

# Contingency Management (Motivational Incentives) In Recovery Housing

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# Objectives

- Provide an overview of contingency management (CM) treatments for substance use disorder
- Review recent studies examining community implementation of CM
- Discuss application of CM to rural recovery house settings



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# Barriers to SUD care in Rural settings

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# Barriers to SUD care in Rural settings

- Transportation (increased distance, no public transit)
- Lack of funding (fewer treatment options, heavier caseloads, lack of tech resources, limited continuing ed.)
- Lack of coordinated care (lack of detox and mental health facilities, housing challenges, medical/dental)
- Bureaucratic challenges (paperwork, waitlists)

REVIEW



## A systematic review of rural-specific barriers to medication treatment for opioid use disorder in the United States

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Opioid-related deaths have risen dramatically in rural communities. Prior studies highlight few medication treatment providers for opioid use disorder in rural communities, though literature has yet to examine rural-specific treatment barriers.

**Objectives:** We conducted a systematic review to highlight the state of knowledge around rural

### ARTICLE HISTORY

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**Table 5.** Barrier domains focused on consumers and providers.

	% (n)	Most common barrier type	Other barriers
<i>Consumer-Focused Barrier Domains (N = 15 articles)</i>			
Availability	66.7 (10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural areas consistently more likely (than urban) to lack available medication treatment clinics and waived practitioners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural areas less likely to have concurrent psychosocial services for consumers in medication treatment</li> </ul>
Accessibility	26.7 (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural consumers more likely than urban to have travel hardships (further distance, longer travel, cross-state commute)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural providers perceived their rural consumers would view medication treatment as a cost burden</li> </ul>
Acceptability	20.0 (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural consumers offered medication treatment less than urban, perhaps due to concerns treatment wouldn't work well for rural consumers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural providers perceived their rural consumers would view medication treatment for OUD as unsatisfactory</li> </ul>
<i>Provider-Focused Barrier Domains (N = 7 articles)</i>			
Availability	71.4 (5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural providers cited limited capacity and infrastructure, e.g., lack of staff, specialty backup, and office space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of coordination, i.e., non-family medicine rural clinics less likely to provide BMT</li> </ul>
Accessibility	28.6 (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A lack of time for rural providers to deliver medication treatment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No other findings</li> </ul>
Acceptability	71.4 (5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Negative provider attitudes: a lack of belief in medication treatment, too complex, view people with SUDs as mistrustful and unmotivated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulatory concerns if providing treatment, e.g., audit issues or inability to meet DEA regulations</li> </ul>

Tabulation frequencies presented are calculated relative to the 15 consumer-focused articles and 7 provider-focused articles in this review.





# Importance of Recovery Houses

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- For people newly in recovery
- Provides individuals time and support to learn how to sustain long-term recovery
- Services are often provided in rural areas where there are few additional resources



