

# **Applications of Motivational Interviewing in Mental Health**



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- An Interdisciplinary community for clinical and nonclinical professionals in direct care and population health management.
- Feature noncommercial CE events to build knowledge and reinforce core interdisciplinary competencies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century health workforce (CCP Modules I-IV):
  - Population Health Management
- Lifestyle Management
- Chronic Care/Self-Care Support
- Health Behavior Change
- Hosted by HealthSciences with support of individual and organization advocates for excellence in patient-centered, evidence-based care via skilled workforce (CCP > RHC Career Ladder) & quality measurement and performance improvement (HCPA/HCQI Tools/Software)







#### **Agenda**

- 10:30 to 11:30 (CT) Learning Presentation & Discussion
- 11:30 to 11:45 (CT) Community Updates & Announcements









# **Applications of Motivational Interviewing in Mental Health**



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### **Learning Objectives**

- Review general guidelines for the use of MI in mental health
- Identify when, and for whom, MI could be contraindicated
- Describe MI treatment options for depression
- Describe MI treatment options for anxiety

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"Motivational interviewing is a collaborative communication style for strengthening a person's own motivation and commitment to change."

Motivational Interviewing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Miller and Rollnick, 2012

## The Foundational Spirit of MI

#### **Partnership**

MI is done "for" and "with" someone

#### Acceptance

Absolute Worth, Autonomy, Accurate Empathy, Affirmation

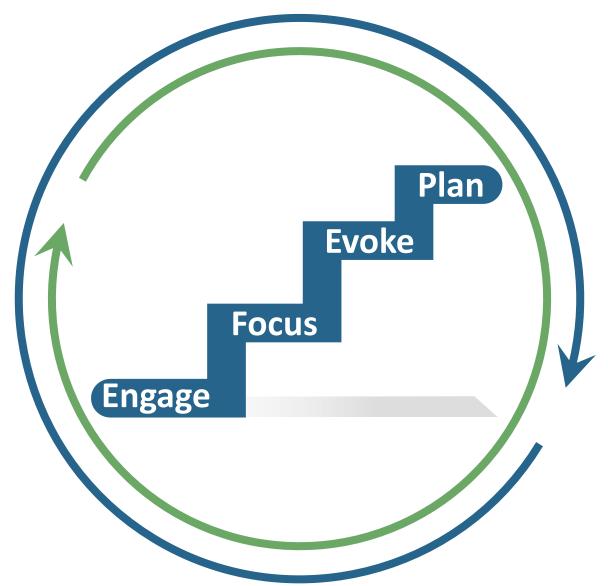
#### Compassion

MI functions to actively support the client's welfare, to give priority to their needs

#### **Evocation**

Eliciting wisdom or insight; finding these things within and drawing them out from the person, rather than imparting them to the person

## **Processes of MI: Stair-steps**



# **MI Methods Open-ended** Questions **Affirmations OARS Summarizations** Reflections

## **Steps for Clinicians in Learning MI**

- First, become open to the underlying Spirit of MI
- Develop proficiency in client-centered skills, esp. Empathy
- Recognize Change Talk as distinct from other forms of speech
- Evoke and Reinforce Change Talk
- Recognize and Minimize Discord
- Guide the Client in making a Plan for Change
- Gain Client Commitment to the Plan
- Learn to weave MI in to other therapeutic methods

### **General Guidelines for MI in Mental Health**

- Increase Intrinsic Motivation for Change
- Understanding that Motivation is not a Constant
- Recognize that Ambivalence is Normal
- Decrease Ambivalence about Change
- Recognize the Power of Autonomy Support

#### **Increase Intrinsic Motivation**

## MOTIVATION (n):

the stimulus, incentive, or inducement to act or react in a certain way. Purposeful behavior is motivated behavior, which means that either physiologic or social stimuli activates or motivates a person to do something.



Motivation and bathing are not permanent. That's why we need both every day.

Zig Ziglar



## **Types of Motivation**

## EXTERNAL MOTIVATION (n):

incentive that accrues as a result of influence

from outside sources; inducement to act or

change based on the expectations and

examples of other people.

## **Types of Motivation**

## INTERNAL MOTIVATION, (n):

incentive that accrues from within an

individual; inducement to act or change

based on an inherent or intrinsic desire



CHANGE...It doesn't come easy. Given a choice between changing and proving that it is not necessary, most people get busy with the proof.

