

# Promoting addiction recovery through treatment and mutual aid: evidence from recent research and systematic reviews

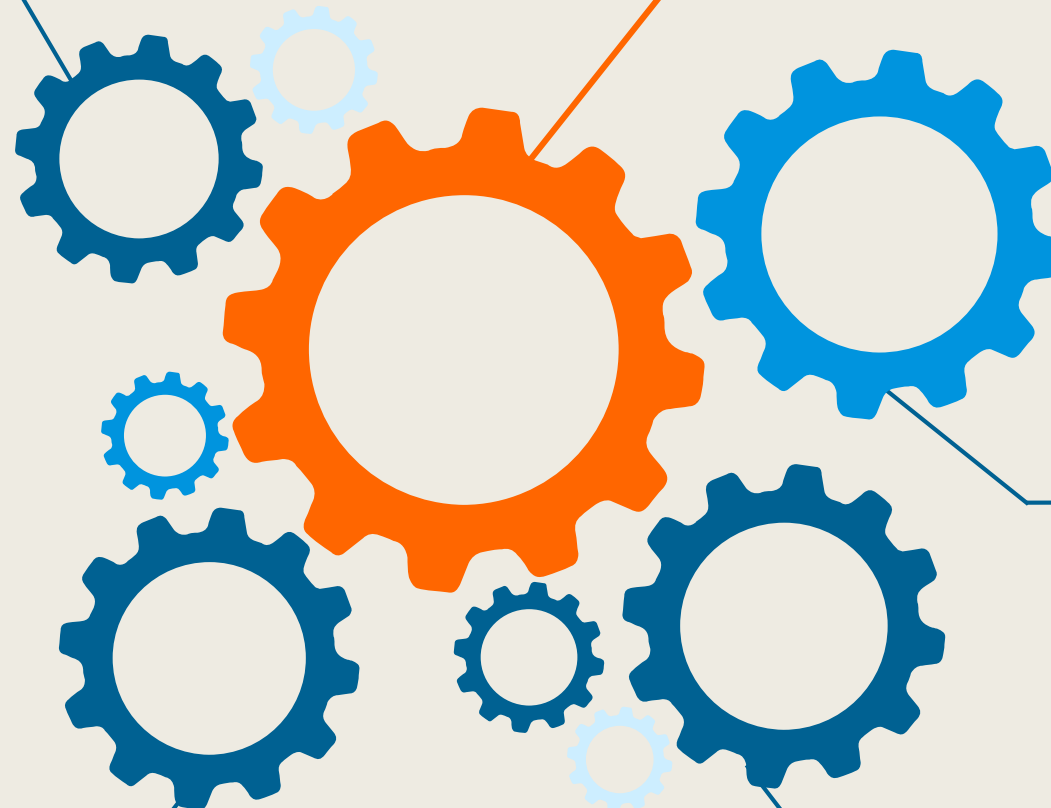
Prof. dr. Wouter Vanderplasschen  
Ghent University, Belgium  
Addiction & Recovery cluster



# Our research

Intersectionality

Research team Recovery & addiction



Holistic view: person-centred  
& context-oriented approach

Integrative approach:  
Quantitative and qualitative  
research

Perspective of service users and  
experts by experience

## Measuring capital in active addiction and recovery: The development of the Strengths And Barriers Recovery Scale (SABRS)

David Best (✉ [D.Best@derby.ac.uk](mailto:D.Best@derby.ac.uk))  
University of Derby <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6792-916X>  
Wouter Vanderplasschen  
Universiteit Gent  
Mulka Nisic  
Recovered Users Network

## "Personal recovery depends on NA unity": an exploratory study on recovery-supportive elements in Narcotics Anonymous Flanders

Anne Dekkers<sup>1\*</sup>, Sam Vos<sup>2</sup> and Wouter Vanderplasschen<sup>1</sup>

## Comparing three stages of addiction recovery: long-term recovery and its relation to housing problems, crime, occupation situation, and substance use

Thomas F. Martinelli, Gera E. Nagelhout, Lore Bellaert, David Best, Wouter Vanderplasschen & Dike van de Mheen

Review

## Recovery capital among migrants and ethnic minorities: A qualitative systematic review of first-person perspectives

Aline Pouille ✉, Charlotte De Kock, Freya Vander Laenen & Wouter Vanderplasschen

Published online: 02 Nov 2020

## Substitute addictions in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

DEBORAH LOUISE SINCLAIR<sup>1,2\*</sup>, WOUTER VANDERPLASSCHEN<sup>2</sup>, SHAZLY SAV AHL<sup>3</sup>, MARIA FLORENCE<sup>1</sup>, DAVID BEST<sup>4</sup> and STEVE SUSSMAN<sup>5</sup>

## Perspectives on addiction recovery: focus groups with individuals in recovery and family members

Anne Dekkers, Clara De Ruyscher and Wouter Vanderplasschen  
Department of Special Needs Education, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

## From monologue to dialogue in mental health care research: reflections on a collaborative research process

Peter Tomlinson & Clara De Ruyscher

## Mothering, Substance Use Disorders and Intergenerational Trauma Transmission: An Attachment-Based Perspective

Florien Meulewaeter\*, Sarah S. W. De Pauw and Wouter Vanderplasschen  
Department of Special Needs Education, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

## The Concept of Recovery as Experienced by Persons with Dual Diagnosis: A Systematic Review of Qualitative Research From a First-Person Perspective

C. De Ruyscher<sup>a</sup>, S. Vandeveld<sup>a</sup>, W. Vanderplasschen<sup>a</sup>, J. De Maeyer<sup>b</sup>, and S. Vanheule<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Special Needs Education, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium; <sup>b</sup>Department of Health, Education & Social Work, University College Ghent, Ghent, Belgium; <sup>c</sup>Department of Psychoanalysis and Clinical Consulting, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

# Presentation outline

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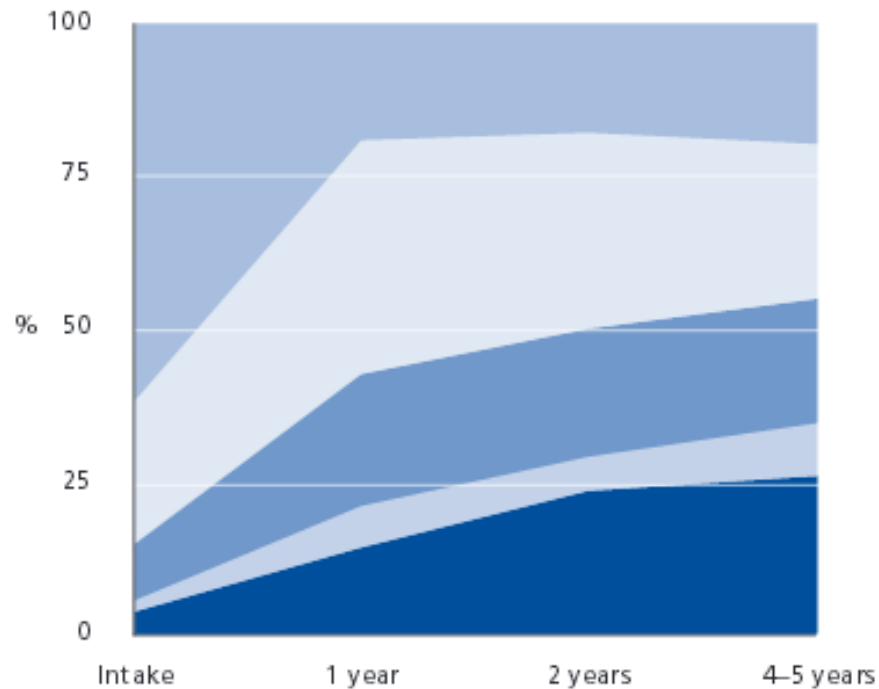
1. Does treatment work?
2. From chronic relapsing brain disorder to addiction recovery
3. The role of treatment and support in individuals' recovery stories
4. What about the effectiveness of various interventions?
5. What to conclude from the evidence?



**Does treatment work?**

# 5 year outcomes after community-based and residential Tx (NTORS study UK)

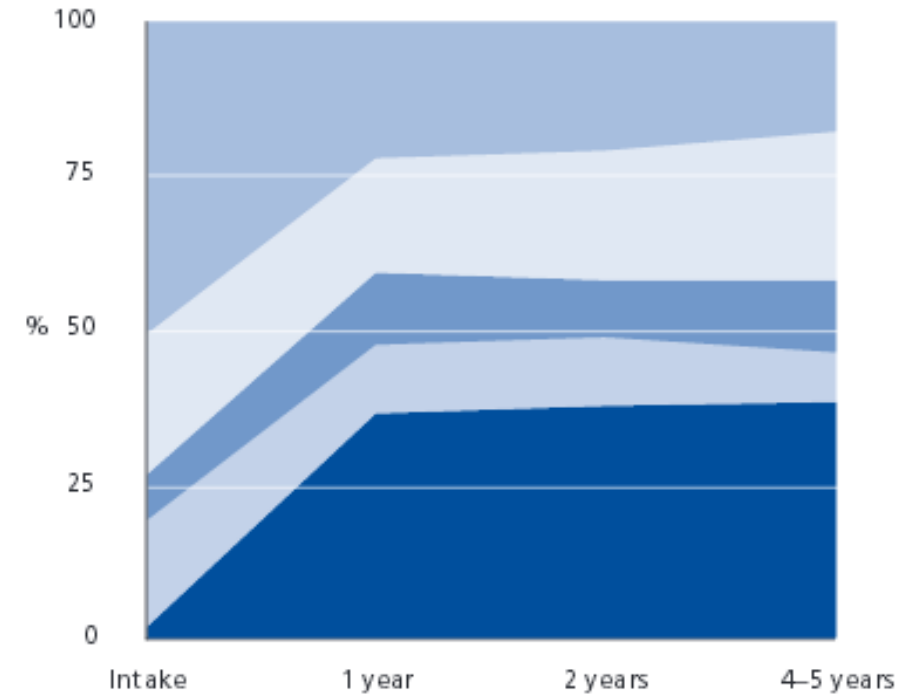
**FIGURE 3** Drug use outcomes – community



Key

- Abstinent from all drugs
- Abstinent from opiates only
- Occasional opiate use
- Frequent opiate use
- Daily opiate use

