

A Summary Checklist of Evidence-Based Drug Court Treatment Practices

Prepared by Roger H. Peters, Ph.D., University of South Florida

This checklist is designed to assist in reviewing drug court programs' treatment services to determine whether they reflect the use of evidence-based treatment practices. The checklist should be used in conjunction with a companion document entitled "Drug Court Treatment Services: Applying Research Findings to Practice - Issues Commentary and Resource Brief".

- ___ (1) Are participants placed in treatment immediately following eligibility screening?
- ___ (2) Does the drug court program use standardized screening instruments that have been validated for use with offenders?
- ___ (3) Does the drug court program use a standardized psychosocial assessment instrument that has been validated for use with offenders?
- ___ (4) Does the program assess all participants for mental disorders and history of trauma/PTSD?
- ___ (5) Does the program provide a risk assessment for all participants?
- ___ (5a) (If responded yes to item #5): Are your drug court participants assessed to be at "high risk"?
- ___ (6) Is the duration of substance abuse treatment at least 6 months and no more than 18 months?
- ___ (7) Does drug court treatment include the following elements of cognitive-behavioral and social learning models?
 - ___ Cognitive restructuring
 - ___ 'Criminal thinking'
 - ___ Problem-solving
 - ___ Self-control/self-management strategies
 - ___ Skill-building
- ___ (8) Does the drug court program focus on the following criminogenic needs, in addition to substance abuse?
 - ___ Antisocial attitudes/personality
 - ___ Antisocial peers
 - ___ Family/marital problems
 - ___ Education
 - ___ Employment
 - ___ Prosocial leisure activities

___ (9) Does the drug court program use any of the following evidence-based treatment interventions?

- ___ Contingency management
- ___ Medication-assisted treatment
- ___ Motivational enhancement therapy
- ___ Relapse prevention

___ (10) Are specialized treatment approaches used to address the following?

- ___ Co-occurring mental disorders
- ___ History of trauma/PTSD
- ___ Gender-specific issues
- ___ Juveniles/young adults

___ (11) Are manualized curricula used to guide drug court treatment?

___ (12) Is there a focus on outpatient treatment, with residential treatment reserved for those who have experienced multiple relapses or who are at risk for harm to self or others?

___ (13) Are there aftercare services in place?