

Cognitive-behavioral coping skills therapy for opioid abuse

Substance Abuse: Substance Abuse Treatment for Adults

Literature review updated September 2016.

As part of WSIPP’s research approach to identifying evidence-based programs and policies, WSIPP determines “what works” (and what does not work) to improve outcomes using an approach called meta-analysis. For detail on our methods, see our [Technical Documentation](#). At this time, WSIPP has not yet calculated benefits and costs for this topic.

Program Description: Cognitive-behavioral coping-skills therapy is a manualized, standalone treatment for alcohol and/or drug abuse or dependence. This intervention emphasizes identifying high-risk situations that could lead to relapse such as social situations, depression, etc. and developing skills to cope with those situations. Clients engage in problem solving, role playing, and homework practice. The intervention is often provided in an individual therapy format but can be conducted in groups as well. Treatment in the included studies occurred over an average of three months. Studies used in this analysis evaluated the program in a population of opiate users receiving medication-assisted treatment (methadone or buprenorphine).

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes measured	No. of effect sizes	Treatment N	Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis						Unadjusted effect size (random effects model)	
			First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated			ES	p-value
			ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age		
Opioid drug abuse or dependence	4	169	0.006	0.109	37	0.000	0.187	40	0.006	0.956

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Fiellin, D.A., Barry, D.T., Sullivan, L.E., Cutter, C.J., Moore, B.A., O'Connor, P.G., & Schottenfeld, R.S. (2013). A randomized trial of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in primary care-based buprenorphine. *The American Journal of Medicine*, 126(1).
- Ling, W., Hillhouse, M., Ang, A., Jenkins, J., & Fahey, J. (2013). Comparison of behavioral treatment conditions in buprenorphine maintenance. *Addiction*, 108(10), 1788-1798.
- Moore, B.A., Barry, D.T., Sullivan, L.E., O'Connor, P.G., Cutter, C.J., Schottenfeld, R.S., & Fiellin, D.A. (2012). Counseling and directly observed medication for primary care buprenorphine/naloxone maintenance. *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, 1.
- Moore, B.A., Fazzino, T., Barry, D.T., Fiellin, D.A., Cutter, C.J., Schottenfeld, R.S., & Ball, S.A. (2013). The recovery line: A pilot trial of automated, telephone-based treatment for continued drug use in methadone maintenance. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 45(1), 63-69.

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