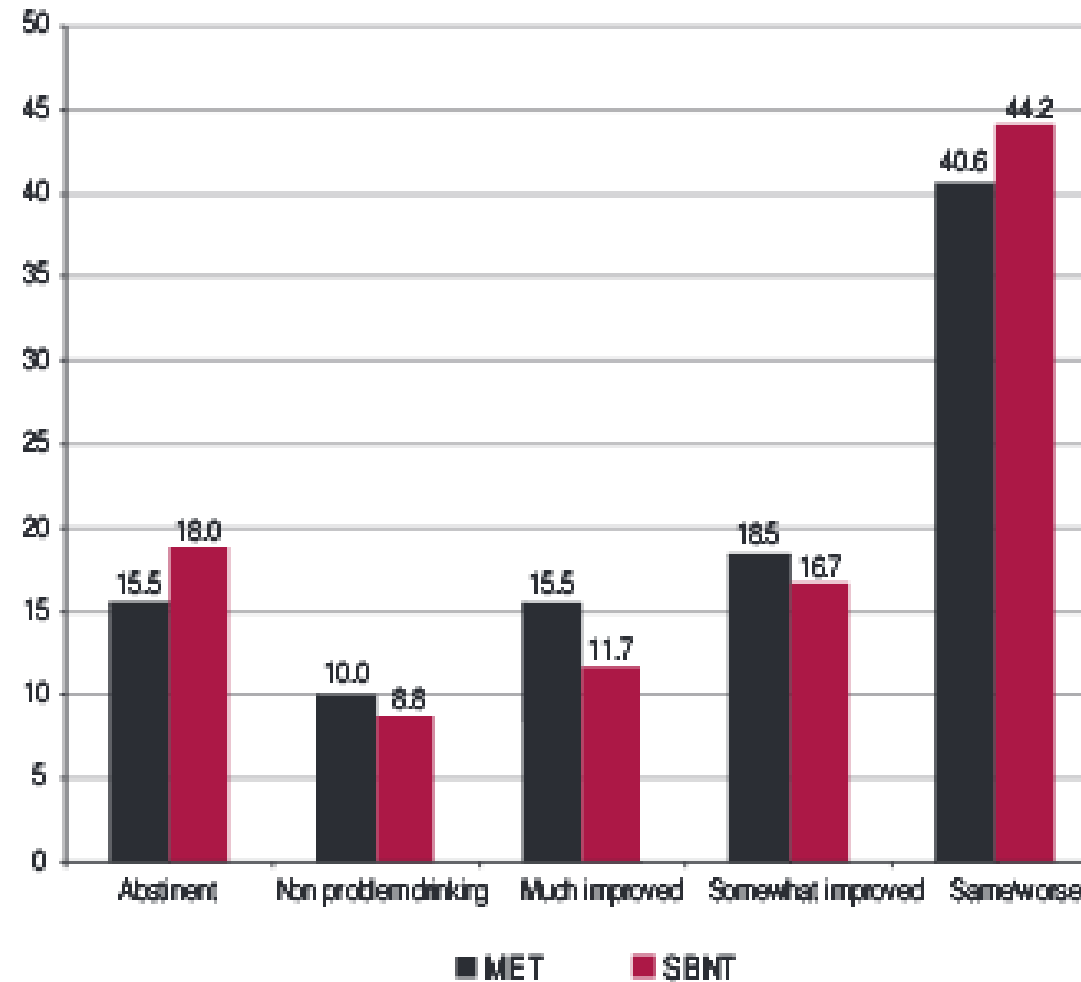
**FIGURE 2** Drug use outcomes – residential



Key

- Abstinent from all drugs
- Abstinent from opiates only
- Occasional opiate use
- Frequent opiate use
- Daily opiate use

# 1-year outcomes after starting outpatient alcohol Tx (UKATT, 2005)



*Figure 3c: Categorical treatment outcomes from the UK Alcohol Treatment Trial*



# What do we know about the role of treatment from the literature?

(Vanderplasschen et al., 2011)

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- Importance of Tx (vs. No Tx), despite substantial treatment gap
- Outcome rates slightly better after residential Tx than after outpatient and short-term Tx in terms of abstinence
- Drop-out and relapse rates after Tx are high
- Improved outcomes associated with retention and continuity of care
- Client variables play a role: SES, family situation, a supportive social network, job, co-occurring mental health problems
- Also program variables: therapeutic orientation, specialized and trained staff, supervision/intervision



# Some key findings about treatment & recovery (Scott & Dennis, 2003)

- MOST ADDICTS **relapse** unless treated early and effectively.
- MOST ADDICTS **cycle more than 3 times** through periods of untreated addiction, treatment, sobriety, and incarceration
- MOST ADDICTS experience a **trajectory for recovery** based on genotype (*severity of biological addiction*)
- MOST ADDICTS improve the odds ratio for remaining **sober after one year** of sobriety
- MOST ADDICTS achieve self-sustainable recovery (low odds ration for relapse) **after 5 years** of sobriety
- MOST ADDICTS **take over 30 years** to achieve 5 years of sobriety.

**From chronic,  
relapsing brain  
disorder to  
addiction  
recovery**

# Recovery?!

“... a voluntarily maintained lifestyle characterized by sobriety, personal health and citizenship”.

(Betty Ford Institute Consensus Panel, 2007)

“The process of recovery from problematic substance use is characterized by voluntarily-sustained control over substance use which maximizes health and wellbeing and participation in the rights, roles and responsibilities of society.”

(Drug Policy Commission Recovery Consensus Group, UK, 2008)

“... the experience (a process and sustained status) through which individuals, families, and communities impacted by severe alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems utilize internal and external resources to voluntarily resolve these problems, heal the wounds inflicted by AOD-related problems, actively manage their continued vulnerability to such problems, and develop a healthy, productive, and meaningful life.”

(White, 2007, p.236)

# Multiple dimensions of recovery

(Van der Stel, 2013)

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- Clinical recovery
- Personal recovery
- Functional recovery
- Social recovery

Personal recovery as driving force

Herstel binnen  
de verslavingszorg

Gastredacteur  
drs. M.F. Stollenga

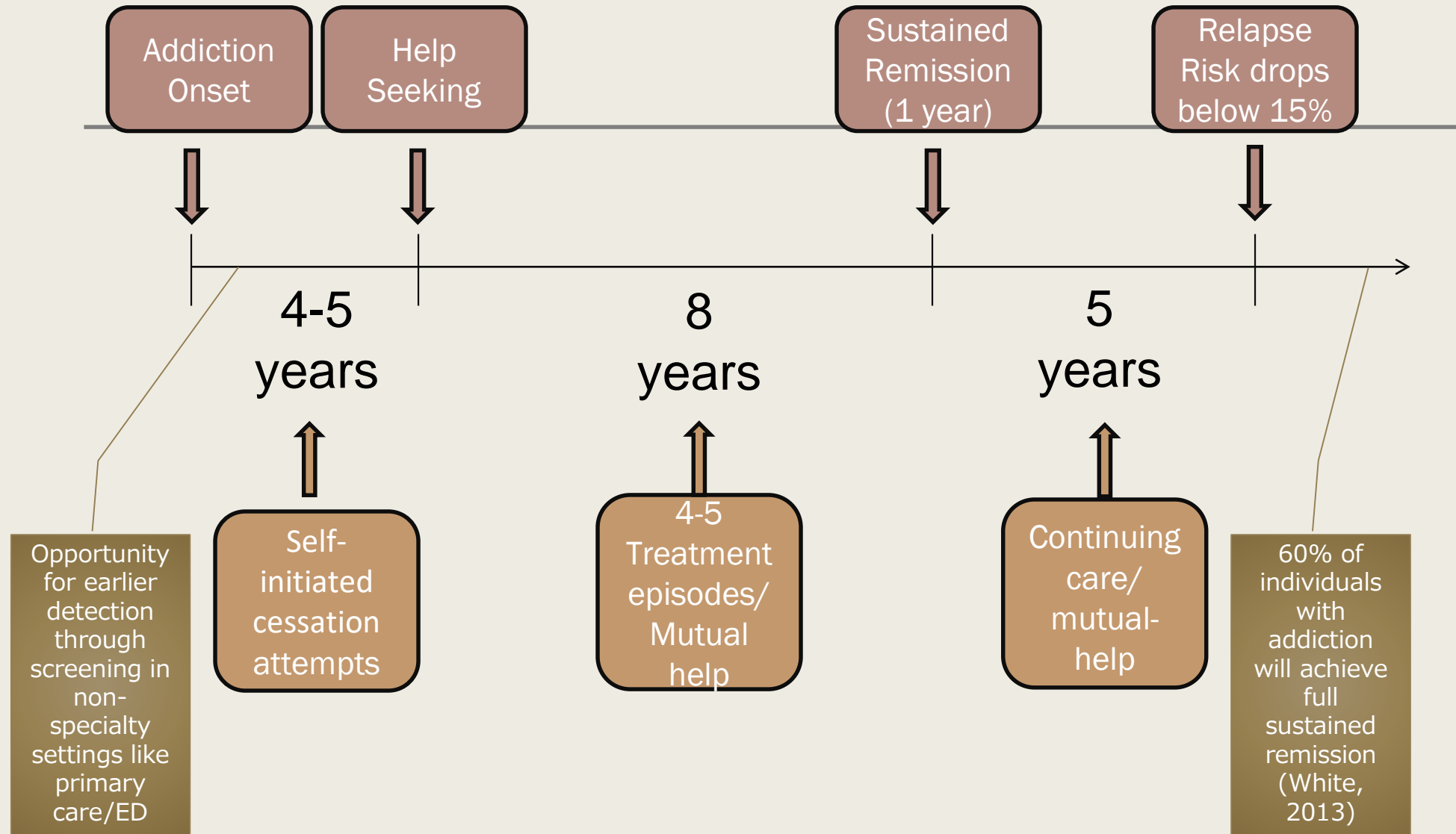
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# The prevalence of addiction recovery

(Best et al., 2019)

- 
- Sheedy and Whitter (2009) estimated prevalence at 58%, but with marked variability (30% - 72%)
  - “Clinical fallacy” and worker attitudes as reasons for underestimation
  - White (2012) analysed remission rates in a review of 415 scientific reports published between 1868 and 2011:
    - *White argues that between 5.3–15.3% of the adult population in the US are in recovery from a substance use disorder (> 25 million people)*
    - *49.9% of those with a lifetime substance use disorder will eventually achieve stable recovery (increased to 53.9% in studies published since 2000)*

# From addiction to recovery in persons with severe dependence (White, 2013)





# **The role of treatment and support in individuals' recovery stories**



Full length article

Prevalence and pathways of recovery from drug and alcohol problems in the United States population: Implications for practice, research, and policy