John Galbraith



#### **Ambivalence: It's Normal!**

- Feeling two ways about something
- Uncertainty, dis-harmony, contradictory feelings
- Is generally uncomfortable if it continues
- Provides energy for making a decision

## **MI Helps To Decrease Ambivalence**

- Creates a safe, nonjudgmental space to discuss the contradiction
- Provides an opportunity to realize that either choice is valid
- Safe way to discuss consequences to either choice

And that means a decision is more likely to be made



Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there.

Will Rogers



### **Autonomy Support**

Whose life is it, anyway?

Avoid wearing the "fix-it" hat

Sounds good in theory, but it can be very difficult

#### **Potential Contraindications**

Lethality Assessments **Objectives of Using MI** 

Minimize coercion

Promote Autonomy

Promote Self-Efficacy

#### **Potential Contraindications**

# Lethality Assessments

#### **Modifications to MI**

More direct questions to the client

Limitations on available choices

Clinician may talk more than in "non-crisis" MI

Requirements of safety planning will rule the day

#### **Potential Contraindications**

Court-ordered Clients

**Objectives of Using MI** 

Minimize coercion

Promote Autonomy

Promote Self-Efficacy

# Potential Contraindications: Psychosis

#### When is a patient "too psychotic" for MI?

- Let the patient's response guide your clinical decision
- How does the patient react to reflections- more or less organized
- May need a more structured treatment approach until the symptoms stabilize
- Gradually introduce reflections again and gauge their effect

### MI in the treatment of Depression: Known Benefits

- Increases Engagement in the treatment process
- Helps to Increase activity levels
- Accurate Empathy from the Clinician reduces symptoms
- Improves medication adherence
- Effective when used with many other treatment modalities

# MI in the treatment of Depression: The "Engagement Session"

#### (AKA- Assessment or Intake Session)

- 1) Eliciting the client's story (presenting problem): Use your OARS
- Client's expectations/understanding of therapy: Elicit-Provide-Elicit
- Identify client's ambivalence to therapy- cultural, situational, personal
- 4) Guide client to resolve ambivalence- either choice is resolution
- 5) Increase commitment to therapy if applicable
- 6) Set a precedence for the client feeling heard and understood

### **Getting Off to a Good Start**

- This first encounter sets the foundation for therapy
- You only have one chance to make a first impression
- Studies indicate the using MI can
  - increase attendance in therapy groups
  - reduce hospitalization
  - increase medication adherence

## 1. Eliciting the Client's Story: OARS



Thank them coming in and for filling out the inevitable questionnaire/s.



Explain the rationale for the paperwork and assure that not every session is like this intake session.



Ask an Open Question, i.e. "What has been going on that brings you here today?" vs. Prescribing the presenting problem based on the paperwork



Listen, Reflect, Evoke: "What else?"

# 2. Evoke Client's Expectations/Understanding of Therapy: Elicit-Provide-Elicit

With permission, find out what the patient knows or has heard.

#### **Elicit:**

"Tell me what you know about the process of therapy."

#### **Provide:**

"What you know matches our style here well." (Use this chance to provide adjusted information, with permission, if needed.)

#### Elicit:

"You didn't mention anything about how many sessions you could expect to have; what are your ideas about that?"

# 3. Identify and Normalize Ambivalence to Therapy

#### Use those OARS again

"What concerns, if any, do you have about starting therapy?"

"Many people are worried about different things when they think about getting into therapy, and I wonder if that applies to you."

"It's your choice whether or not you start therapy and how long you stay."

The less we are perceived as pushing people to do something, the more open they stay to thinking about it.

