#### Adolescent Substance Use

Stan Brewer, DO

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry









#### Disclosure

No conflicts of interests









# Adolescent Substance Abuse Utah (National)

- Alcohol 18% (33%)
- Tobacco cigarette 9% (11%)
   e-cigarette or vaping 18% (24%)
- Marijuana 12% (40%)
- Inhalant Use 4.5% (7%)
- Prescription Drugs 6% (7%)
- Ecstasy, cocaine, meth -1-3% (up to 5%)

#### Adolescent Substance Abuse

- Frontal cortex
  - Impulse control
  - Poor foresight
- Experimentation
- Peer influence



#### Adolescent considerations

- Polysubstance use is the norm
- Brain more is susceptible to CNS effects of drugs
- Comorbid psychiatric diagnosis is the rule

### Specific substances

- Vaping
  - Is it safer?
  - Does it lead to cigarette use?
- Huffing
  - Dangerous with one use
- Prescription drug use
  - Opiate epidemic



#### Alcohol

• Experimentation

Binge drinking

Worsens depression and anxiety

## Medical Marijuana

• Indications for children and adolescents?

- Effects on developing brain
- Risk of exposure/overdose
- Message to youth about dangers?
- Who is benefiting?



### Marijuana effects on teens

- Decreased motivation
- Decreased intelligence
- Pulmonary/cancer risk
- Worsening depression and anxiety
- Risk for psychosis
- Increased risk for other addictions



### Is it a problem?

- Taking more than intended
- Unsuccessful at decreasing use
- Time spent obtaining, using, recovering
- Cravings
- Failure in major roles (school)
- Interpersonal or social problems but still use
- Give up important activities for use
- Use in hazardous situations
- Use despite knowing negative effects

- Tolerance
  - Need more for same effect
  - Decreased effect with same amount
- Withdrawal
  - Classic symptoms
  - Take substance to relieve withdrawal
- No longer abuse vs dependence
  - Mild: 2-3 symptoms
  - Moderate: 4-5 symptoms
  - Severe: 6 or more symptoms

### Treatment options

- CBT
- Motivational interviewing
- 12 step
- Combined programs
- Outpatient
- Residential
- Court ordered



### Characteristics of high quality treatment

- Monitor use drug screening
- Motivational enhancement (positive reinforcement)
- Dual diagnosis
- Individual > group for teens
- Family/parent involvement
- After care



#### What can I do?

- Screen
- Build therapeutic alliance
- Motivational interviewing
- Treat comorbid conditions
- Encourage non-using social activities
- Support parents
- Refer

#### The CRAFFT Screening Interview

Begin: "I'm going to ask you a few questions that I ask all my patients. Please be honest. I will keep your answers confidential."		
Part A		
During the PAST 12 MONTHS, did you:	No	Yes
1. Drink any <u>alcohol</u> (more than a few sips)? (Do not count sips of alcohol taken during family or religious events.)		
2. Smoke any <u>marijuana or hashish</u> ?		
3. Use <u>anything else</u> to <u>get high?</u> ("anything else" includes illegal drugs, over the counter and prescription drugs, and things that you sniff or "huff")		
For clinic use only: Did the patient answer "yes" to any questions in Part A?		
No □ Yes □ ↓		
Ask CAR question only, then stop Ask all 6 CRAFFT questions		
Part B	No	Yes
<b>1.</b> Have you ever ridden in a <u>CAR</u> driven by someone (including yourself) who was "high" or had been using alcohol or drugs?		
<b>2.</b> Do you ever use alcohol or drugs to <u><b>RELAX</b></u> , feel better about yourself, or fit in?		
3. Do you ever use alcohol or drugs while you are by yourself, or ALONE?		
4. Do you ever <u>FORGET</u> things you did while using alcohol or drugs?		
<b>5</b> . Do your <u>FAMILY</u> or <u>FRIENDS</u> ever tell you that you should cut down on your drinking or drug use?		
<b>6.</b> Have you ever gotten into <b>TROUBLE</b> while you were using alcohol or drugs?		

