



# Northern Nova Scotia's Journey in Implementing and Sustaining Evidence Based Practice



★ Help,  
Hope & ★  
★ Health

# PRESENTER

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Director, Addiction Services  
Northern Nova Scotia



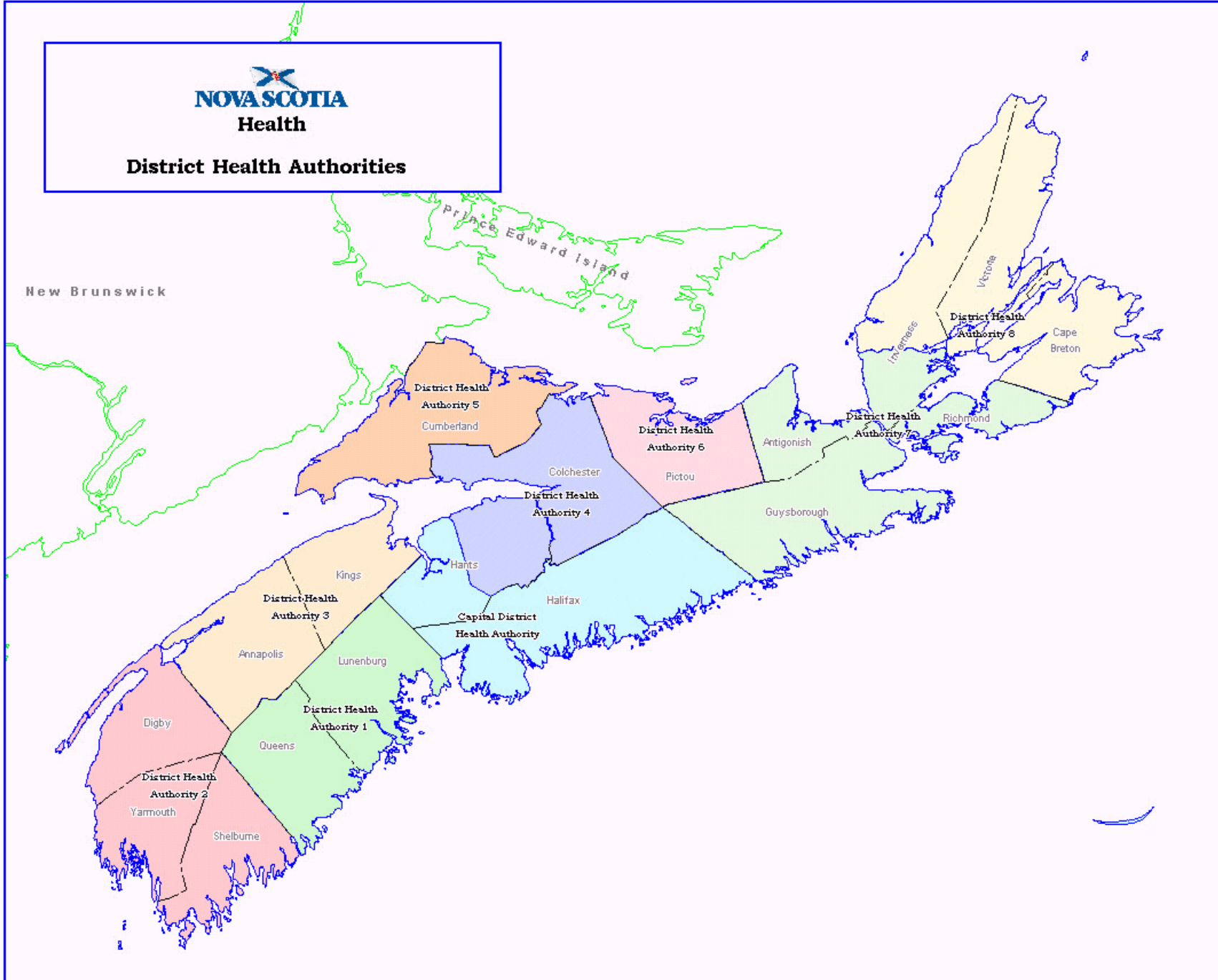
- Introduction
- EBDM & Best Practices
- Stages of Change
- Program Feedback
- Barriers & Continuous Improvement