*Treating addiction with*  
**CONTINGENCY  
MANAGEMENT**

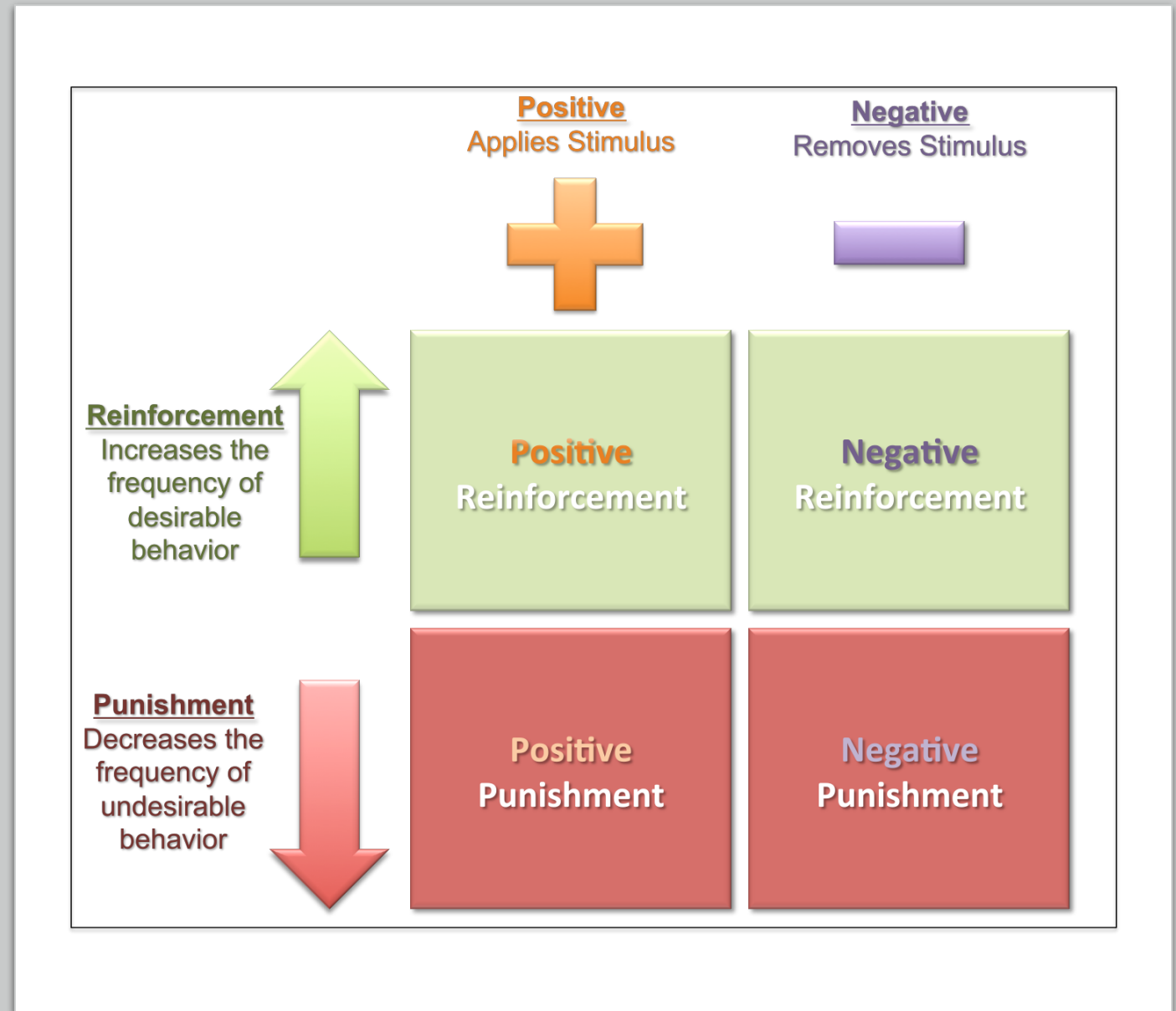


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# Operant Conditioning

- CM based on operant conditioning/learning
- Positive (reinforcers) and negative (punishers) contingencies have been explored
- Substance use, abuse and dependence is dependent on the reinforcing nature of the substance
