



# Applying Risk, Need, Responsivity & Fidelity Principles with Correctional Clients

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# Contributing to a Safer Minnesota



Reduce recidivism by promoting offender change through proven strategies during safe and secure incarceration and effective community supervision

# Eight Guiding Principles of Evidence-Based Practices



# Review of the Principles of Effective Intervention

## RISK

- **WHO**
- Deliver more intense interventions to higher risk participants

## NEED

- **WHAT**
- Target criminogenic needs to reduce risk for recidivism

## RESPONSIVITY

- **HOW**
- Use CB approaches
- Match mode/style of service to participant

## FIDELITY

- **HOW WELL**
- Deliver services as designed

# Why The Principles of Effective Intervention?

- Put Research into Practice
- Organize Our Resources
  - Understand Dosage
  - Focus on the Individual
- Reduce Risky Thinking and Behaviors

# The Risk Principle

## Risk tells us “who” to target

- Determine risk level through validated risk tool
- Most tools categorize offenders into low, moderate, or high risk for reoffending
- Match risk level to appropriate interventions and supervision level
- Remember: it's the risk of reoffending not the severity of the crime

# Minnesota Screening Tool Assessing Recidivism Risk 2.0

## ***What is the MnSTARR 2.0?***

- A fully-automated, gender-specific recidivism risk assessment that has been developed and validated on the Minnesota prisoner population.
- Used to predict 4 types of recidivism:
  - Felony
  - Non-violent
  - Violent
  - Repeat sexual offending (only for males)

# Minnesota Screening Tool Assessing Recidivism Risk 2.0

## *What are some of the areas considered by the MnSTARR 2.0?*

- Prior criminal convictions
- Type of Admission to Prison
- Discipline convictions in prison
- Involvement in Security Threat Groups
- Age at Release
- Discharge Type



# Minnesota Screening Tool Assessing Recidivism Risk 2.0

## *What are some of the areas considered by the MnSTARR 2.0?*

- Participation in prison-based programming:
  - Thinking for a Change
  - Chemical dependency and/or sex offender treatment
  - EMPLOY
  - CIP
  - Prison Fellowship Academy,
  - Work Release
- Prison Visits

# Three Elements of the Risk Principle

- Target those program participants with higher probability of recidivism.
- Provide most intensive intervention to higher risk program participants.
- Intensive intervention for lower risk program participants can increase recidivism.

10 High Risk Offenders



No EBP



EBP



10 Low Risk Offenders



No EBP



EBP



We Can Make Lower Risk Clients Worse!

## Low Risk

- Fewer and less intensive programs
- Less restrictive supervision
- Fewer areas of risk
- Are likely to “self-correct” behavior



## High Risk

- More likely to reoffend
- More restrictive and structured supervision
- More areas of risk
- Interventions and services should be longer in duration

