participation	94 ^{***}	49 ^{**}	94
Time to Tx (months)	1.7 ^{**}	5.3	1.6 ^{**}
Time in TX (months)	5.4 ^{**}	5.2	6.0 ^{**}
HR--% Tx Part			
HR –Time to TX			
HR—Time in TX			
MR--%Tx Part			
MR—Time to TX			
MR—Time in TX			

Impact on Criminal Justice Outcomes

Effect Sizes

	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
% Arrest			
Mean number of arrests			
% Violation of probation			
HR--% Arrest	.37		-.28
HR –Mean Arrests	.59*		-.28
HR—%VOP			
MR--% Arrest			
MR –Mean Arrests		.21	
MR--%VOP		.39	

Impact on Drug Use Severity & Impact

	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
<u>Background</u>			
%Drug Severity—HR	15	4	7
%Drug Severity—MR	24	11	2.5
Drug Of Choice—HR	Cocaine	Marijuana	Marijuana
Drug of Choice—MR	Cocaine	Marijuana	Marijuana
<u>Impact of TX</u>			
Impact TX for HR Offenders	↓Mar, Opiate ↑Coc	↓Mar, Opiate	↓Mar, Coc
Impact TX for MR Offenders	↓Mar, Coc	↑Mar, Opiate ↓Coc	↓Mar, Coc

Results

- Mixed results. In one site: Lower number of overall arrests, fewer VOP, and greater arrest-free time for the seamless group - notably for high-risk treatment
- Reviewing ES differences, the treatment group improved relative to control group, esp when control for substance abuse severity
- Findings support the principle of responsivity: those assessed as high-risk respond more to treatment
- Question is whether it is criminal risk or substance abuse; results vary for substance abuse with little impact for marijuana users; greater impact for hard-core users.