Assertive Community Treatment: Key Ingredients and Engagement with Treatment

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Land Acknowledgement

In the spirit of respect, reciprocity and truth, we come here today from Moh’kinsstis, where the bow meets the elbow river, otherwise known as Calgary. We want to honour the traditional Treaty 7 territory and oral practices of the Blackfoot confederacy: Siksika, Kainai, Piikani, as well as the Stoney Nakoda and Tsuut’ina nations. We acknowledge that Treaty 7 territory is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3 within the historical Northwest Métis homeland. Finally, we acknowledge all Nations – Indigenous and non –who call this land home. In this sacred space, we share our knowledge but do not claim this to be all encompassing. We welcome and honour other ways of knowing.

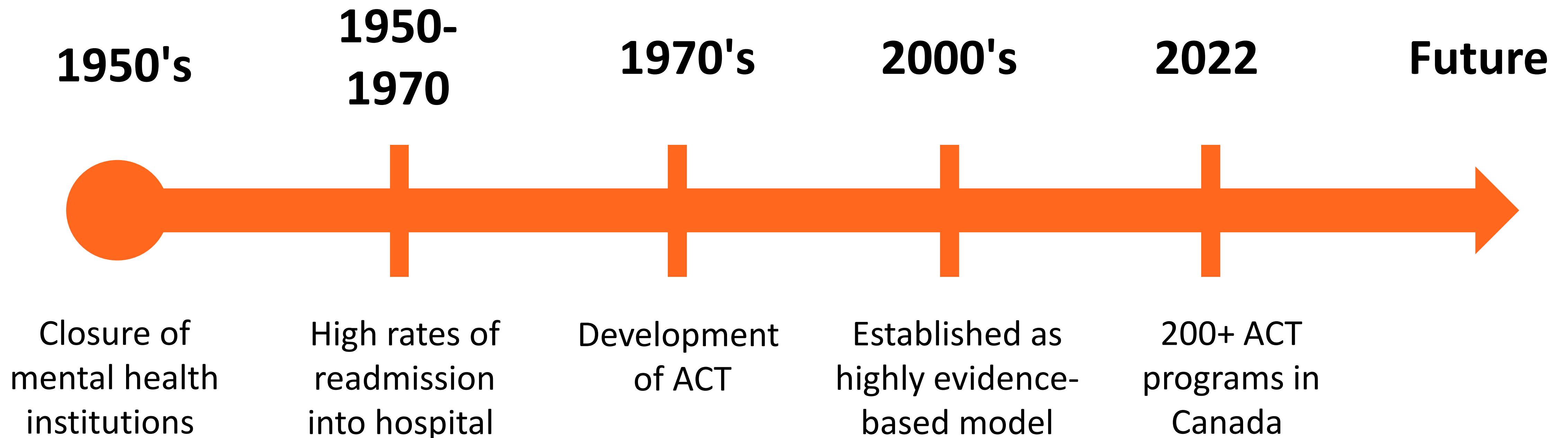
Agenda

- Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)
  - History
  - What is it?
  - Pathways to Housing
  - ACT Fidelity
- Engagement
- Key Ingredients
- Case Example
- Discussion and Questions

How many people in the room are familiar with the ACT model?

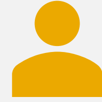
How many people work or have worked on an ACT team?

Assertive Community Treatment (ACT): History



(Bond et al., 2001; Phillips et al., 2001; Stein, Test, & Marx, 1975; Stein & Test, 1980; Stein & Test, 1985; Weiden & Olfson, 1995)

ACT: What is it?



Service Delivery Model

Population; Thought Disorder & High Risk of Psychiatric Hospitalization

Transdisciplinary Team

Joint Responsibility for Care

(Bond et al., 2001; SAMHSA, 2008)

Goals of ACT

Improved Quality of Life

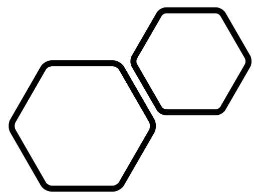
Increased Housing Stability

Decreased Institutionalization

(Bond et al., 2001; SAMHSA, 2008)

The Alex: Pathways to Housing

- The Alex
- Harm Reduction
- Housing First
- Developed in 2007
- Two Teams
- 200 Clients



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ACT Fidelity

- Measurement: TMACT
- Higher fidelity = better outcomes
- ICM programs + ACT principles = better client outcomes

(Bond et al., 2001; Mancini et al., 2009; Monroe-DeVita, Moser, & Teague, 2013; Phillips et al., 2001)