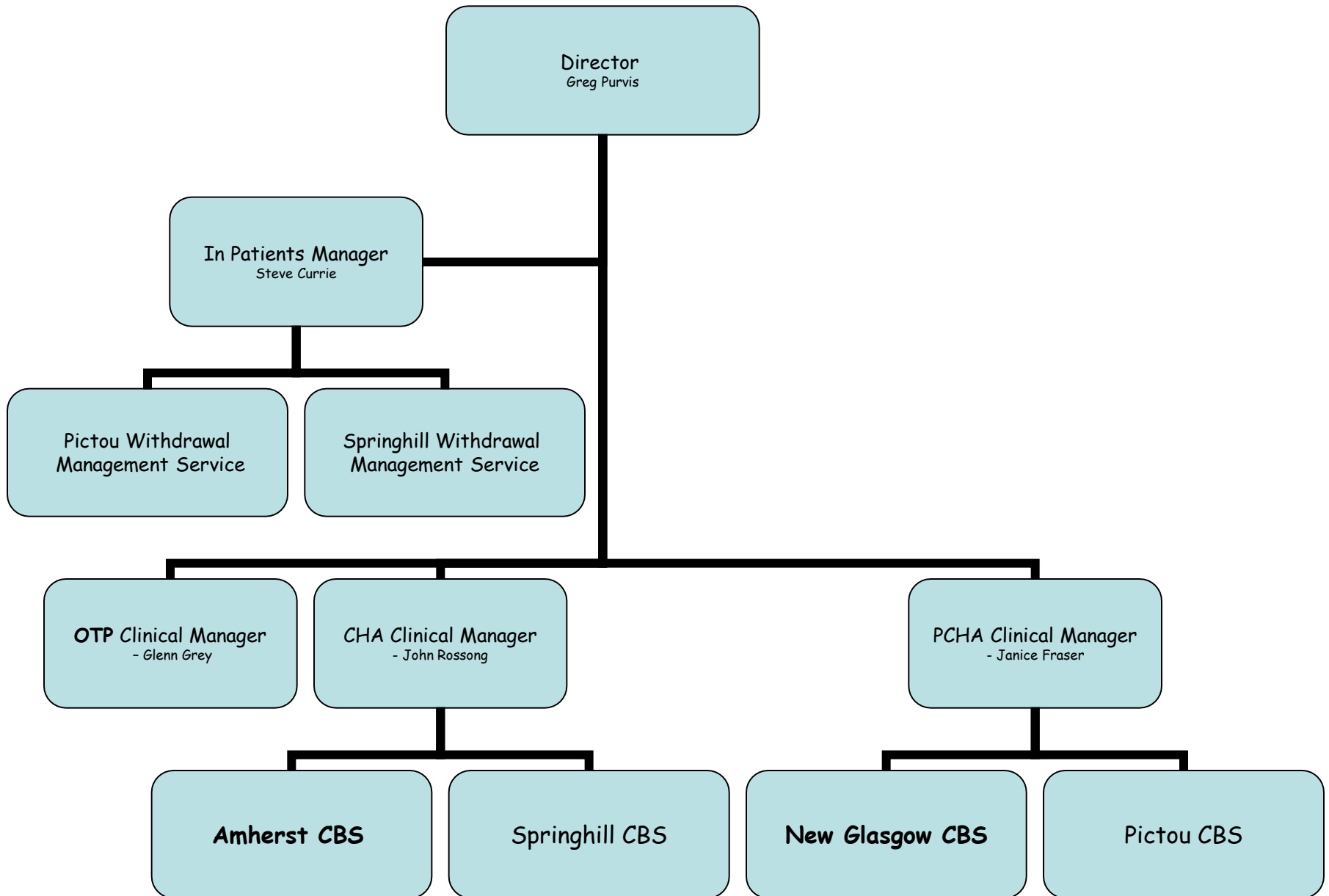
★ Help,  
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★ Health