John F. Kelly<sup>a,\*</sup>, Brandon Bergman<sup>a</sup>, Bettina B. Hoepfner<sup>a</sup>, Corrie Vilsaint<sup>a</sup>, William L. White<sup>b</sup>
<sup>a</sup> Recovery Research Institute, Massachusetts General Hospital, 151 Merrimac Street, and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, 02114, United States

<sup>b</sup> Chestnut Health Systems, W Chestnut St, Bloomington, IL, 61701, United States

**Table 2**

Recovery pathway choices of U.S. adults who endorsed “used to have a problem with drugs or alcohol, but no longer do” (9.1% (SE =0.28)).

| Pathway   | weighted% | SE   |
|---|-----------|------|
| Used support  | 53.9      | 1.60 |
| Professionally assisted recovery support (aka formal treatment) (any) | 27.6      | 1.43 |
| Outpatient addiction treatment  | 16.8      | 1.21 |
| Inpatient or residential treatment                                    | 15.0      | 1.08 |
| Alcohol/drug detoxification services                                  | 9.1       | 0.91 |
| Anti-relapse/craving medication use (any)                             | 8.6       | 0.93 |
| Recovery support services   | 21.8      | 1.40 |
| Mutual-help groups  | 45.1      | 1.60 |

**46.1% did so without support:**  
unassisted /  
natural recovery

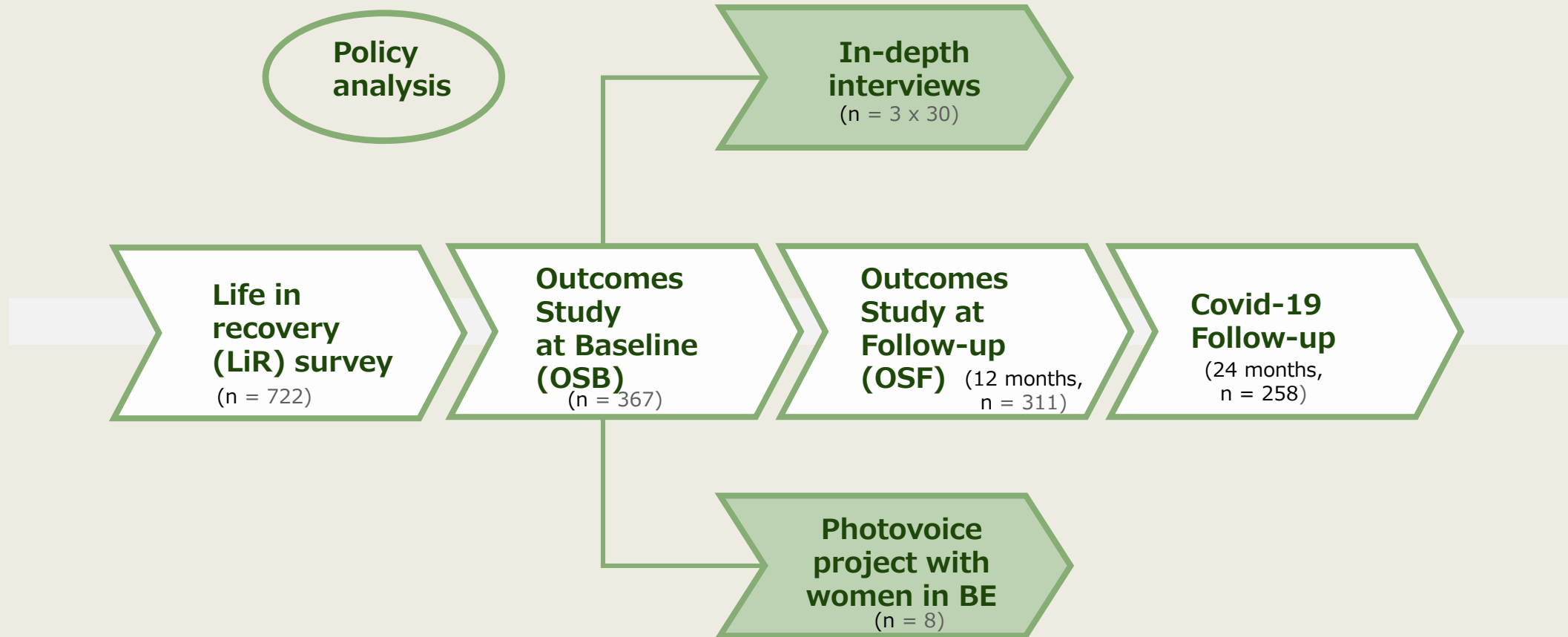
Kelly et al. (2017). Prevalence and pathways of recovery from drug and alcohol problems in the U. S. population. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 181, 162-169.

# REC-PATH: Recovery pathways and societal responses related to illicit drug use in UK, NL & BE

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- Multi-country, multi-method study on addiction recovery in Europe, with special focus on:
  - *Voices of those in recovery*
  - *Women's recovery pathways*
- Recovery stages:
  - *Early (< 1 year)*
  - *Sustained (1-5 years)*
  - *Stable recovery (> 5 years)*
- Focus on illicit drugs
- Building capacity for future recovery research

# REC-PATH study design (2017-2021)



# At least five mechanisms of behaviour change (Best et al., 2018)

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1. 12-step mutual aid
2. Other peer-based support groups
3. Outpatient community treatment
4. Residential treatment
5. Natural/unassisted recovery

# Which support mechanisms do persons in addiction recovery use (REC-PATH)?

(Martinelli et al., 2021)

**Table 2.** Recovery pathways: combinations of treatment and support ever used.

|  | Total ( <i>n</i> = 367)<br><i>n</i> (%) |
|--|---|
| Natural recovery <sup>a</sup>                                    | 17 (4.6)                                |
| Only member of mutual aid group                                  | 20 (5.4)                                |
| Only patient of outpatient treatment                             | 18 (4.9)                                |
| Only attended residential treatment                              | 21 (5.7)                                |
| Mutual aid + outpatient  | 33 (9.0)                                |
| Mutual aid + residential   | 50 (13.6)                               |
| Outpatient + residential   | 58 (15.8)                               |
| Member/patient/attended all three types of treatment and support | 150 (40.9)                              |

<sup>a</sup>Never used any treatment or support.

# Recovery indicators according to recovery stage & gender

256 women in recovery (36.7%)




Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy

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Comparing three stages of addiction recovery: long-term recovery and its relation to housing problems, crime, occupation situation, and substance use

Thomas F. Martinelli, Gera E. Nagelhout, Lore Bellaert, David Best, Wouter Vanderplasschen & Dike van de Mheen

6  T. F. MARTINELLI ET AL.

**Table 3.** Multivariate logistic regression of recovery stage with having housing problems, being involved in crime or criminal justice, and having work or education, and substance use in the last 30 days.

|                | Housing problems<br>OR (95% CI) | Crime<br>OR (95% CI) | Occupation situation<br>OR (95% CI) | Alcohol Use<br>OR (95% CI) | Illicit Hard Drug Use<br>OR (95% CI) | Cannabis Use<br>OR (95% CI) | Abstinent from<br>drugs, alcohol,<br>and opiate subs<br>OR (95% CI) |
|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Recovery Stage |                                 |                      |                                     |                            |                                      |                             |   |
| Early          | 1                               | 1                    | 1                                   | 1                          | 1                                    | 1                           | 1   |
| Sustained      | 0.34 (0.16–0.74)**              | 0.44 (0.25–0.79)**   | 3.58 (2.18–5.85)***                 | 0.80 (0.48–1.36)           | 0.51 (0.27–0.99)*                    | 0.60 (0.32–1.13)            | 1.41 (0.88–2.25)  |
| Stable         | 0.12 (0.04–0.36)***             | 0.24 (0.11–0.51)***  | 4.94 (2.75–8.90)***                 | 1.54 (0.87–2.74)           | 0.40 (0.17–0.90)*                    | 0.84 (0.40–1.74)            | 1.00 (0.59–1.67)  |
| Gender         |                                 |                      |                                     |                            |                                      |                             |   |
| Male           | 1                               | 1                    | 1                                   | 1                          | 1                                    | 1                           | 1   |
| Female         | 0.97 (0.47–2.02)                | 0.87 (0.49–1.56)     | 0.81 (0.53–1.24)                    | 1.45 (0.99–2.11)           | 0.82 (0.45–1.49)                     | 0.88 (0.51–1.49)            | 0.78 (0.55–1.10)  |

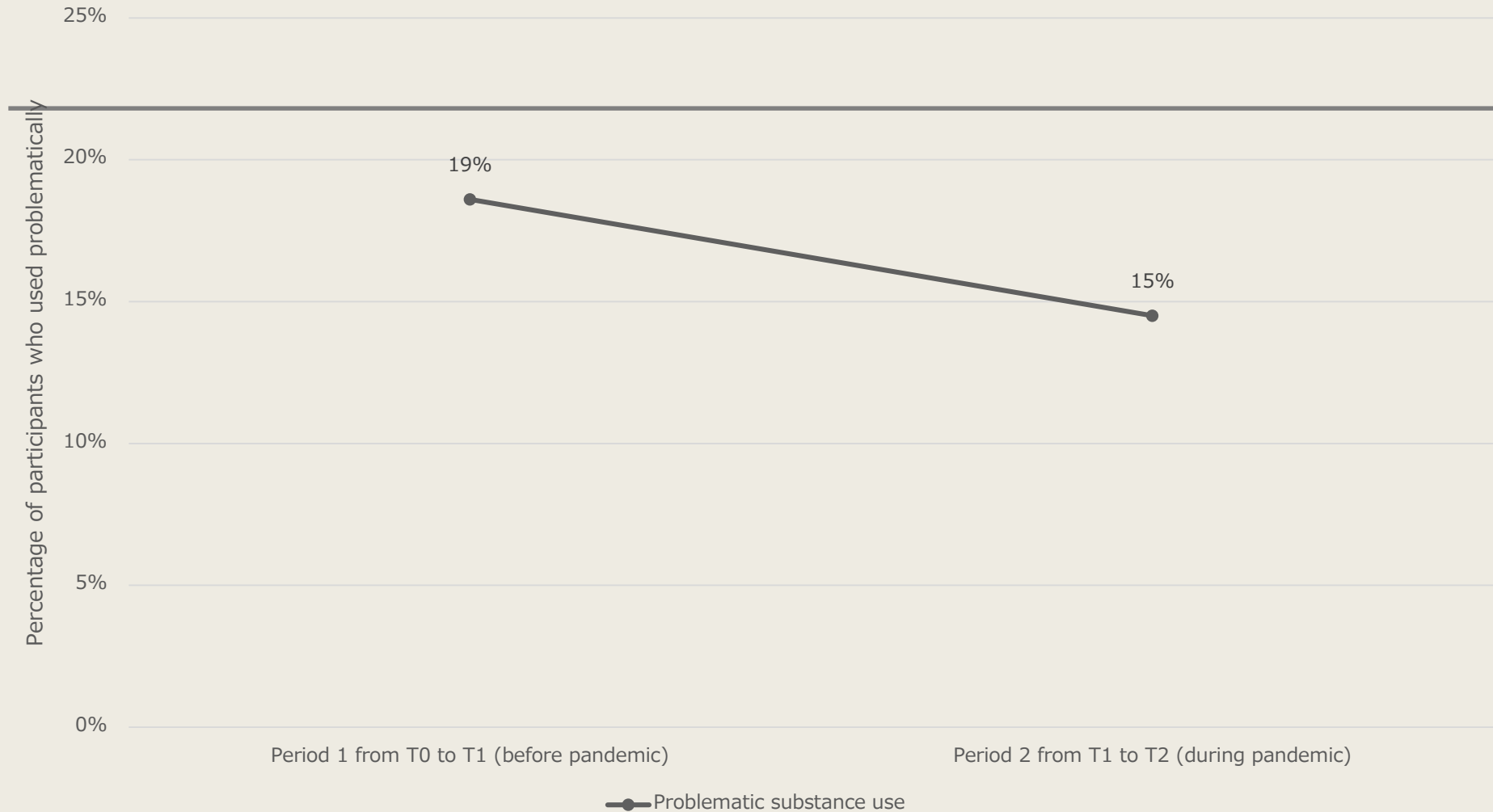
**Table 2.** Differences in housing problems, crime, occupation situation, and substance use by recovery stage.