- Treatment approaches designed to reduce use can also use operant learning principles to counteract the reinforcing qualities of substances



# Basic Principles of CM

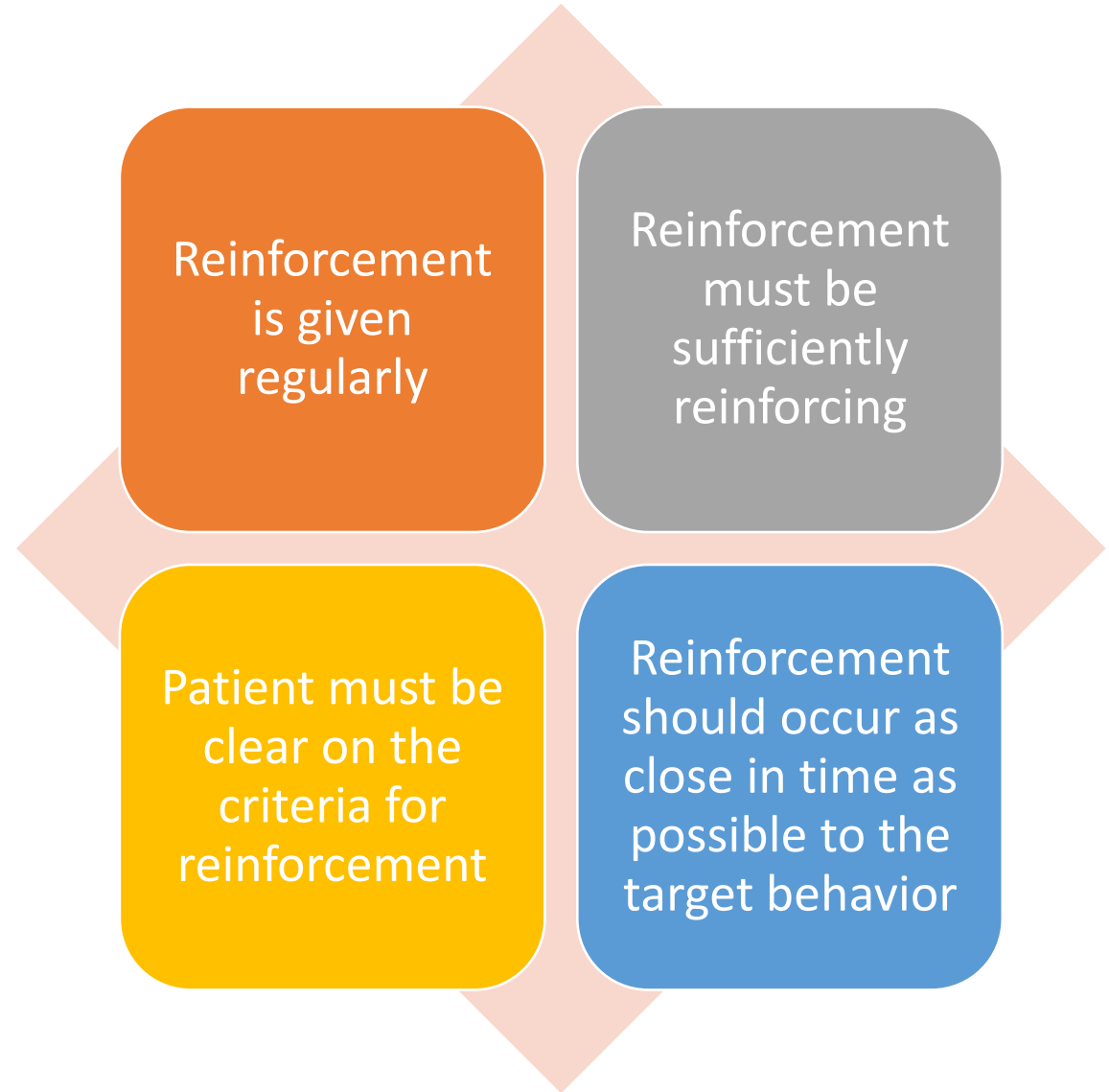
- Based on behavioral principles in which:
  - Particular behaviors of interest are monitored frequently
  - A tangible reward or reinforcement is given when the target behavior occurs
  - The reinforcement is not provided when the target behavior does not occur



