

# Motivational Interviewing (MI) for Brief Encounters

Making an impact in 15 min.  
or less!

Colleen Miller, RN, BS, CSBC, CHC  
Principal, Miller & Huffman Outcome Architects, LLC  
Co-founder, National Society of Health Coaches



# History of MI



Began in Psychiatry/Behavioral Health for the treatment of alcohol addiction in the early 80s

# MI Defined

A collaborative, person-centered form of guiding to elicit and strengthen motivation for change.  
(Rollnick et al, 2008)

# MI helps to...

- ⦿ Identify ambivalence and drill down to the dilemma
- ⦿ Understand how a person feels about change (readiness for change)
- ⦿ Develop clinician/client rapport
- ⦿ Establish a partner relationship
- ⦿ Evoke and reinforce change talk

# MI is Both:

Client-centered - whereas the client's thoughts, feelings, culture, birth generation and perceptions are acknowledged....and

Directive – clinician's use of specific strategies, concepts and interventions to guide client toward exploration, self-discovery, resolving ambivalence or the decision to change.

Rollnick, Miller & Butler (2008) state clients exposed to MI versus “treatment as usual” in various clinical trials were found to be more likely to:

- ◎ Improve medication adherence
- ◎ Have fewer hospitalizations
- ◎ Increase exercise
- ◎ Reduce stress
- ◎ Reduce sodium intake
- ◎ Keep food diaries
- ◎ Increase fruit and vege intake
- ◎ Improve glycemic control

# Spirit of MI

“How I am with people, what I say, and what I help them to say makes a difference in whether behavior change happens.”

Dr. William Miller, PhD

Originator of MI



Its all about  
**SKILLFUL CONVERSATION**



# Using MI with clients

Evidence-based Health Coaching (EBHC)®

The vehicle through which MI is implemented into the clinical engagement.

# EBHC is Not

- ⦿ Counseling
- ⦿ Directing
- ⦿ Managing

# Premise of EBHC

- ◎ Individual is the “real” change agent.
- ◎ Values, beliefs, culture, faith, and birth generation affect an individual’s healthcare decisions.
- ◎ A paradigm shift from “director” role to “partner” can change the dynamics of the provider/individual relationship and foster behavior change.

# Why EBHC has Emerged?

- ◎ Traditional methods not working very well
- ◎ Attention focused heavily on the patient/family engagement
- ◎ It improves outcomes

**CAUTION!**

A Paradigm Shift in Thinking  
**REQUIRED!**



# Traditional Approach vs. Health Coaching w/ MI

**Telling-Directing-Managing**

“Do these things....”



# What Things?

- ◎ Preventative Screenings
- ◎ Vaccinations
- ◎ Medications
- ◎ Exercise
- ◎ Diet

And if you don't "Do these things" ....

We have a label for you.....



**Non-compliant**



# “Non-compliance”



- ◎ 5% declare vaccine exemptions
- ◎ 10% of all hospital admits
- ◎ 14.5% of all ER visits
- ◎ Medication non-compliance= \$300billion/yr
- ◎ Med use- 50% take as prescribed
- ◎ Med use- 50% never start their regimen
- ◎ 30-60% of pts don't follow tx plans as ordered

# Why People Don't Change Behavior?

- ◎ Their values don't support it.
- ◎ They don't think it's important.
- ◎ They don't think they can.
- ◎ They haven't worked through their ambivalence about it.
- ◎ They aren't ready for it.
- ◎ They don't have a good plan.
- ◎ They don't have adequate social support.

# Center for Advancing Health , 2010 Engagement & Self-management Support

A person's involvement in their healthcare where professional information & advice **is in concert with the client's needs and preferences.**

Traditional  
Directing/Managing

vs.

Health Coaching w/ MI  
**Guiding/Facilitating**

“What is the  
greatest concern  
you have?”



## Example:

**Client:** “I’ll never be able to stay on this diabetic diet.”

### *Traditional Response:*

“Sure you will! I have lots of information for you to take with you and I’ll be here to help you.”

### *Health Coaching w/ MI:*

“What’s concerns you most about it?”