#### SBIRT

- Screen
- Brief Intervention
  - Motivational interviewing
- Referral for Treatment
  - SAMHSA

#### **SBIRT Step by Step**

4 Phases of SBIRT

Phase 1 ESTABLISH RAPPORT

ASSURE CONFIDENTIALITY AND
ADMINISTER ASSESSMENTS

Phase 2 ELICIT THOUGHTS - PROVIDE FEEDBACK

EXPLORE PROS AND CONS OF CHANGING, PROVIDE EDUCATION

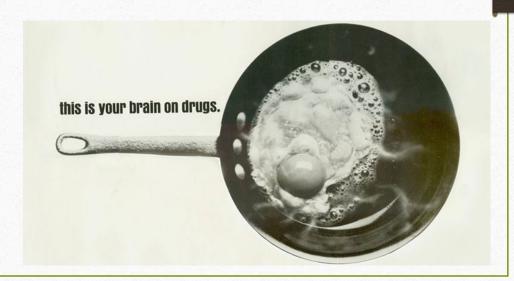
**Phase 3 ENHANCE MOTIVATION** 

ASSESS READINESS TO CHANGE AND ENHANCE MOTIVATION

<u>Phase 4 NEGOTIATE A PLAN</u>
SUMMARIZE SESSION, INVITE THEM BACK

### Motivational Interviewing

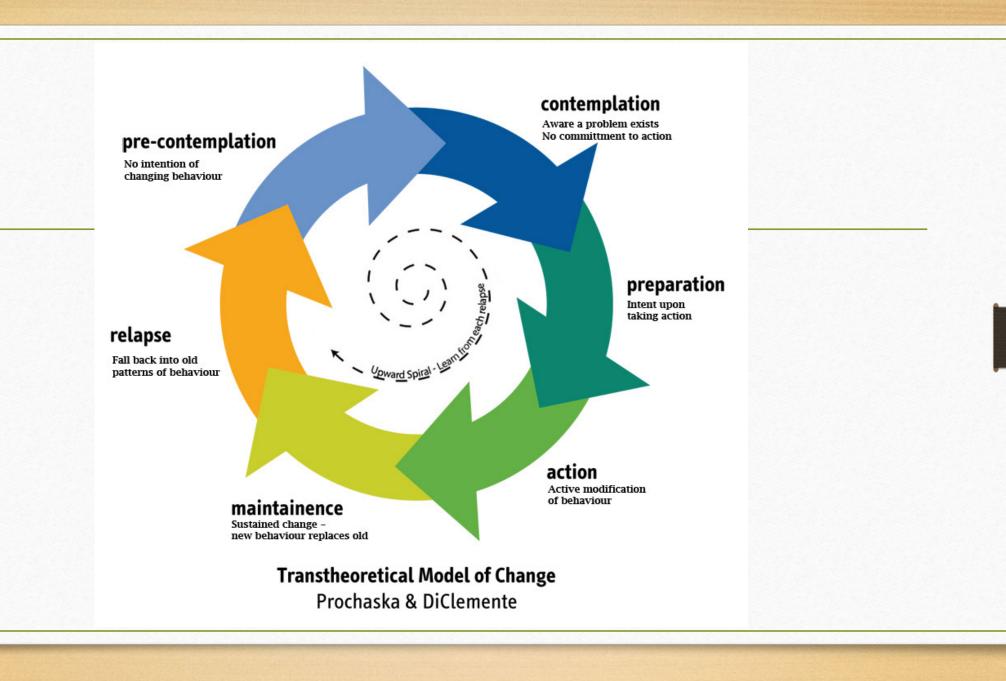
- The goal is to move the increase patients desire to change by building discrepancy
- Avoid lecturing or providing information
  - Ask for permission



## Techniques

- Empathy
- Develop discrepancy
- Roll with resistance
- Support self-efficacy
- Develop autonomy





# Thank you!