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# How does CM work?



# How does CM work?



Reinforcement should escalate for consecutive occurrences of the behavior

Reinforcement should be stopped and possibly reset to the lowest level when the behavior is not observed

Different types of CM include Money, Voucher and Prize. Some studies have also used clinic privileges, take home doses

Items we don't use anymore include lottery tickets and cigarettes



# Uses of CM in Treatment of SUDs

- In research on SUDs, several target behaviors have been studied
  - drug free biochemical test results (e.g., UDS, carbon monoxide, cotinine)
  - attending treatment sessions
  - engaging in treatment-related activities
  - adherence to medication
- Several behavioral consequences have been explored, including money, vouchers, prizes, take-home privileges and others

# Prize reinforcement



Patient receives a chance to win prizes for completing target behavior



Often start at 1 draw and escalate to a maximum of 10 with each subsequent consecutive successful behavior completion



Reset after failure to complete target, but return to previous levels after 3 consecutive completions



Prize amounts are typically small (\$1, 43%), large (\$20, 7%) or Jumbo (\$100, 0.2%)



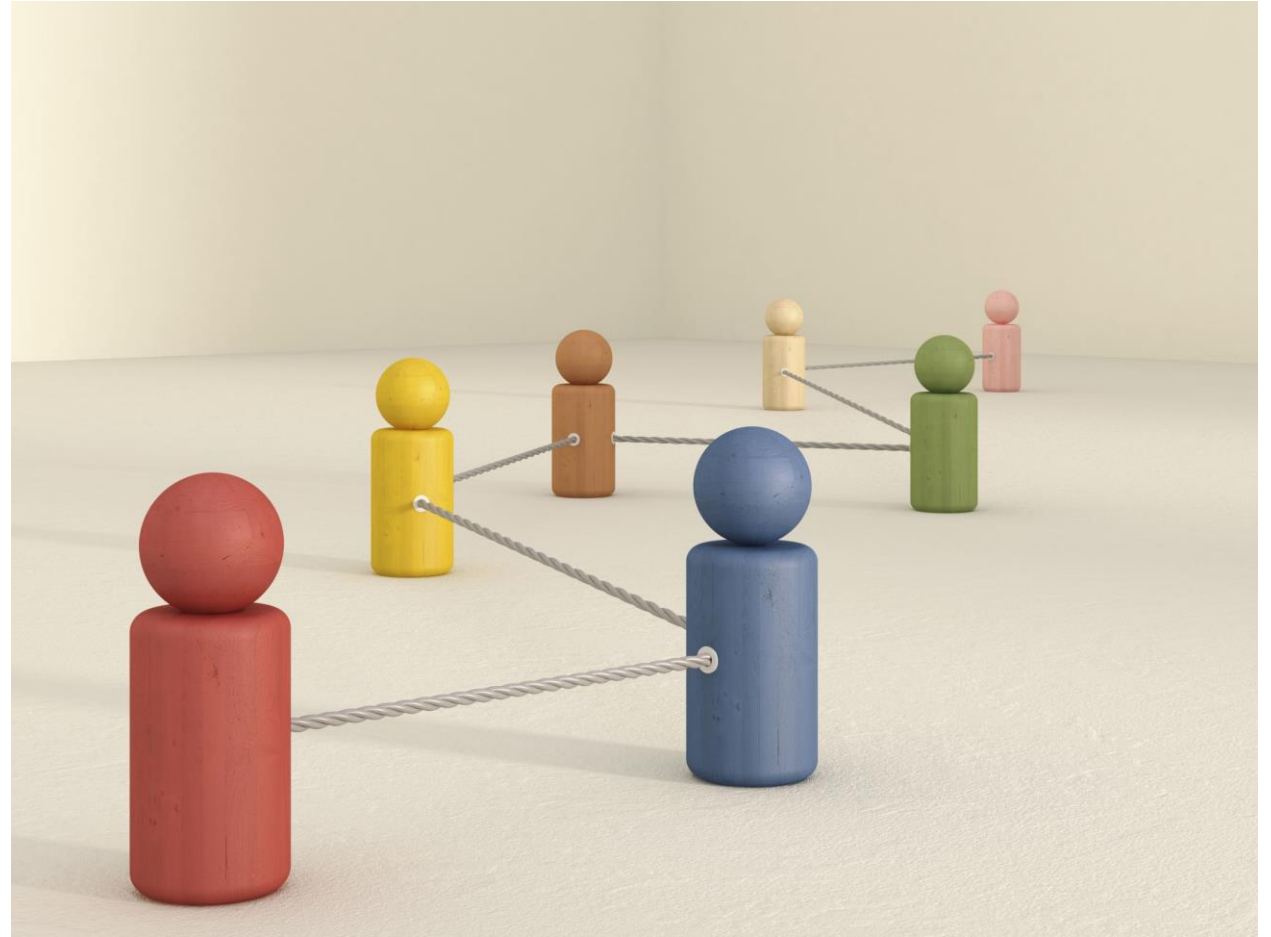
# Equipment for Prize CM...



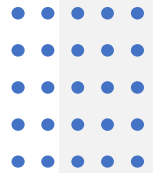
Prize Cabinet



# Implementation of CM to Community- Based Treatment







# Transfer of evidence based treatments

Institute of Medicine's (IOM; 1998) report on bridging the gap between research and practice, moving evidence-based interventions into clinical settings has become a national priority

The gap between research and practice is still large, especially in substance use treatment

Substance abuse treatment clinics are among the poorest in adopting empirically validated treatments

# Transfer of CM

Many CM studies are well designed clinical trials

Several meta-analyses have demonstrated the efficacy of CM across studies

Large scale studies by the Clinical Trials Network have demonstrated the feasibility of transferring CM to community settings

**Yet, community clinicians have rarely received training in CM, and more often than not have never heard of CM**

# Training Therapists to Administer Contingency Management

Petry, Alessi & Ledgerwood, 2012, Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology



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# Study Aims

## Train

Train community-based therapists on the background and administration of CM.

## Provide

Provide individual supervision on administration of CM.

## Conduct

Conduct a randomized trial of the efficacy of CM for cocaine abstinence when applied by the therapists.



# Study Phases

## Phase I.

### Didactic Workshop Training.

- 2 days of instruction on CM
- Role-play and adherence exercises
- Had to pass tests to go to the next level

## Phase II.

### Individual Supervision with Pilot Patients.

- Weekly supervision meetings
- Graphic feedback on several domains
- Had to get adequate fidelity ratings to proceed