Engagement

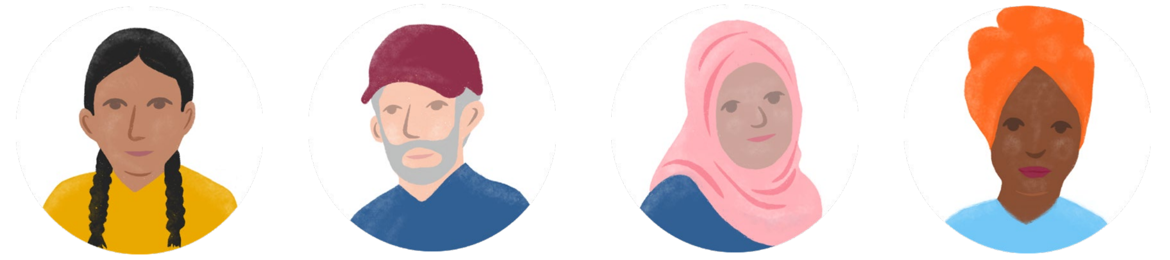


Table 2 The four overarching themes and the relationship to the sub-categories

Meaning of assertive engagement	Formal engagement strategies	Informal engagement strategies	Engagement strategies for difficult to engage clients
Shared understanding, holistic, therapeutic relationship, consistency and persistent, empathetic, yet assertive, prevention	Treatment plan development, team decision making process, pharmacotherapy, utilization of social support, linking with physical health provider	Accepting clients as they are, flexibility in care, humanizing experiences, empowerment, communication, reward system	Altering team expectations, different meanings of engagement, intense outreach, client rights, involuntary admission

(Berghofer et al., 2002, as cited in George et al., 2015; George et al., 2015)

Key Ingredients

- Approach to Service Provision
- Shared Case Management
- Effective Team

Approach to Service Provision

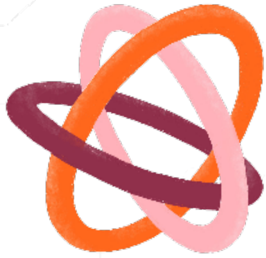
Connections
&
Community
Integration

(Bond et al., 2001; SAMHSA, 2008)

Shared Case Management

- Daily Team Meetings
- Daily Schedule
- Documentation
- Team Communication
- Shared Work Area
- Trust

(Bond et al., 2001; SAMHSA, 2008)



Benefits of Shared Case Management

- Higher Job Satisfaction
- Reduced Burn Out
- Reduced Impact During Staff Transition

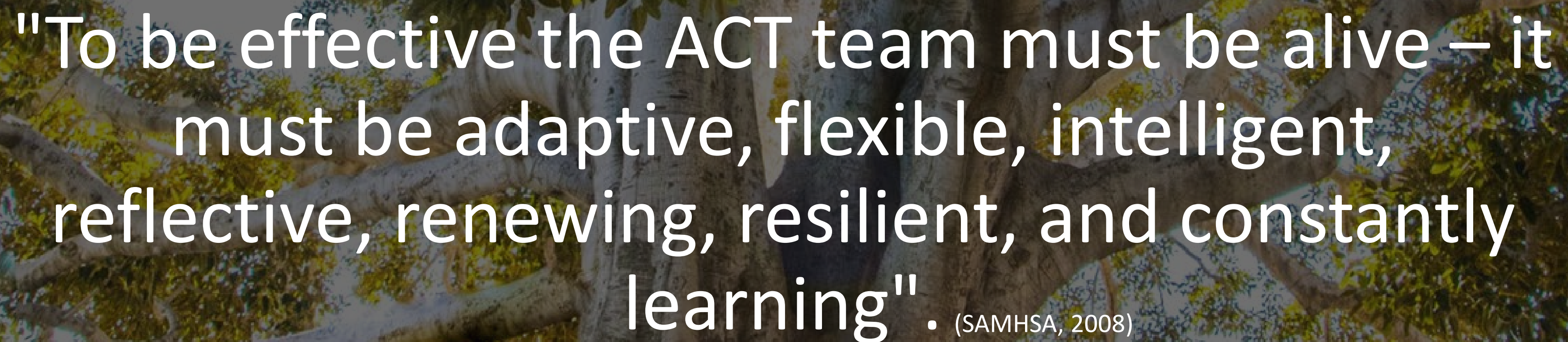
(Bond et al., 2001; SAMHSA, 2008)

- Leadership
- Experts
- Interchangeability

Effective Team

- Training & Education
- Change Culture
- Cohesive Group

(Bond et al., 2001; Mancini, et al., 2009; SAMHSA, 2008)


"To be effective the ACT team must be alive – it must be adaptive, flexible, intelligent, reflective, renewing, resilient, and constantly learning". (SAMHSA, 2008)

Case Example: Prelude

Increased Housing Stability

Better Sense of Community

Reduced Incidence of Violence

Reduced Staff Levels of Stress

Increased Accountability

Closing Remarks

We recommend to:

- Meet regularly to assess change
- Evaluate what's working and not
- Evaluate alignment to model
- Surveys

For leaders in the room interested in further information, please reach out to us for ACT model suggestions.

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Discussion and Questions

Please see the following slides for references and additional information if you would like to learn more

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