| Recovery Stage   | Early<br>(n = 127) | Sustained<br>(n = 290) | Stable<br>(n = 305) | p Value Chi2 |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Housing problems   | 14.2               | 5.5                    | 2.0                 | <0.001       |
| Have you been having acute housing problems in the last 30 days? (yes)             | 11.0               | 5.2                    | 2.0                 | <0.001       |
| Have you been at risk of eviction in the last 30 days? (yes)                       | 8.7                | 1.7                    | 1.0                 | <0.001       |
| Crime  | 26.8               | 12.1                   | 5.6                 | <0.001       |
| Have you been involved in offending in the last 30 days? (yes)                     | 11.8               | 5.9                    | 4.3                 | 0.012        |
| Have you been involved with the criminal justice system in the last 30 days? (yes) | 15.7               | 7.2                    | 1.6                 | <0.001       |
| Occupation situation   | 53.5               | 82.4                   | 88.2                | <0.001       |
| Have you been continuously working full-time in the last 30 days? (yes)            | 19.7               | 32.8                   | 52.5                | <0.001       |
| Have you been continuously working part-time in the last 30 days? (yes)            | 8.7                | 24.1                   | 23.3                | 0.001        |
| Have you been at (...) education (...) within the last 30 days? (yes)              | 15.7               | 31.4                   | 25.6                | 0.004        |
| Have you volunteered in the last 30 days? (yes)                                    | 28.3               | 45.9                   | 36.1                | 0.002        |
| Substance use in the last 30 days  |                    |                        |                     |              |
| Alcohol use (yes)  | 25.2               | 18.6                   | 24.9                | 0.131        |
| Illicit hard drug use (yes)  | 16.5               | 7.9                    | 4.9                 | <0.001       |
| Cannabis use (yes)   | 17.3               | 9.0                    | 8.9                 | 0.019        |
| Abstinent from alcohol, illicit drugs and opiate substitutes (yes)                 | 63.0               | 73.4                   | 70.2                | 0.099        |

Note: All numbers are percentages unless otherwise specified.



# Return to problematic drug use before and during the COVID-19 pandemic



# Turning points towards addiction recovery: a contextualized understanding of its underlying dynamics (Lore Bellaert, 2022)

## Findings

|                       |                 |    |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----|
| <b>Gender</b>         | Female          | 15 |
|                       | Male            | 15 |
| <b>Recovery stage</b> | Early (<1)      | 10 |
|                       | Sustained (1-5) | 10 |
|                       | Stable (>5)     | 10 |

Multiple turning points

- experiences
- facilitators

Layered pieces of an ongoing 'recovery puzzle'



# Turning points towards addiction recovery

(Bellaert et al., 2022)

Adverse drug-induced experiences

Becoming a parent

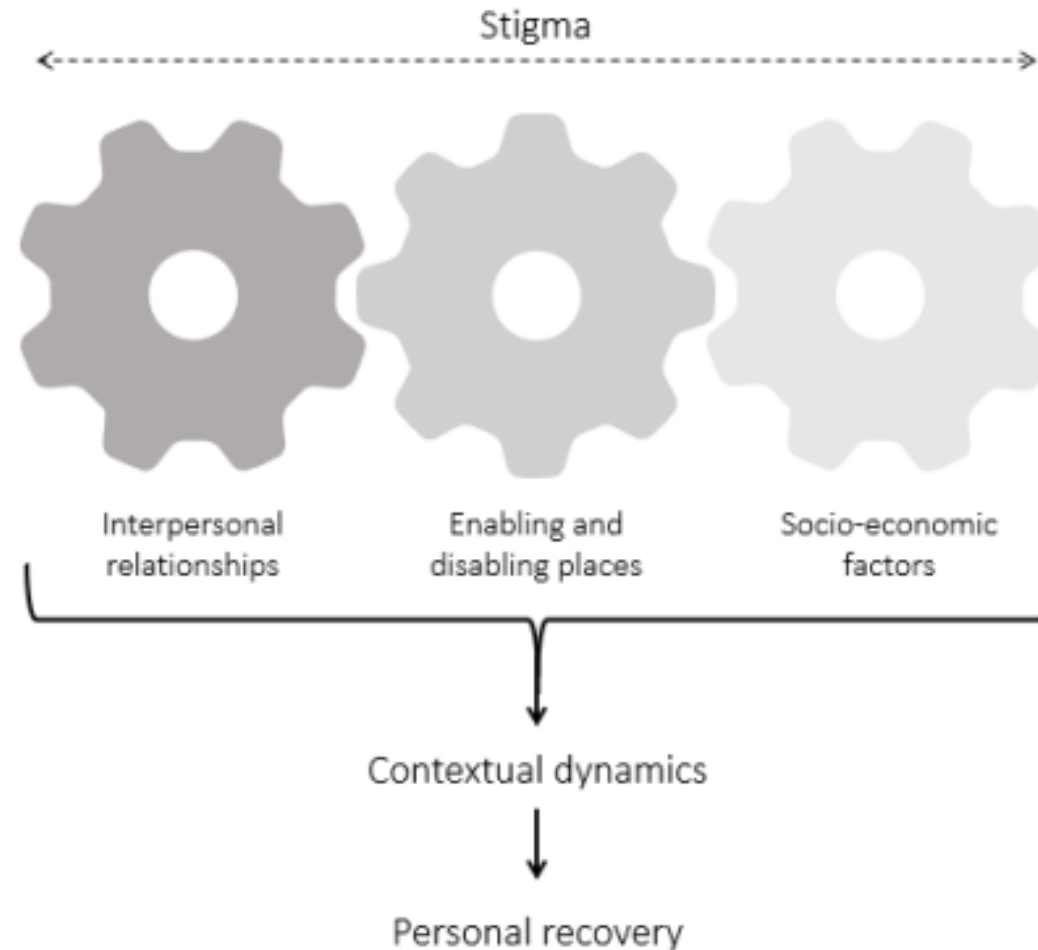
'Hitting rock bottom'

(Dis)engagement of social networks and environments

Addiction treatment

# The ambiguous role of contextual dynamics in drug addiction recovery (Bellaert et al., 2022)

**Figure 1.** Visualization of the research findings: the interrelatedness of contextual dimensions of addiction recovery processes



# The importance of recovery capital (Best & Laudet, 2010)



# The role of recovery capital

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Recovery capital is crucial at **different stages** of the recovery continuum (Best e.a., 2010; Laudet & White, 2008; Best & Laudet, 2010).

- **Personal recovery capital:** *personal characteristics and skills which can be supportive for recovery, such as specific competences, severity of dependence and style of attribution*
- **Social recovery capital:** *includes the social network of the individual and the extent to which the individual experiences support and acceptance from this network*
- **Community recovery capital:** *concerns the extent of support that is available within the wider community, such as housing, employment, training, treatment and self-help groups*



# The Strengths and Barriers Recovery Scale (SABRS): Relationships Matter in Building Strengths and Overcoming Barriers

David Best<sup>1</sup>, Arun Sondhi<sup>2</sup>, Lorna Brown<sup>1</sup>, Mulka Nisic<sup>3</sup>, Gera E. Nagelhout<sup>4,5</sup>, Thomas Martinelli<sup>4</sup>, Dike van de Mheen<sup>6</sup> and Wouter Vanderplasschen<sup>7\*</sup>

**TABLE 2 |** Number of strengths and barriers while in addiction and recovery ( $n = 1,313$ ).

|         | Strengths<br>(addiction) | Strengths<br>(recovery) | Barriers<br>(addiction) | Barriers<br>(recovery) |
|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Mean    | 4.71                     | 10.53                   | 8.59                    | 2.58                   |
| SD      | 2.91                     | 3.25                    | 3.30                    | 2.31                   |
| Minimum | 0                        | 0                       | 0                       | 0                      |
| Maximum | 15                       | 15                      | 17                      | 17                     |

**TABLE 1 |** Final set of included items ( $n = 32$ ) in the Strengths And Barriers Recovery Scale (SABRS).

## Recovery Strength items

- Exercise regularly
- Have a GP
- Have regular dental checks
- Have good nutrition
- Take care of your health
- Maintain a driving licence
- Maintain a bank account
- Able to pay your bills
- Maintain stable housing
- Remain in steady employment
- Further your education or training
- Start your own business
- Participate in family life
- Plan for the future
- Volunteer

## Recovery Barrier items

- Have untreated emotional or mental health problems
- Make regular visits to the emergency room
- Regular use of health services
- Smoke
- Have your drivers' licence revoked
- Drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Damage property
- Been arrested
- Been charged with a criminal offence
- Been to prison
- Have bad debts
- Were unable to pay the bills
- Regularly missed school or work
- Dropped out of school or college
- Fired or suspended from work
- Lose custody of children
- Experience family violence