# Differences...

## Guiding/Facilitating

- ◎ Actively listens
- ◎ Empowers
- ◎ Non-judgmental
- ◎ Patient's concerns

## Directing/Managing

- ◎ Gives advice
- ◎ Diagnosis-driven
- ◎ "Does the talking"
- ◎ Provider's agenda

# NSHC's Clinical Model



Copyright © 2011



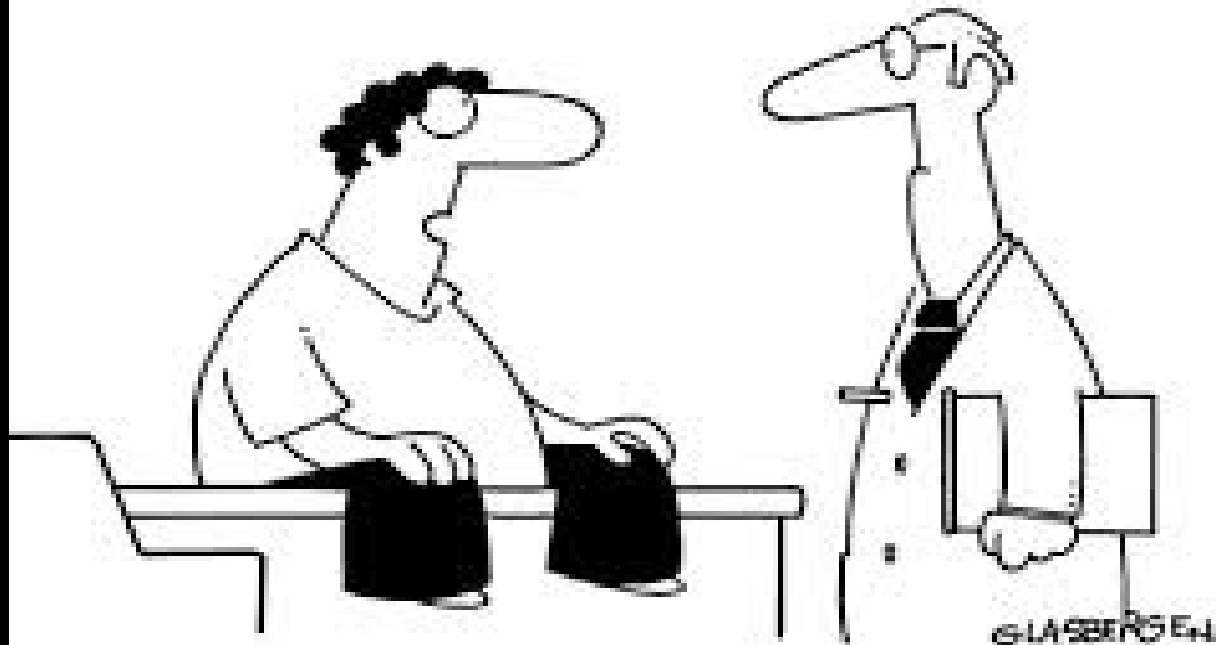
**How well is the patient  
managing him/herself today?**



# Health Teaching ≠ Self-management or Compliance!



Copyright 2003 by Randy Glasbergen.  
www.glasbergen.com



**"I'm taking better care of my heart. I've started using aspirin as one of my pizza toppings."**

# 4 Guiding Principles

## Miller & Rollnick's "RULE"

- ◎ **R**esist the *Righting Reflex*
- ◎ **U**nderstand patient's dilemma/motivation
- ◎ **L**isten
- ◎ **E**mpower

# Ambivalence

- ◎ The “BUT” in the middle
- ◎ Feeling two ways about something (conflicting thoughts & feelings about a behavior change)
- ◎ Not to be confused with defiance or resistance

# Ambivalence

**We are them!**

Something about yourself that you

- ◎ Want to change?
- ◎ Need to change
- ◎ Should change
- ◎ Have been thinking about changing

But you haven't changed yet...i.e- you're ambivalent about...

# Ambivalence

“I’ve tried losing weight before, **BUT** I just can’t stay on my diet.”

“My doctor gave me a prescription, **BUT** I don’t know that it’s going to help that much. I’m not sure I really need to fill it.”

# Ambivalence

Understand the client's Dilemma & Motivation





# Drilling Down Ambivalence

Reasons for staying the same  
&  
Reasons to change

Listen ....Actively

Strive to be interested.....

NOT interesting!

Listen for certain cues about the client's change readiness....and respond accordingly!

“I might...”

