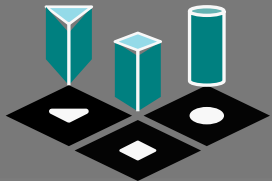


Performance Measures in Community Corrections: Measuring Effective Supervision Practices with Existing Agency Data

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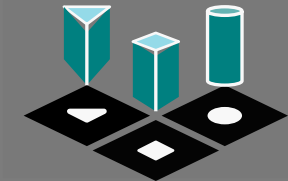
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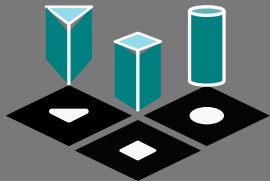
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Background

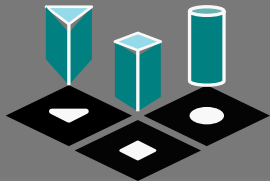
- Many community corrections agencies have moved away from a focus on enforcement to reducing recidivism through evidence-based supervision.
- Core correctional practices are the framework underscoring EBP supervision. (see Taxman, 2008, Drake, 2012; Caldwell, et al 2015).
- Performance measures can be considered process measures to examine the intent and the fidelity of the innovation (Boone and Fulton, 1995).
- The purpose of our paper is to look at how we can use the administrative data to measure EBP practices.





Measures

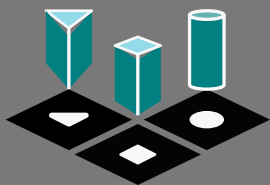
- Measures were created in 5 different domains that define evidence-based supervision processes
 - Risk-Need-Responsivity,
 - Motivation and Engagement;
 - Case Planning;
 - Desistance; and
 - Compliance and Monitoring (problem solving)
- Measures were based on the literature and concepts behind each phase





Methods

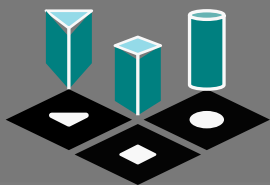
- Assess whether the administrative data has the variables to create the measures.
- Create the measures using data in each site
- Examine the correlation between the measures to ensure that they are measuring separate variables
- Measures were compared by site to assess robustness across sites with different populations and staff





Core Correctional Practices

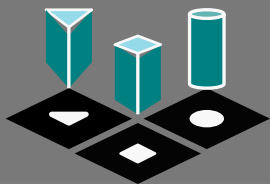
Type	Measures
Risk, Need, Responsivity: Assess use of RNR principles	% given risk assessment
	Assessed Risk level
	Risk level and supervision level match
	Average Reassessments During Supervision
	Total average contacts per risk level
	Identified needs match treatment placement
Motivation and Engagement: Interaction with the probationer to facilitate motivation	Treatment initiation
	Days from Referral to Treatment Initiation
	Attending 2 treatment sessions within 30 days
	Average days between treatment sessions





Core Correctional Practices

Type	Measures
Case Planning: Use of case planning tools	Days between supervision start date and first assessment
	Needs match treatment placement
	Reduced needs during supervision
Desistance: Positive accomplishments	Completed probation
	Employed
Problem Solving: Address compliance issues	Revocation pursued
	Special conditions

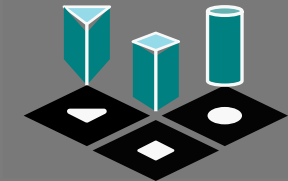




Example of RNR Process Measures

Measure	1	2	3	4	5
% Assessed	66%	100%	97%	78%	53%
%Risk level=Sup level	100%	62%	86%	77%	99%
Availability of Avg. contact by risk	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
%Needs in Tx Plan	34%	21%	39%	N/A	N/a

- ✓ Agencies have different policies
- ✓ Use of risk-need tools varies by agency
- ✓ Rules for override vary by site
- ✓ Tx plans (supervision) data is not available in all sites

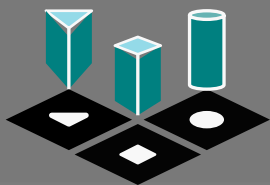




Example of Motivation and Engagement Process Measures

Measure	1	2	3	4	5
% with MIS have referral and start date	4.3%	9.0%	69.1%	1.9%	N/A
Avg Days from Referral to Start Tx	25.53	81.24	2.04	50.06	N/A
Days between tx sessions	20.47	8.72	28.41	N/A	N/A

- ✓ Tx plan (supervision) data is not available in all sites
- ✓ Treatment data is collected sparsely, in our experience
- ✓ Little ability to track referrals

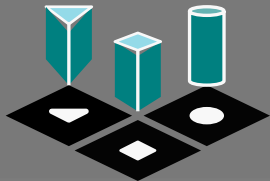




Example of Case Plan Process Measures

Measure	1	2	3	4	5
Avg days between intake and assessment	288	16	43	3	202
% decrease needs	47.5%	33.3%	42.5%	34.9%	29.4%

- ✓ Different policies on assessment and how it is used in agencies

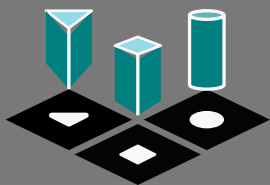




Example of Problem Solving Process Measures

Measure	1	2	3	4	5
% Revoked	19.6	3.1	37.0	56.2	21.0
% with conditions	13.06	60.0	49.0	38.9	N/A
Average number of conditions	8.64	1.55	6.1	2.15	N/A

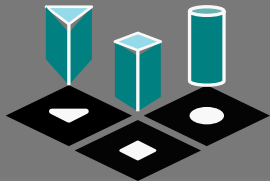
- ✓ Agencies have different criteria for revocation
- ✓ Use of special conditions varies with some offenders given more special conditions than others





Discussion

- Process measures can be used to identify how much of the EBPs are being implemented in an agency
- Establish benchmarks that are useful for an agency to pursue
- Agencies may be able to monitor their implementation and make improvements
- Provide a framework for understanding performance via quality improvements





Next Steps

- Examine how process measures change with type of offender
- Further explore the impact of process measures on proximal measures:
 - Measure successful completion of supervision
 - Rearrest during supervision
- Identify key measures that affect quality of supervision