## Phase III.

### Random Assignment of Patients to Certified Therapists.

- Assigned to CM or to Standard treatment with extra monitoring/attention

# Clinicians and Patients

Trained 23 clinicians – 16 went on  
to the randomized trial

130 participants were randomized

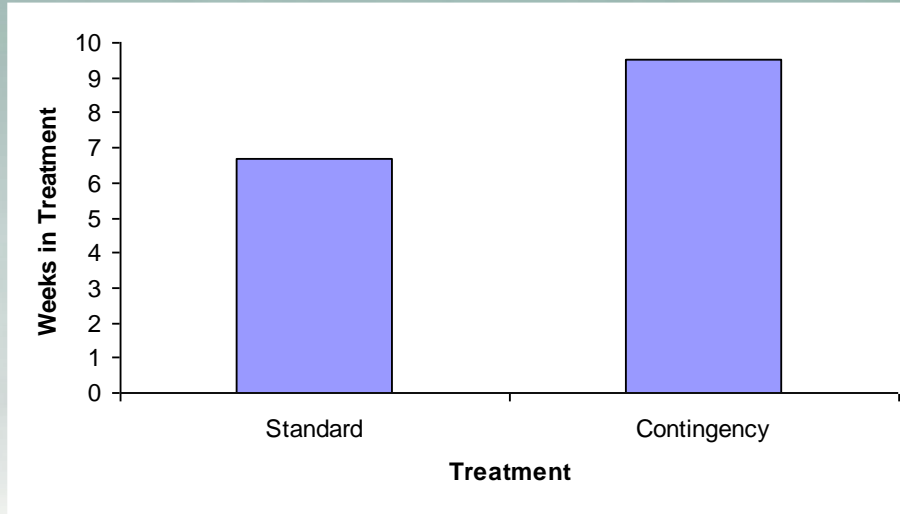
59 Standard  
care

71 Contingency  
management





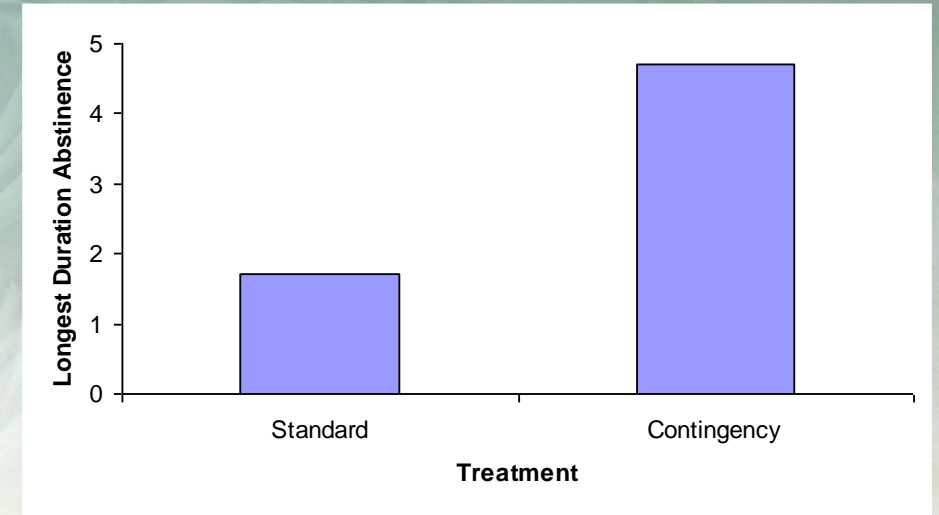
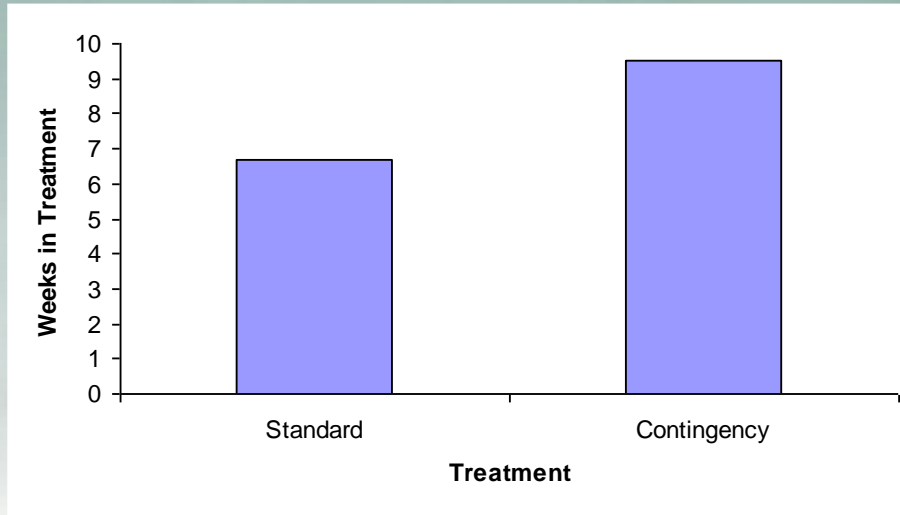
# Treatment Outcome Data