“I’ve thought about..”

“ I can’t...”

“I’m considering...”

“I don’t think I can...”

“I plan to...”

“I’m really not interested in...”

# We tend to believe what we hear ourselves say...

- ◎ The more one talks about reasons for change, the more likely one is to change.
- ◎ The more one talks about the disadvantages of change, the more one is committed to sustaining the status quo.
- ◎ If we continually talk in a way that causes one to “defend” where he/she is, change is **LESS** likely to occur.

# Open-ended Questions

- ◎ Requires thought to formulate a response.
- ◎ Allows time for one to expound upon a response.
- ◎ Allows one to reflect upon feelings, concerns, values about the real issue(s).
- ◎ Provides the means for the clinician to drill down to the real dilemma(s)

# Examples:

## Open-ended Questions/Responses

- ◎ Tell me what concerns you most about \_\_\_\_\_.
- ◎ How will this change affect your lifestyle?
- ◎ Explain what you understand about \_\_\_\_\_.

# More....Open-ended

- Tell me (more) about....
- How might you....?
- Explain what's hindering about \_\_\_\_\_?
- What will you need to do so that.....?
- How might \_\_\_\_\_ affect your family, your work?

# AVOID Creating Resistance

Actions that usually create resistance:

- Convince one they have a problem
- Argue for benefits of change
- Tell someone how to change
- Sternly warn them of consequences

# Empowering the client

- ◎ Ask permission

“Would you be willing to consider.....?”

“Would you be interested in some information about...?”

“Do you have any objection to.....?”

“May I give you some reading material about.....?”

## **2. Giving information (Elicit – Provide – Elicit)**

Respect what the patient already knows, by finding out.



# Affirming Strengths

Examples:

Client: “I tried everything I can to stay on this diabetic diet and frankly, I feel like giving up.”

Clinician Response: “You’ve worked very hard on this.”

Client: “I moved my morning medicine to the kitchen table, where hopefully I will remember to take it when I eat breakfast.”

Clinician Response: “You’ve had a great idea! Remembering to take medication is not always easy.”

# Summarizing

- ⦿ Provide a brief synopsis of the conversation
- ⦿ Identifies key elements
- ⦿ Restates commitments
- ⦿ Helps establish accountability
- ⦿ Provides an opportunity for the client to correct or clarify what they have said.

# How to Start?

- ◎ Invite the client to talk

*“I understand Dr. White wants to get your weight down to help lower your blood pressure blood. Tell me your thoughts on this.”*

- ◎ Listen Carefully with the goal of understanding the dilemma (ambivalence) - **Give no advice!**
- ◎ Use Open-ended responses/questions

# Group Practice

**“Its too hard to stay on  
this low-fat, low salt diet.”**

“I’m really not sure if I can quit smoking.  
I’ve tried quitting more than once.”

“I doubt that I will ever be able to fit exercise into my day with my crazy work schedule.”

*Change is similar to  
an iceberg.*



**15% is visible above the water.**

**The driving force is deep below the surface where  
85% of the iceberg is susceptible to different  
currents and flow.**



# Readiness for Change Tools

1. Importance of making the change
1. Confidence level for change

# “Importance of Change” Tool

On a scale from 0-10, where 0 is not at all important and 10 is extremely important, how important would you say it is for you to \_\_\_\_\_?

<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<i>Not at all</i>					<i>Extremely</i>					
<i>Important</i>					<i>Important</i>					

(Miller, W. & Rollnick, S. (2002). *Motivational Interviewing: Preparing People for Change*)

# “Confidence to Change” Tool

On a scale from 0-10, where 0 is not at all confident and 10 is extremely confident, how confident are you, that if you decide to \_\_\_\_\_, you could do it?

**0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10**

*Not at all  
Confident*

*Extremely  
Confident*

- ◎ (Miller, W. & Rollnick, S. (2002). *Motivational Interviewing: Preparing People for Change*)

# MI for Brief Encounters

## 3 Take-A-Ways:

1. What concerns you most about...?
2. Open-ended questions
3. Readiness for change...?



“It is the truth we ourselves speak rather than the treatment we receive that heals us.”

O. Hobart Mowrer, 1966



[info@nshcoa.com](mailto:info@nshcoa.com)

[colleen@nshcoa.com](mailto:colleen@nshcoa.com)