**TABLE 3 |** Mean number of strengths and barriers while in recovery and growth of strengths and reduction of barriers, by recovery stage ( $n = 1,313$ ).

|                     | Early recovery | Sustained recovery | Stable recovery | F, significance     |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Strengths           | 8.59           | 10.46              | 11.69           | 102.39, $p < 0.001$ |
| Barriers            | 3.07           | 2.58               | 2.33            | 11.19, $p < 0.001$  |
| Change in strengths | 3.33           | 5.66               | 7.37            | 109.84, $p < 0.001$ |
| Changes in barriers | –4.74          | –6.13              | –6.64           | 24.50, $p < 0.001$  |



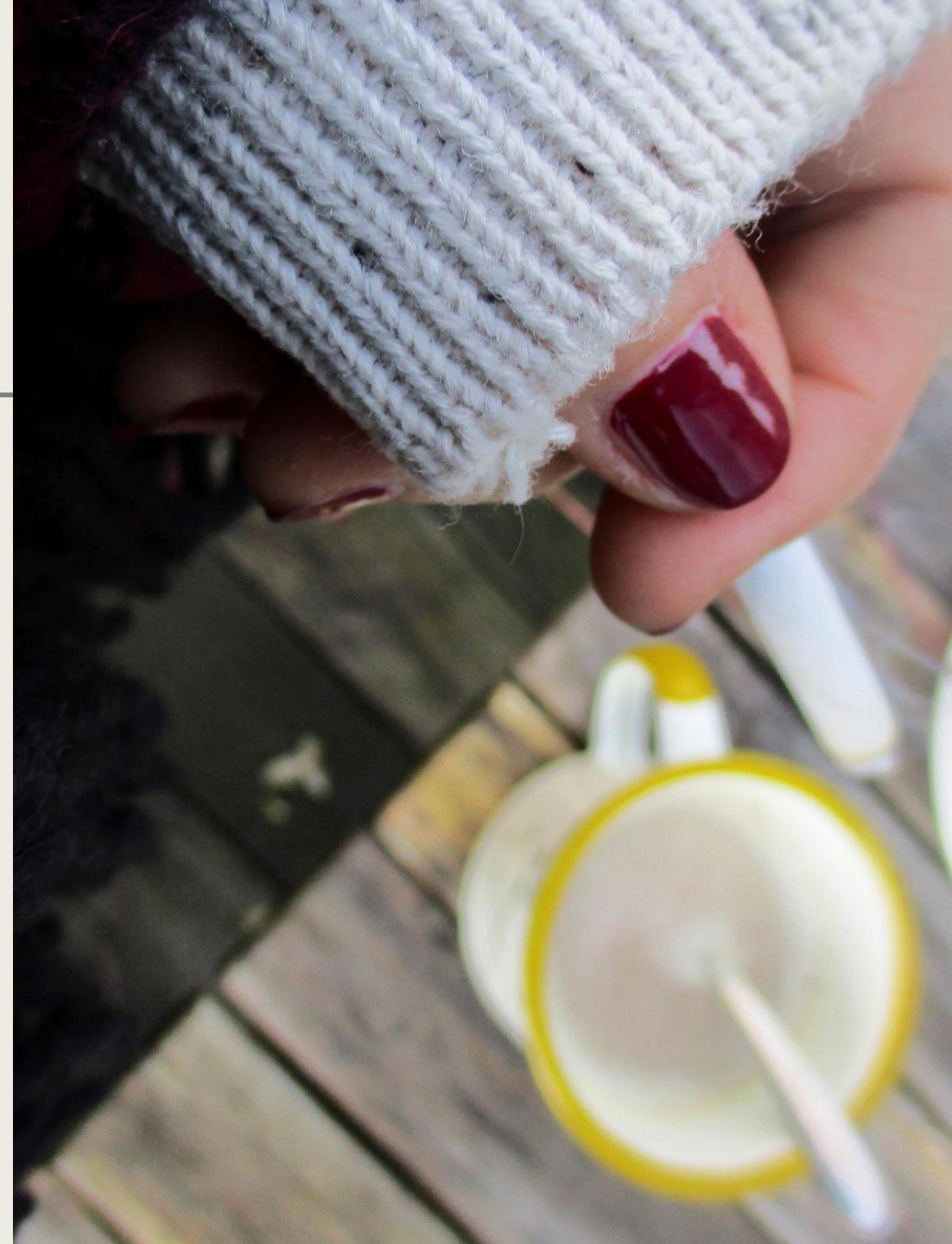


# Photovoicing Recovery Pathways

## 4 core themes

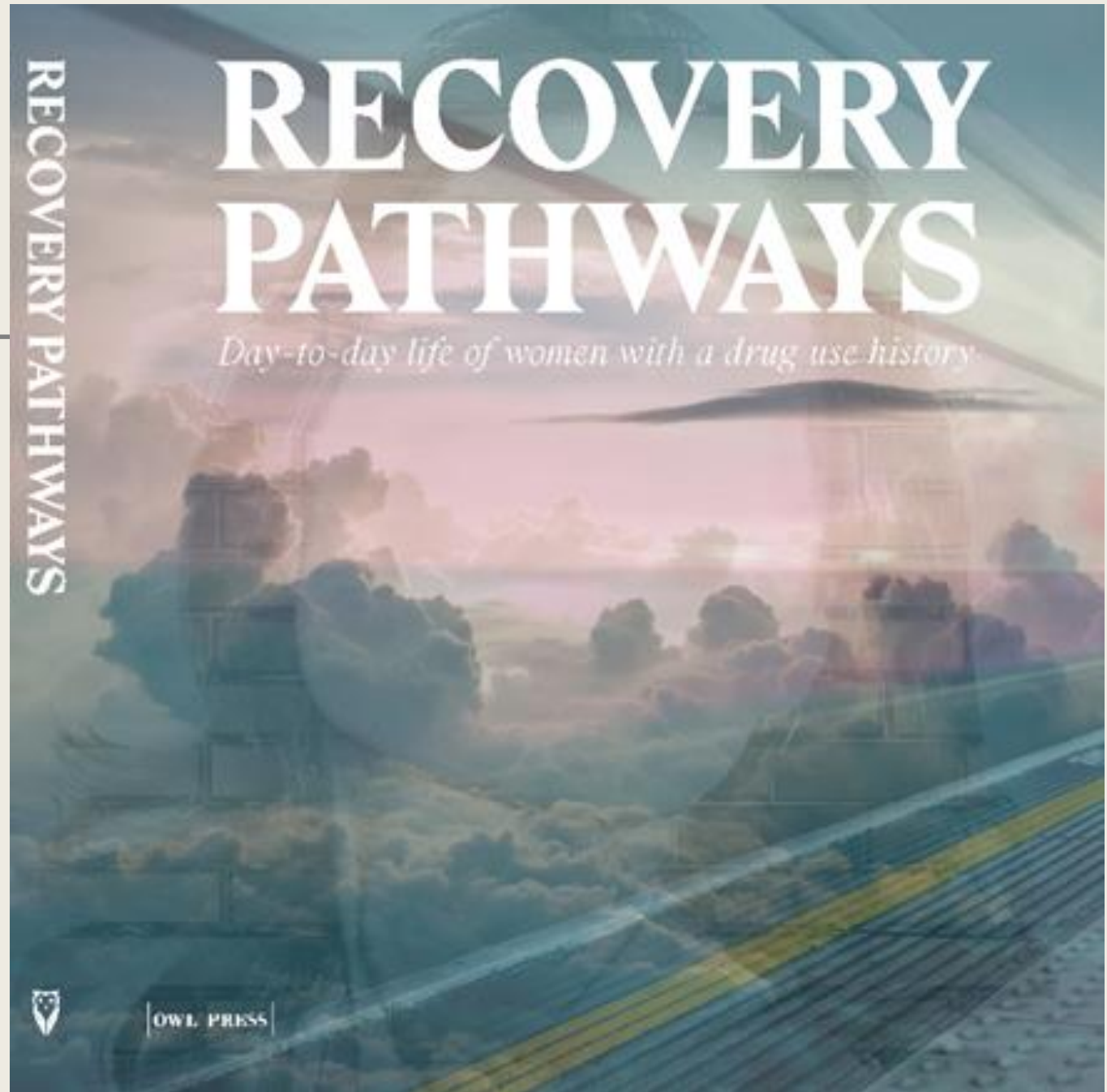
1. (Re-)building me
2. Untangling what life is and what addiction is
3. Becoming (re)connected
4. Enacting future perspectives

<https://www.photovoicingrecoverypathways.com/>



Photobook 'Recovery  
Pathways: Day-to-day life  
of women with a drug use  
history' (OWL PRESS)

[https://vimeo.com/52554  
4742/12bf08e24b](https://vimeo.com/525544742/12bf08e24b)