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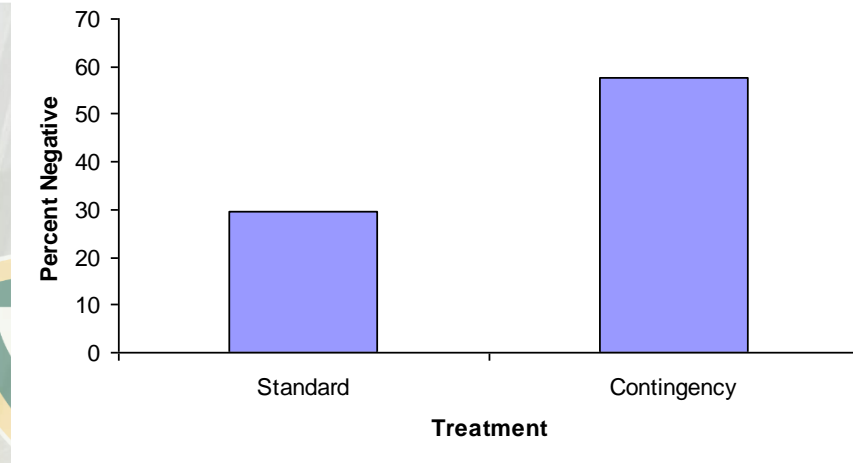
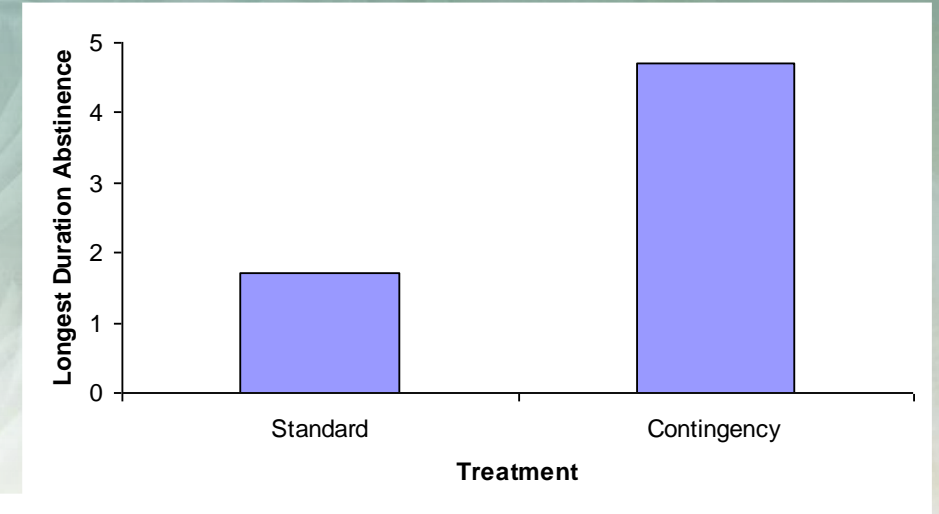
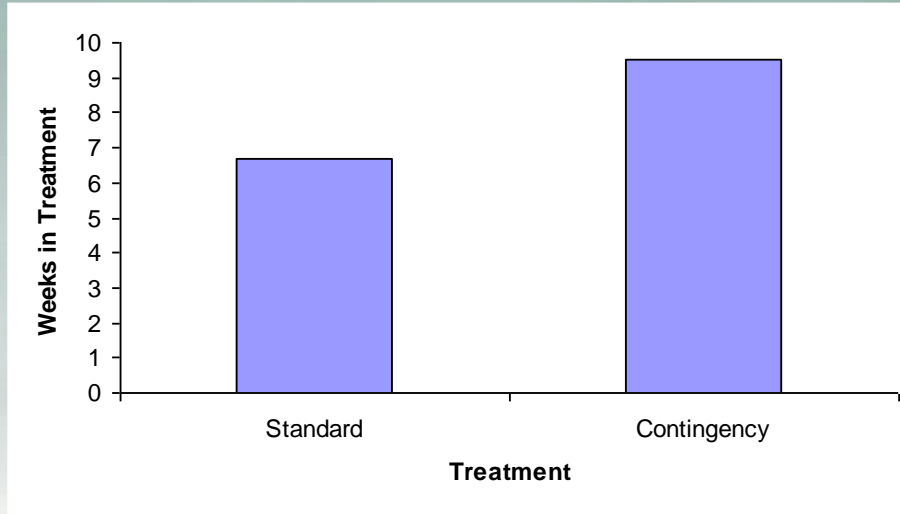


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# Treatment Outcome Data





# Treatment Outcome Data



- CM participants earned  $72.6 \pm 76.8$  draws during the 12-week study
- Mean (*SD*) overall reinforcement cost of \$160 (186) per patient.
- No significant differences at 9-month follow-up
- Therapists maintained “very good” to “excellent” fidelity to the CM during the random trial phase



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# CM for Attendance

Purpose - investigate the effectiveness of CM applied by clinicians in community-based clinics

75 outpatients in group treatment at four community-based substance abuse treatment clinics

8-week baseline followed by random order 16 weeks of standard care with CM followed by 16 weeks of standard care without CM or vice versa