#### 4. Guide the Client to Resolve Ambivalence

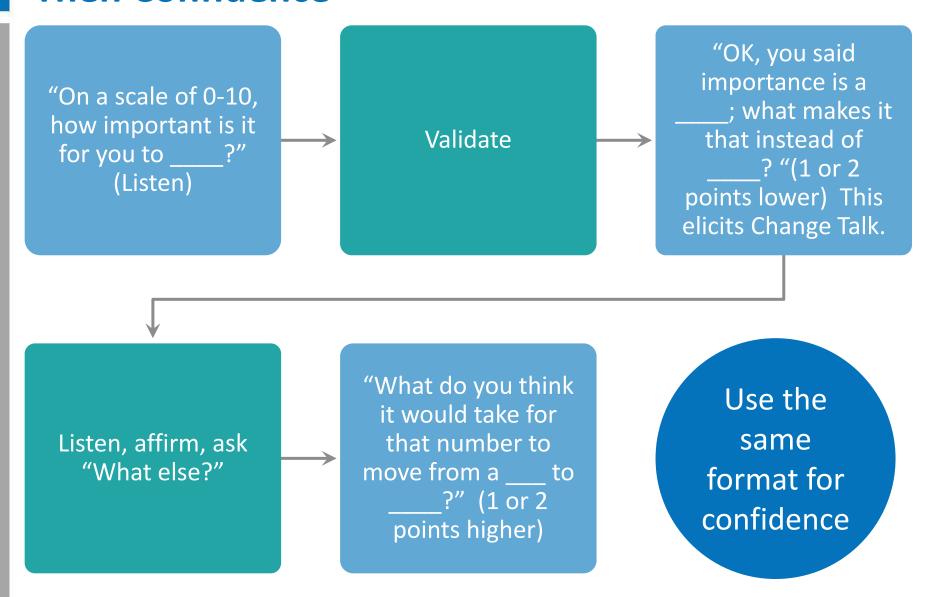
Again, this sets the foundation for strategies that will show up again in treatment.

"What would help you make this decision?" "What's the best/worst scenario if you do/don't do this?"

"What are the top three reasons to give this a try?"

Try the Readiness Ruler concept to assess importance and confidence.

## Readiness Ruler: Assess Importance, Then Confidence



### 5. Increase Commitment to Therapy

Flows nicely from the last question of the Readiness Ruler

"Now that we have completed the intake session, what thoughts do you have about whether or not to start therapy?" "What would help you make this decision?"

### Original Idea from Bem's Theory of Self-perception

As I hear myself talk, I learn what I believe.

## 6. Help the Client Feel Heard and Understood

- This basic need of most humans is central to resolution of ambivalence
- Difference between saying you understand and demonstrating that you understand
- Use Simple Reflections to demonstrate hearing
- Use Complex Reflections to demonstrate understanding

## **Clients Not Feeling Heard/Understood**



Afraid, Agitated, Angry, Ashamed

Defensive, Discounting, Disengaged, Doesn't Come Back

Helpless

**Justifying** 

Not heard, Not understood, Not valued

Oppositional, Overwhelmed

**Power Plays, Procrastination** 

Rebellion, Resistance

Tense, Timid, Trapped, Troubled

**Uncertain, Uncomfortable** 

## **Clients Feeling Heard/Understood**



**Accepted** 

**Comfort, Cooperation** 

**Empowerment, Engagement** 

Hopefulness

Increased interest, desire to talk, and to come back

Likes the clinician

**Openness** 

Respected by clinician, Recognizes ability to change

Safety, Security

**Understood** 

# MI in the Treatment of Depression: Symptom Structure

- Addresses two hallmark symptoms of depression:
  - Anhedonia- AKA "Low Motivation"
  - Feeling Stuck- AKA "Ambivalence"
- Reframes Label of Treatment Resistance into "Discord"
- Provides a framework for guiding the therapeutic focus, and the shift of focus throughout treatment

## MI in the Treatment of Depression: Medication Adherence

- Similar structure as use in depression overall
- Engagement is the priority
- Identify the specific ambivalence components
- Evoke, evoke, evoke
- Planning is the final step

## **MI** in the Treatment of Anxiety

- Once again, Engagement is the Key
- Typically high levels of Ambivalence exist in Anxiety D/O's
- Encourages the client to articulate reasons for change
- Is this starting to sound familiar?!

## **Citations & Additional Readings**

- Motivational interviewing to enhance adolescent mental health treatment engagement: a randomized clinical trial. Dean S<sup>1</sup>, Britt E<sup>2</sup>, Bell E<sup>3</sup>, Stanley J<sup>4</sup>, Collings S<sup>1</sup>
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- Clin Psychol Rev. 2015 Jun;38:1-12. doi: 10.1016/j.cpr.2015.02.008. Epub 2015 Mar 3. Evaluating the mechanisms of change in motivational interviewing in the treatment of mental health problems: A review and meta-analysis. Romano M¹, Peters L².
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- J Clin Psychol. 2012 Sep;68(9):961-71. doi: 10.1002/jclp.21885. Epub 2012 Jun 29.
   An open trial of motivational interviewing to address suicidal ideation with hospitalized veterans. <u>Britton PC<sup>1</sup></u>, <u>Conner KR</u>, <u>Maisto SA</u>.



## Please Submit Your Questions NOW

- Please submit via the GoToWebinar control panel
- We will respond to as many questions as possible





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