**What about the effectiveness of various interventions/types of support?**

# Mesa Grande: a review of clinical trials of treatments for AUD (Miller & Wilbourne, 2002)

**Table 3** Summary scores for treatment modalities with three or more studies.

| Treatment modality         | All studies, regardless of population severity |     |     |    |          |            | Clinical populations only |            |     |     |
|----------------------------|--|-----|-----|----|----------|------------|---------------------------|------------|-----|-----|
|                            | Rank order                                     | CES | % + | N  | Mean MQS | % MQS ≥ 14 | % Clinical                | Rank order | CES | % + |
| Brief intervention         | 1  | 280 | 68  | 31 | 12.68    | 48         | 48                        | 1          | 136 | 73  |
| Motivational enhancement   | 2  | 173 | 71  | 17 | 13.12    | 53         | 53                        | 11         | 37  | 56  |
| GABA agonist               | 3  | 116 | 100 | 5  | 11.60    | 20         | 100                       | 3          | 116 | 100 |
| Opiate antagonist          | 4  | 100 | 83  | 6  | 11.33    | 0          | 100                       | 4          | 100 | 83  |
| Social skills training     | 5  | 85  | 68  | 25 | 10.50    | 16         | 84                        | 2          | 125 | 63  |
| Community reinforcement    | 6  | 80  | 100 | 4  | 13.00    | 50         | 80                        | 5          | 68  | 100 |
| Behavior contracting       | 7  | 64  | 80  | 5  | 10.40    | 0          | 100                       | 6          | 64  | 80  |
| Behavioral marital therapy | 8  | 60  | 62  | 8  | 12.88    | 50         | 100                       | 7.5        | 60  | 63  |
| Case management            | 9  | 33  | 67  | 6  | 10.20    | 0          | 100                       | 7.5        | 60  | 67  |
| Self-monitoring            | 10   | 25  | 50  | 6  | 12.00    | 50         | 83                        | 18         | -3  | 40  |
| Cognitive therapy          | 11   | 21  | 40  | 10 | 10.00    | 10         | 88                        | 9          | 41  | 50  |
| Client-centered counseling | 12.5   | 20  | 57  | 7  | 10.57    | 0          | 86                        | 13         | 28  | 67  |
| Disulfiram                 | 12.5   | 20  | 50  | 24 | 10.75    | 17         | 100                       | 10         | 38  | 50  |
| aversion therapy, apneic   | 14.5   | 18  | 67  | 3  | 9.67     | 0          | 100                       | 15.5       | 18  | 67  |
| Covert sensitization       | 14.5   | 18  | 38  | 8  | 10.88    | 0          | 100                       | 15.5       | 18  | 38  |
| Acupuncture                | 16.5   | 14  | 67  | 3  | 9.67     | 0          | 100                       | 17         | 14  | 67  |
| Aversion therapy, nausea   | 16.5   | 14  | 40  | 5  | 10.40    | 20         | 100                       | 14         | 20  | 40  |
| Self-help                  | 18   | 11  | 40  | 5  | 12.00    | 30         | 60                        | 12         | 33  | 67  |
| Self-control training      | 19   | 9   | 49  | 35 | 12.80    | 51         | 63                        | 20         | -8  | 45  |
| Minnesota model            | 20.5   | -3  | 33  | 3  | 11.33    | 33         | 33                        | 25         | -22 | 0   |
| Exercise                   | 20.5   | -3  | 33  | 3  | 11.00    | 0          | 33                        | 21         | -11 | 0   |
| Stress management          | 22   | -4  | 33  | 3  | 10.33    | 0          | 66                        | 25         | -22 | 0   |
| Family therapy             | 23   | -5  | 33  | 3  | 9.30     | 15         | 100                       | 19         | -5  | 33  |
| Aversion therapy, electric | 24.5   | -13 | 40  | 20 | 10.55    | 67         | 100                       | 22.5       | -13 | 40  |
| Twelve-Step facilitation   | 24.5   | -13 | 33  | 3  | 15.67    | 0          | 100                       | 22.5       | -13 | 33  |
| Antidepressant, SSRI       | 26   | -16 | 53  | 15 | 8.60     | 0          | 53                        | 25         | -22 | 50  |

## Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12-step programs for alcohol use disorder (Review)

Kelly JF, Humphreys K, Ferri M

Manualized AA/TS interventions produced higher rates of continuous abstinence; non-manualized AA/TSF performed as well as other established treatments

AA/TSF may be superior to other treatments for increasing the percentage of days of **abstinence**, particularly in the longer-term. AA/TSF probably performs as well as other treatments for reducing the intensity of drinking, alcohol-related consequences and addiction severity.

Four of the five economics studies found substantial **cost-saving benefits** for AA/TSF

In conclusion, clinically-delivered TSF interventions designed to increase AA participation lead to better outcomes in producing higher rates of continuous abstinence. This effect is achieved largely by **fostering AA participation beyond the end of the TSF intervention**.

# Self-Management and Recovery Training (SMART Recovery) (Beck et al., 2017)

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- SMART Recovery offers an alternative to predominant 12-step approaches to mutual aid (eg, AA).
- Modest number of studies + diverse methods; inconclusive findings and few studies on functional outcomes
- Given the positive effects of SMART Recovery and SMART Recovery informed interventions to enhance client-centred, collaborative care that is tailored to the needs and preferences of individuals, **clinicians need to be aware of the range of mutual aid support options available**





**Table 1.** Sample description split by lifetime membership of mutual aid groups.

|  | Lifetime members of mutual aid groups<br>N = 253 (68.9%) |             |              |
|--|--|-------------|--------------|
| Gender, %women   | 34.8   |             |              |
| Age, mean in years (SD)  | 42.9 (10.7)  |             |              |
| Country, %   |  |             |              |
| UK   | 39.7   |             |              |
| Netherlands  | 43.4   |             |              |
| Belgium  | 17.1   |             |              |
| Education level, %   |  |             |              |
| None/primary   | 4.8  |             |              |
| Secondary  | 39.7   |             |              |
| Higher   | 55.6   |             |              |
| Recovery stage, %  |  |             |              |
| <1 year  | 11.9   | 24.3        |              |
| 1–5 years  | 39.3   | 40.9        |              |
| >5 years   | 48.8   | 34.8        |              |
| Chronic mental health problems,<br>% yes   | 34.7   | 42.6        | $p = .144^a$ |
| In paid employment, %  | 63.5   | 45.2        | $p = .001^a$ |
| Abstinent from illicit drugs, %  | 94   | 74.8        | $p < .001^a$ |
| Days used illicit drugs in past<br>30 days, mean (SD)                              | 0.83 (4.32)  | 2.96 (7.52) | $p < .001^b$ |
| Abstinent from alcohol, %  | 80.6   | 52.2        | $p < .001^a$ |
| Days used alcohol in past 30 days,<br>mean (SD)                                    | 1.64 (4.86)  | 5.48 (8.53) | $p < .001^b$ |
| At what age did you first realize you<br>had a problem with substance<br>use? mean | 25.2   | 23.8        | $p = .129^b$ |
| Have you ever attended a mutual aid<br>group? (yes)                                | 100  | 31.6        | $p < .001^a$ |
| Have mutual aid groups played a role<br>in enabling your recovery? (yes)           | 95.3   | 10.5        | $p < .001^a$ |
| Are you currently attending a mutual<br>aid group? (yes)                           | 71.9   | 4.4         | $p < .001^a$ |

## Are members of mutual aid groups better equipped for addiction recovery? European cross-sectional study into recovery capital, social networks, and commitment to sobriety

Thomas F. Martinelli, Dike van de Mheen, David Best, Wouter Vanderplasschen & Gera E. Nagelhout

<sup>a</sup>Chi2 test.

<sup>b</sup>Independent sample t-test

**Table 4.** Multiple linear regression analyses of the relationship between social group membership, recovery capital, and commitment to sobriety and lifetime membership of a mutual aid group.

| Independent variables                    | Social group membership, $\beta$ (95% CI) |                              |                            | Recovery capital,<br>$\beta$ (95% CI) | Commitment<br>to sobriety,<br>$\beta$ (95% CI) |
|--|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
|  | Member of<br>different groups             | Maintaining<br>social groups | Joining<br>new groups      |                                       |  |
| Lifetime membership of mutual aid groups | 0.188***<br>(0.074, 0.301)                | 0.055<br>(-0.061, 0.171)     | 0.292***<br>(0.183, 0.402) | 0.211***<br>(0.105, 0.319)            | 0.288***<br>(0.177, 0.394)                     |
| Age                                      | 0.008<br>(-0.110, 0.125)                  | 0.056<br>(-0.064, 0.177)     | -0.085<br>(-0.198, 0.029)  | 0.044<br>(-0.068, 0.155)              | 0.156**<br>(0.043, 0.267)                      |
| Gender                                   |   |                              |                            |                                       |  |
| Men                                      | Ref                                       | Ref                          | Ref                        | Ref                                   | Ref  |
| Women                                    | 0.070<br>(-0.034, 0.174)                  | -0.122*<br>(-0.228, -0.016)  | 0.056<br>(-0.044, 0.156)   | -0.021<br>(-0.119, 0.077)             | 0.041<br>(-0.058, 0.140)                       |

# Opioid substitution treatment

Drug and Alcohol Dependence 161 (2016) 1–8



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### Review

## Opioid substitution therapy: Lowering the treatment thresholds



Georgios Kourounis<sup>a,b</sup>, Brian David Wensley Richards<sup>a,b</sup>, Evdokia Kyprianou<sup>c</sup>,  
Eva Symeonidou<sup>c</sup>, Minerva-Melpomeni Malliori<sup>d</sup>, Lampros Samartzis<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> St George's University of London, Medical School at the University of Nicosia, Agiou Nikolaou Street 93, Engomi, 2408 Nicosia, Cyprus

<sup>b</sup> Department of Addiction Psychiatry, Athalassa Psychiatric Hospital, Cyprus Mental Health Services, Leoforos Lemesou 199/2, 1452 Nicosia, Cyprus

<sup>c</sup> Cyprus Anti-Drugs Council, Leoforos Lemesou 130, City Home 81, 2015 Strovolos, Cyprus

<sup>d</sup> Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, 72, 74, Vassil. Sophias Avenue, 11528 Athens, Greece

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Opioid substitution therapy (OST) has been established as the gold standard in treating opioid use disorders. Nevertheless, there is still a debate regarding the qualitative characteristics that define the optimal OST intervention, namely the treatment threshold. The aim of this review is twofold: first, to provide a summary and definition of “treatment thresholds”, and second, to outline these thresholds and describe how they related to low and high threshold treatment characteristics and outcomes.



## Review

## Contingency Management interventions for non-prescribed drug use during treatment for opiate addiction: A systematic review and meta-analysis