# Dosage

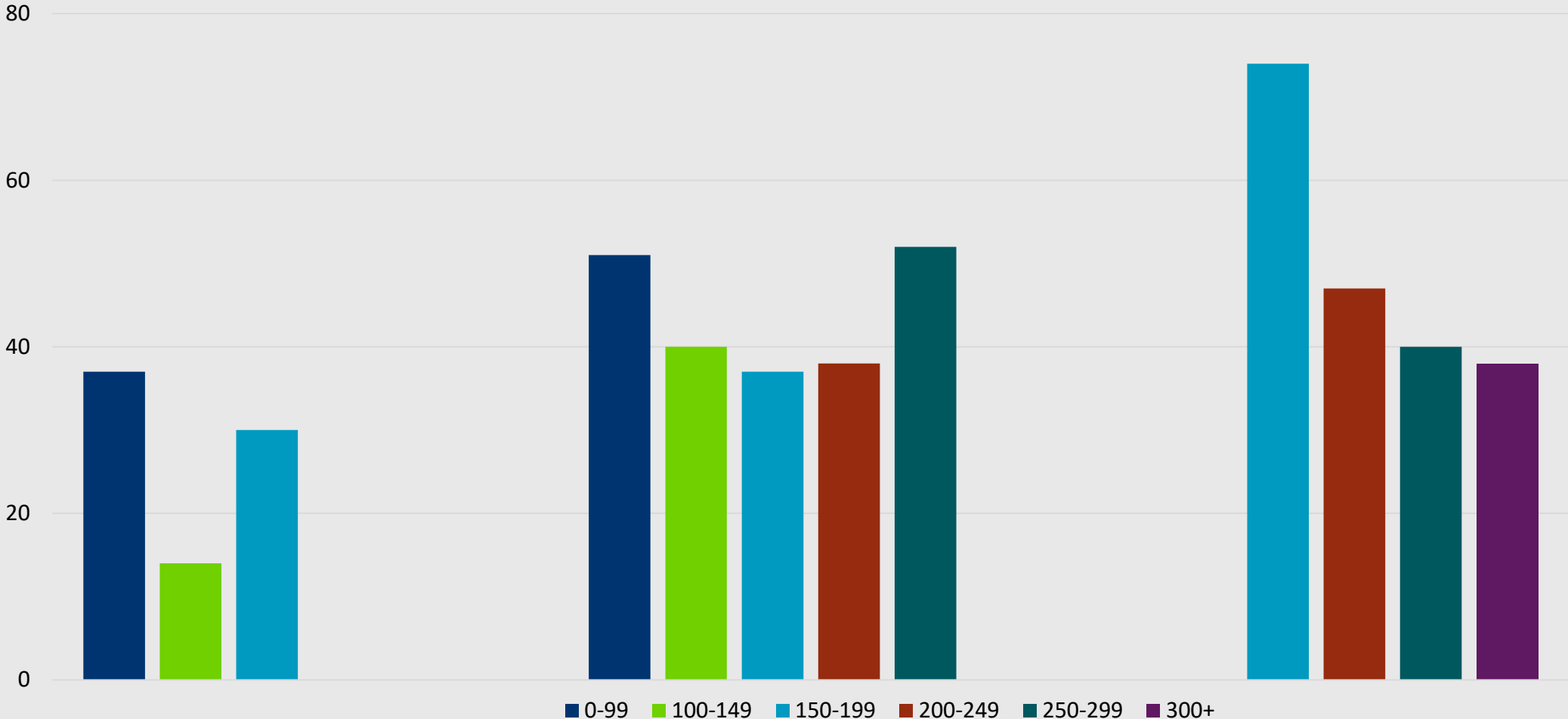
- Dosage is the amount of structured intervention a participant receives.
- How much dosage is enough?
- Can you get too much dosage?
- What counts as dosage?

# Dosage Research

- Studies started in 2013
- Dosage hours examined by increments of 50
- Looked at low/moderate, moderate, and high risk participants



# Dosage Research



Makarios, M., Sperber, K., & Latessa, E. (2014). Treatment Dosage and the Risk Principle: A Refinement and Extension. *Journal of program participant Rehabilitation*. 53:334-350.

# Dosage Guidelines

- Dosage guideline recommendations:
  - 100-150 hours for moderate risk
  - 200+ hours for high risk
  - 100 hours for high risk will have little effect
- Dosage includes EBP interventions
- Work/school are the result of dosage (not counted as dosage)



# Guess the Risk

## Sally Seekingchange

35 years old

Homicide

Life sentence

No documented mental health concerns and no past suicidal or self-injurious behavior



**\*Low Risk\***

# Guess the Risk

## Paul Secondchance

23 years old

12 criminal convictions, 6 felony, 4 violent offense convictions

Completed CD Treatment

2016 suicide attempt

No known STG status

High School Diploma acquired in 2018



**\*Very High Risk\***

# Table and Large Group Discussion

- Discuss one thing you learned today
- Discuss how you/your organization currently uses risk to plan for services for correctional clients
- What is one way you/your organization could/will use the risk principle after today

# Thank you!

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