Therapists received 3-hr training session on CM and research consent procedures





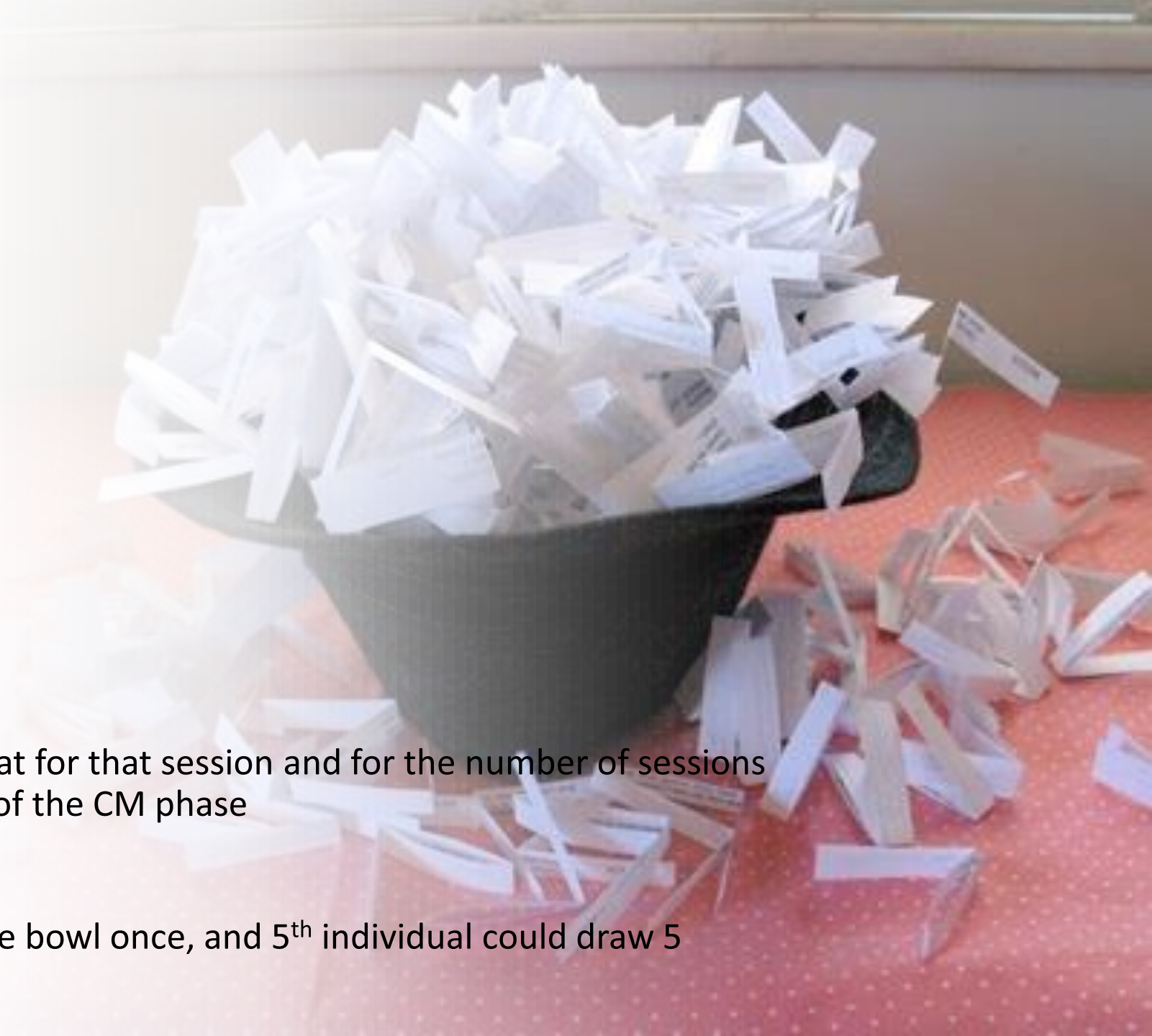
# Name in the Hat Technique

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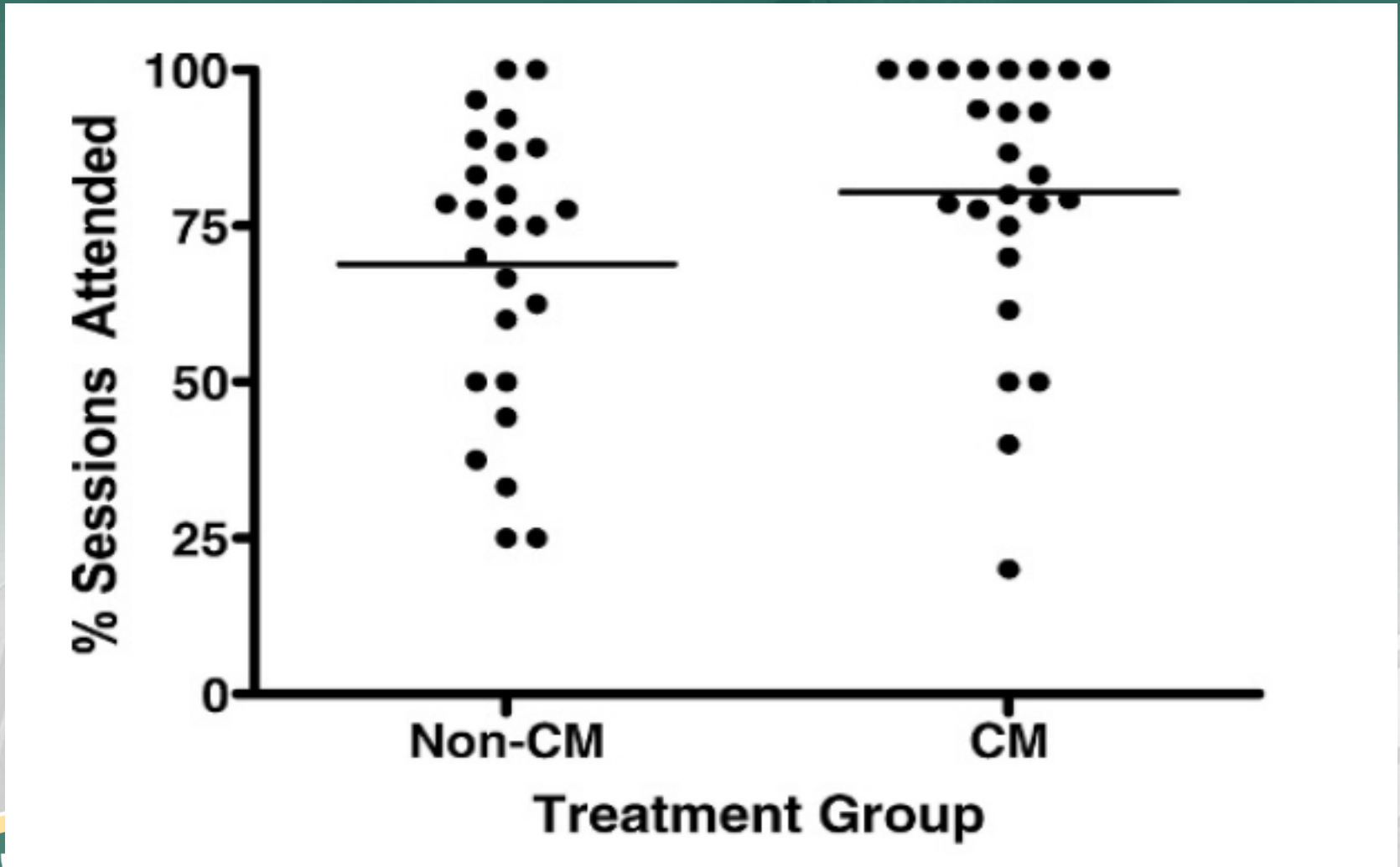
Participant could put their name in a hat for that session and for the number of sessions in a row attended since the beginning of the CM phase

5 names were drawn from the hat

First 4 individuals could draw from prize bowl once, and 5<sup>th</sup> individual could draw 5 times



Percentage of sessions attended for patients exposed to either non-CM or CM treatment phases across treatment site.



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# Results

Increased treatment attendance  
relative to non-CM

Average prize amount per patient  
ranged from \$56 to \$122 across  
treatment sites

Average cost to run a 16-week CM  
program (prizes only) was \$1,017  
and ranged from \$739 to \$1,131





# Our Rural Recovery House Study

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# Study Aims

AIM 1 – Train Recovery House staff members to implement CM

AIM 2 – Assess the effectiveness of CM for increasing retention in recovery house living, and in engagement in recovery-oriented activities



# Participants

- N = 120 Recovery House Residents
- N = 20+ Recovery House Staff Members



# Recovery House Residents

- Will receive either usual care in the recovery house or usual care plus contingency management (CM) designed to encourage engagement in recovery-oriented activities
- Complete assessments at baseline, post-intervention and 6-months
- Will meet weekly with a recovery house staff member







# Recovery House Residents

- Those receiving CM will meet weekly with a staff member to come up with 3 recovery-related activities to complete in the following week
- Participants will receive the chance to win monetary prizes for completing each activity
- Prize money added to a debit card, and determined using a virtual prize wheel



# Recovery House Residents

- Prize amounts – “good job” which will occur on about 50% of prize wheel spins and has a \$0 value; “small prize” which will occur on 40% of spins and will have a \$1 value; “large prize” which will occur on 10% of spins and have a \$5 value
- Given the stipulations of CMS/ HRSA, participants can earn a maximum of \$75 in incentives



# Recovery House Staff

Recovery house staff members will undergo a 1-day training to learn to administer CM

Include didactic and role-plays, as well as quizzes

We will ask staff to record their CM sessions for supervision purposes



# Conclusions

- CM effectiveness in treating individuals with substance use disorder
- A growing literature on implementation
- Needs of rural recovery houses may be a good fit with CM
- Our new project will demonstrate this



# Research Support

- WSU Psychiatry
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