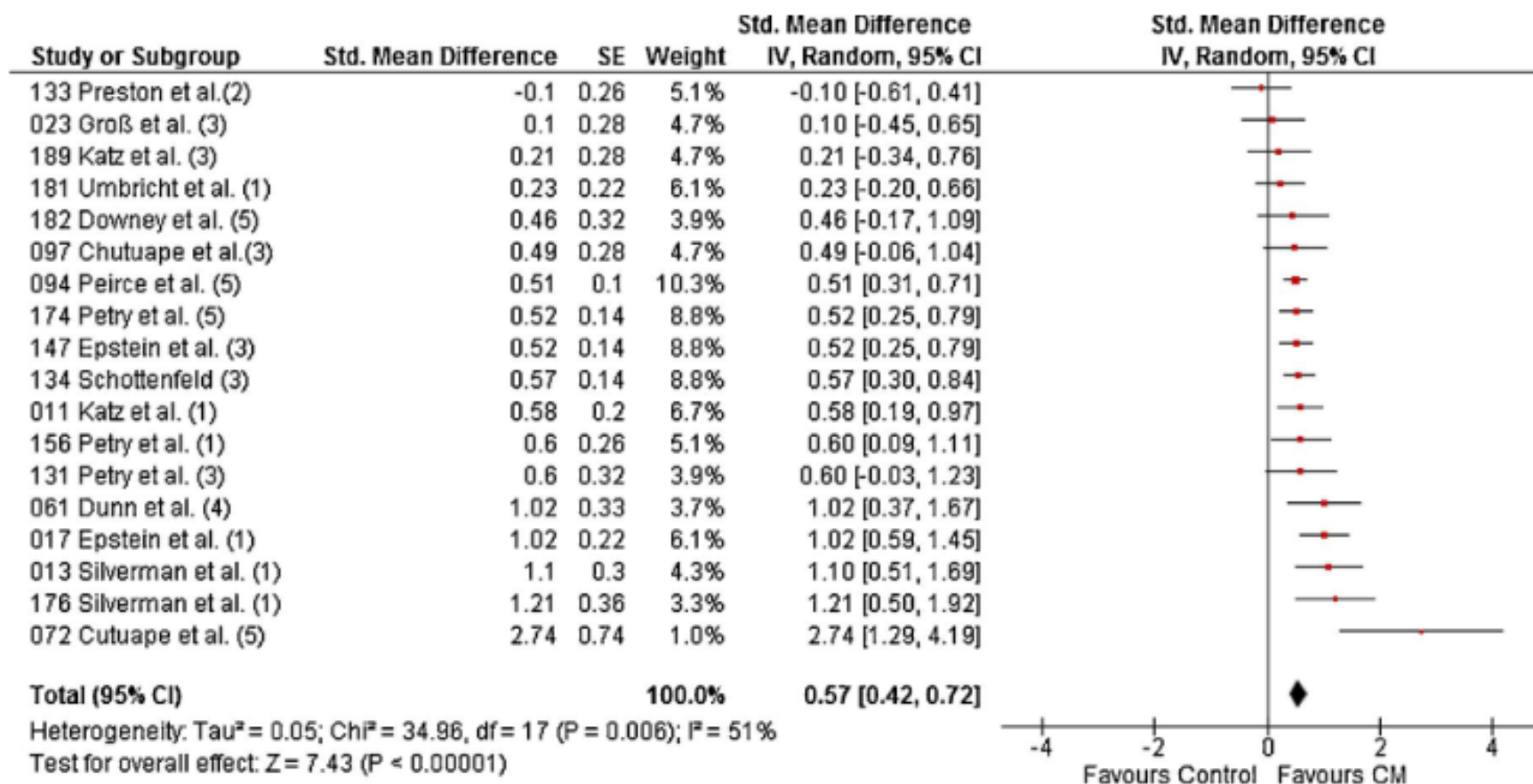
Tom S. Ainscough<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Ann McNeill<sup>a,b</sup>, John Strang<sup>a</sup>, Robert Calder<sup>a</sup>, Leonie S. Brose<sup>a,b</sup><sup>a</sup> Addictions Department, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, King's College London, London, UK<sup>b</sup> UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies, UK

Fig. 2. Forest plot for LDA during treatment of all substances combined. (1) = Cocaine, (2) = opiates, (3) = opiates and cocaine, (4) = Tobacco, (5) = Poly-substance.

## Contingency management

# Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT)

## The Effectiveness of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Techniques for the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders A Narrative Review of Evidence

By: Zamboni, L (Zamboni, Lorenzo) <sup>[1]</sup>, <sup>[2]</sup>; Centoni, F (Centoni, Francesco) <sup>[1]</sup>; Fusina, F (Fusina, Francesca) <sup>[3]</sup>, <sup>[4]</sup>; Mantovani, E (Mantovani, Elisa) <sup>[2]</sup>; Rubino, F (Rubino, Francesca) <sup>[1]</sup>; Lugoboni, F (Lugoboni, Fabio) <sup>[1]</sup>; Federico, A (Federico, Angela) <sup>[1]</sup>, <sup>[2]</sup>

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### Abstract

Substance use disorders (SUDs) are characterized by a recurrent and maladaptive use of drugs and/or alcohol. Cognitive behavioral therapies (CBTs) comprise different types of interventions: traditional CBT and the more recent "third wave" behavior therapies, such as acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT), dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), mindfulness-based cognitive therapy (MBCT), and schema therapy (ST). We searched English-language articles published between 2014 and present. This review includes randomized controlled trials (RCTs), quasi-RCTs, pilot studies, and reviews of CBTs for SUDs available on PubMed. Results seem to indicate that CBT and MBCT are effective interventions for SUDs; however, the studies showed a high degree of heterogeneity, so no exhaustive conclusions could be outlined at this time. ACT and DBT in SUD management are limited to few studies and results are therefore inconclusive.



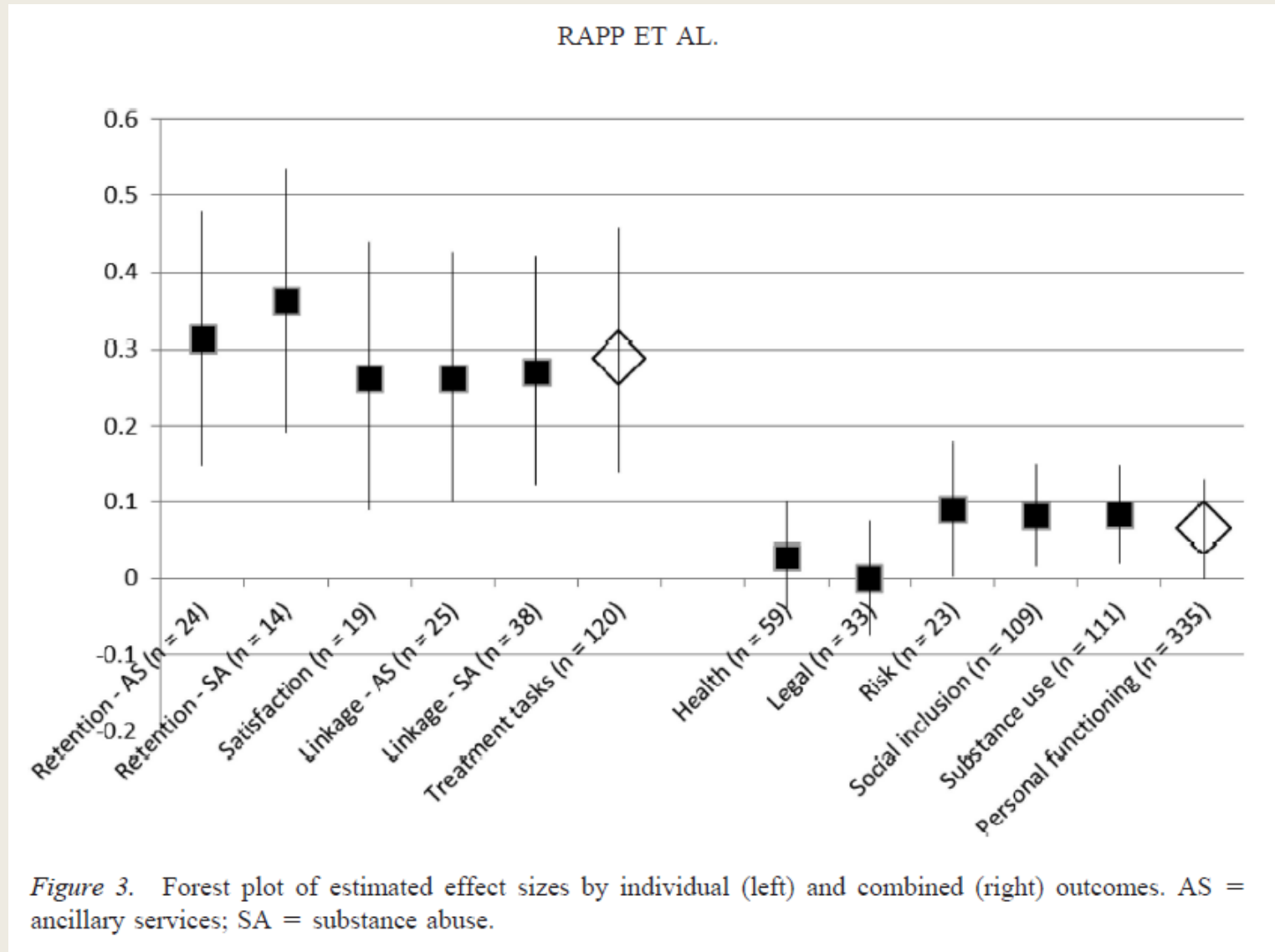


# A Meta-Analysis of the Efficacy of Case Management for Substance Use Disorders: A Recovery Perspective

Wouter **Vanderplasschen**<sup>1\*</sup>, Richard Charles **Rapp**<sup>2,3</sup>, Jessica **De Maeyer**<sup>4</sup> and Wim **Van Den Noortgate**<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium, <sup>2</sup> Boonshoft School of Medicine, Dayton, OH, United States, <sup>3</sup> Wright State University,

# Treatment-related vs. personal functioning outcomes





## The effectiveness of residential treatment services for individuals with substance use disorders: A systematic review

Dominique de Andrade<sup>a,\*</sup>, Rachel A. Elphinston<sup>a</sup>, Catherine Quinn<sup>a</sup>, Julaine Allan<sup>a,b</sup>,  
Leanne Hides<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> School of Psychology, Lives Lived Well Research Group, The University of Queensland, St. Lucia Campus, Sir Fred Schonell Drive, St. Lucia, 4067, Queensland, Australia  
<sup>b</sup> Lives Lived Well, Level 1/55 Little Edward St, Spring Hill, 4000, Queensland, Australia



# Residential treatment

- Despite limitations, results provide moderate quality evidence for the effectiveness of residential treatment in improving outcomes across a number of substance use and life domains
- With caution, results suggest that **best practice** rehabilitation treatment **integrates mental health services and provides continuity of care** post-discharge.



| Rating | Study   | Intervention  | Outcomes      |        |                   |               |           |
|--------|---|---|---------------|--------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
|        |   |   | Substance use | Social | Criminal activity | Mental health | Mortality |
| W      | Babaie and Razeghi (2013)<br>Iran                   | TC (ref)<br>vs. RT<br>vs. MMT                                 |               | +      |                   | +             |           |
| S      | Bergman et al., 2014<br>USA                         | IRT:<br>SUD vs COD  | +             |        |                   | +             |           |
| S      | Daughters et al. (2018)<br>USA                      | RT + LETS ACT vs RT + SC                                      | +             | +      |                   | =             |           |
| S      | Davis et al., 2018<br>USA                           | RT + MBRP vs TAU (RT + ANA)                                   | +             |        |                   | +             |           |
| M      | Deane et al., 2013<br>Australia                     | Modified TC   | +             | +      | +                 | +             |           |
| M      | do Carmo et al., 2018<br>Brazil                     | RT  | ?             | ?      |                   |               |           |
| S      | Eastwood et al., 2018<br>England                    | IW vs RT vs IW + RT   | +             |        |                   |               |           |
| S      | Harley et al., 2018<br>Australia                    | TC  |               | +      |                   | +             |           |
| M      | King et al., 2016<br>NZ                             | Modified TC   | +             | +      |                   | +             |           |
| S      | Lloyd et al., 2017<br>Australia                     | RT vs other treatments  |               |        |                   |               | -         |
| W      | Lookatch et al. (2017)<br>USA                       | RT – 12 step based  |               |        |                   | +             |           |
| M      | McGuire et al., 2018<br>USA                         | IRT (day program with housing)                                | +             |        |                   | +             |           |
| W      | Morse and MacMaster, 2015<br>USA                    | IRT   | +             | +      | +                 | +             |           |
| W      | Myers et al., 2018<br>South Africa                  | RT vs outpatient  | +             |        |                   |               |           |
| W      | Patterson et al., 2018<br>NZ                        | RT  | +             | +      | +                 | +             |           |
| S      | Rome et al., 2017<br>Scotland                       | Integrated TC   | +             | +      | +                 | +             |           |
| M      | Roos et al., 2018<br>USA                            | Rolling MBRP in RT  |               |        |                   | +             |           |
| W      | Schoenthaler et al., 2017<br>USA                    | IRT   | +             | +      | +                 | +             |           |
| W      | Šefránek and Miovský (2017), 2018<br>Czech Republic | TC  | +             |        | +                 |               |           |
| S      | Schuman-Olivier et al., 2014<br>USA                 | RT  | +             |        |                   | +             |           |
| S      | Teesson et al., 2017<br>Australia                   | RT vs. MT vs. detox vs. MT with detox                         | +             |        | +                 | +             |           |
| M      | Turner and Deane (2016)<br>Australia                | Modified TC   | +             | +      | +                 | +             |           |
| S      | Willey et al., 2016<br>UK                           | RT vs. IW vs. Community Setting Psychological therapy vs. CBP |               |        | =                 |               |           |

Abbreviations: RTResidential Treatment; IWInpatient withdrawal; MTMaintenance therapies; detoxdetoxification; TCTherapeutic community; IRTIntegrate Residential Treatment; LETS ACTLife enhancement treatment for substance use; SCSupportive counselling; MBRPMindfulness-based relapse prevention; AN

## **Therapeutic Communities for Addictions: A Review of Their Effectiveness from a Recovery-Oriented Perspective**

Wouter Vanderplasschen,<sup>1</sup> Kathy Colpaert,<sup>1</sup> Mieke Autrique,<sup>1</sup> Richard Charles Rapp,<sup>2</sup> Steve Pearce,<sup>3</sup> Eric Broekaert,<sup>1</sup> and Stijn Vandavelde<sup>4</sup>

- Systematic review of 16 controlled studies
- Traditional + modified TCs, in prison and community settings
- Retention + participation in aftercare very robust predictors of TC outcomes, although drop-out in TCs higher than in most comparison conditions
- In majority of studies, TC group had better substance use and legal outcomes than comparison condition
- TCs can promote change regarding various outcome indicators, but continuing care approach needed

Table 3.6: Overview of the review results

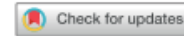
| Reference number of the study/studies | Type of TC      | Comparison condition | Follow-up lengthth | Outcome measures |                            |                   |            |        |                           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|--------|---------------------------|
|                                       |                 |                      |                    | Retention        | Substance use              | Criminal activity | Employment | Health | Family & Social Relations |
| 1.                                    | Prison          | TAU                  | 1 year             |                  |                            | +                 |            |        |                           |
| 2.                                    | Prison          | TAU                  | 1 year             |                  |                            | =                 |            |        |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 5 years            |                  |                            | =                 |            |        |                           |
| 3.                                    | Prison          | Other TC             | 1 year             | +                | =                          | =                 |            | =      | =                         |
| 4.                                    | Prison          | TAU                  | 2 years            |                  | =                          | +                 | +          |        |                           |
| 5.                                    | Prison          | TAU                  | 1 year             |                  | +                          | +                 |            |        |                           |
| 6.                                    | Prison          | TAU                  | 1 year             | =                | +                          | =                 |            | +      |                           |
| 7.                                    | Prison          | TAU                  | 6 months           |                  | +                          | +                 |            | +      |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 1 year             |                  | +                          | +                 |            |        |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 3 years            |                  | +                          | =                 |            |        |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 3 years 6 months   |                  | +                          | +                 |            |        |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 5 years            |                  | +                          | +                 |            |        |                           |
| 8.                                    | Prison          | TAU                  | 1 year             |                  | +                          | +                 |            |        |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 2 years            |                  |                            | +                 |            |        |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 5 years            | =                | =                          | +                 | =          | =      |                           |
| 9.                                    | Community-based | Other TC             | 6 months           | =                | +                          |                   |            | +      | +                         |
|                                       |                 |                      | 1 year             | =                | =                          |                   |            | +      |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 1 year 6 months    |                  | =                          |                   |            | +      | +                         |
| 10.                                   | Community-based | Other TC             | 1 year 6 months    | =                | +                          | +                 | +          |        |                           |
| 11.                                   | Community-based | TAU                  | 1 year             |                  | +                          | =                 | +          | =      |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 2 years            |                  | +=                         | +                 | +=         | +      |                           |
| 12.                                   | Community-based | TAU                  | 1 year             | -                | +                          |                   |            | +      |                           |
| 13.                                   | Community-based | Other TC             | 6 months           | =                | =                          |                   |            |        |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 1 year             | -                | =                          | =                 | +          |        |                           |
| 14.                                   | Prison          | TAU                  | 6 months           |                  | =                          | +                 |            |        |                           |
| 15.                                   | Community-based | TAU                  | 1 year             | -                | +                          | +                 | +          | +      |                           |
|                                       |                 |                      | 2 years            | +                | + (illicit)<br>- (alcohol) | +                 | +          |        |                           |
| 16.                                   | Community-based | Other TC             | 1 year             | =                | +                          |                   |            |        |                           |

Abbreviations: TC=Therapeutic Community, Other TC=Other TC modality, TAU=Treatment As Usual



# Mobile apps to reduce tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drug use (Staiger et al., 2020)

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- Review of trials evaluating mobile app interventions for problematic tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drug use
- Content considerably diverse: from simple stand-alone apps delivering self-monitoring or psychoeducation, to multicomponent apps with interactive features and audio content, or used as adjuncts alongside face-to-face treatment
- A total of 6 of the 20 app interventions (30%) reported significant reductions in substance use at follow-up compared with comparison condition (small to moderate effect sizes)
- Evidence to date for the effectiveness of apps targeting problematic substance use is not compelling
- YET, mobile telephone-based contingency management systems offer a low-cost approach that facilitates remote monitoring of behavior and delivery of reinforcers and minimizes issues of staffing and resources (Getty et al., 2019). Particularly effective for reducing tobacco and alcohol use among adults not in treatment



## The relationship between patient-centered care and outcomes in specialist drug and alcohol treatment: A systematic literature review

Esther L. Davis, PhD (Clin Psyc)<sup>a,b</sup>, Peter J. Kelly, PhD (Clin Psyc)<sup>a,b</sup> , Frank P. Deane, PhD<sup>a,b</sup> , Amanda L. Baker, PhD<sup>c</sup>, Mark Buckingham, PostGradDip (Hlth M)<sup>d</sup>, Tayla Degan, BPsyc (Hons)<sup>a,b</sup>, and Sarah Adams, MCP<sup>e</sup>

# Patient-centred support

A total of 25 articles were identified, of which only five included a patient-centered indicator other than satisfaction.

Indicators of patient-centered care showed a generally positive association with improved outcomes, particularly between satisfaction with treatment and substance use.

There were **demonstrable relationships between patient-centered indicators and outcomes for people receiving treatment for substance use disorder**. However, conclusions are limited due to underrepresentation of patient-reported experience measures (PREMs).

# What else to conclude from effectiveness studies in this field?

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- Combined behavioral and pharmacological interventions are considered best practices, with Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) as first-line intervention (Ray et al., 2020)
- Strong evidence that CRA with abstinence-contingent 'incentives' is more effective than CRA (non-contingent incentives) alone for cocaine use (Roozen et al., 2004)
- Efficacy of contingency management programs for treatment of stimulant use disorder (Ronsley et al., 2020).
- **Integrated models more effective than single-treatment strategies**: importance of comprehensive and sustained psychosocial interventions (Tran et al., 2021)
- **Reentry a critical time** to provide evidence-based treatments (EBTs) for substance use; no single intervention been proven to be superior (Moore et al., 2020)
- Best clinical practice for dual diagnosis (DD) is integrated mental health and substance use treatment augmented with Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) attendance afterwards: higher rates of alcohol abstinence (Tonigan et al., 2018)
- Effectiveness of occupation-based interventions

- 
- Prison-based interventions:

Results suggest **therapeutic communities** are effective in reducing recidivism and, to a lesser extent substance use after release. There is also evidence to suggest that **opioid maintenance treatment** is effective in reducing the risk of drug use after release from prison for opioid users. Furthermore, **ongoing care after release** from prison appears to enhance treatment effects for both types of interventions (De Andrade et al., 2018)

- To improve retention in outpatient treatment (Dalton et al., 2021)

Review findings indicate (1) behavioral therapy such as cognitive behavioral therapy and contingency management for cannabis and alcohol use disorders, or (2) cognitive behavioral therapy paired with opioid-agonist-therapy for opioid use disorder demonstrate the most promising results





What to  
conclude from  
the evidence?



# Conclusions

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- Recovery is rather the rule than the exception
- Recovery takes time and is a personal, non-linear process: complex interplay of turning point experiences and contextual/timely elements
- Most addicts use various treatment mechanisms before achieving recovery
- Treatment/support not always needed, but enhances/facilitates recovery
- Type of intervention/support depends on person, moment, addiction severity, recovery capital, comorbidity, context, ...
- Leave room for innovations: new technologies, person-centred treatment, arts-based research and interventions
- Need for a continuum and continuity of care, including a central role for mutual aid groups and individuals' lived experiences

# How to support recovery?

CHIME-D (Leamy et al., 2011)



Connectedness

Hope

Identity

Meaning

Empowerment

Questions or  
contact!



[Wouter.Vanderplasschen@ugent.be](mailto:Wouter.Vanderplasschen@ugent.be)

Research cluster Recovery & Addiction

[www.orthopedagogiek.ugent.be/en](http://www.orthopedagogiek.ugent.be/en)