### District Health Authorities



# Organizational Chart

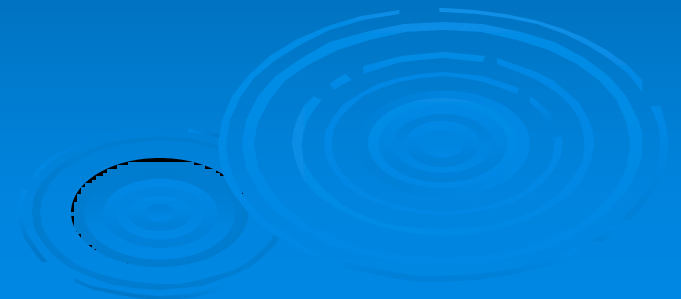


# Addiction Services



# Core Values

- People First
- Integrity in Action
- Excellence in Service



Treatment works

but evidence-based treatment  
works better...





# Best Practices

Substance Abuse  
Treatment and Rehabilitation





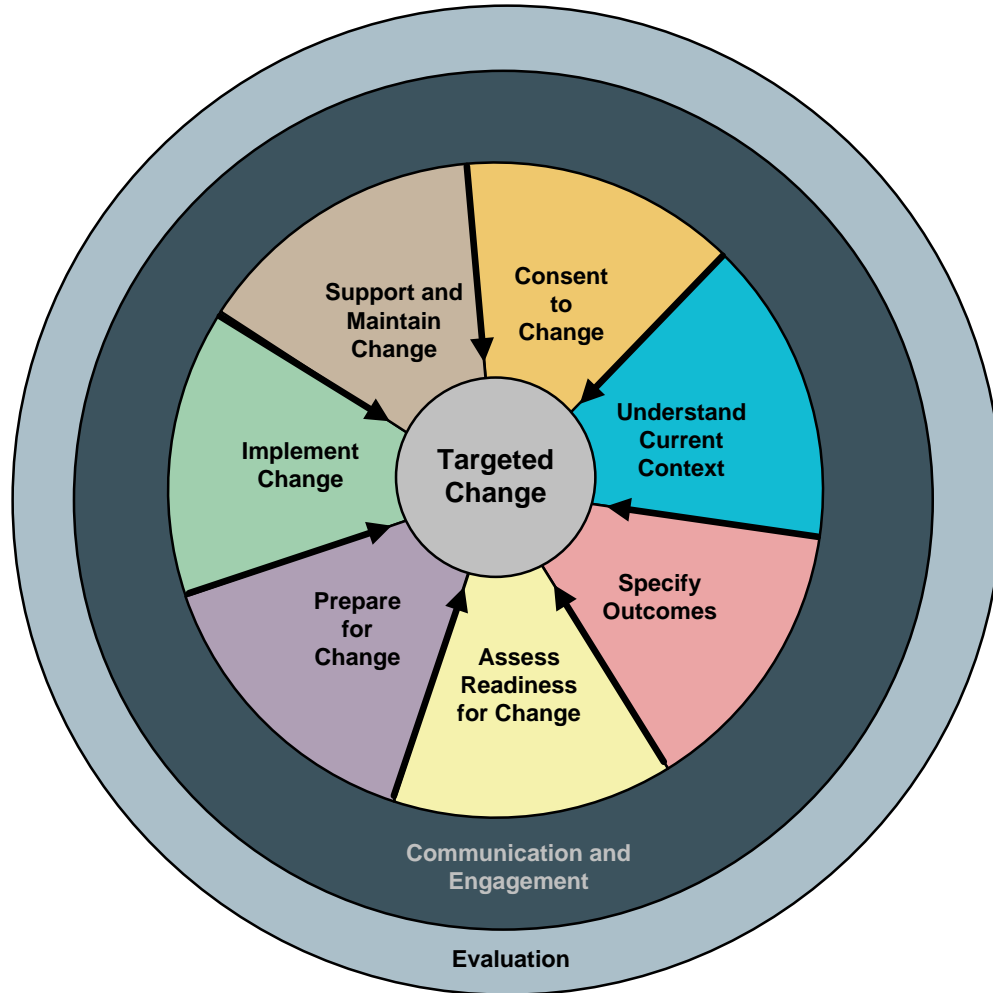
Nova Scotia  
**Gaming Foundation**

“If you build it they will come”



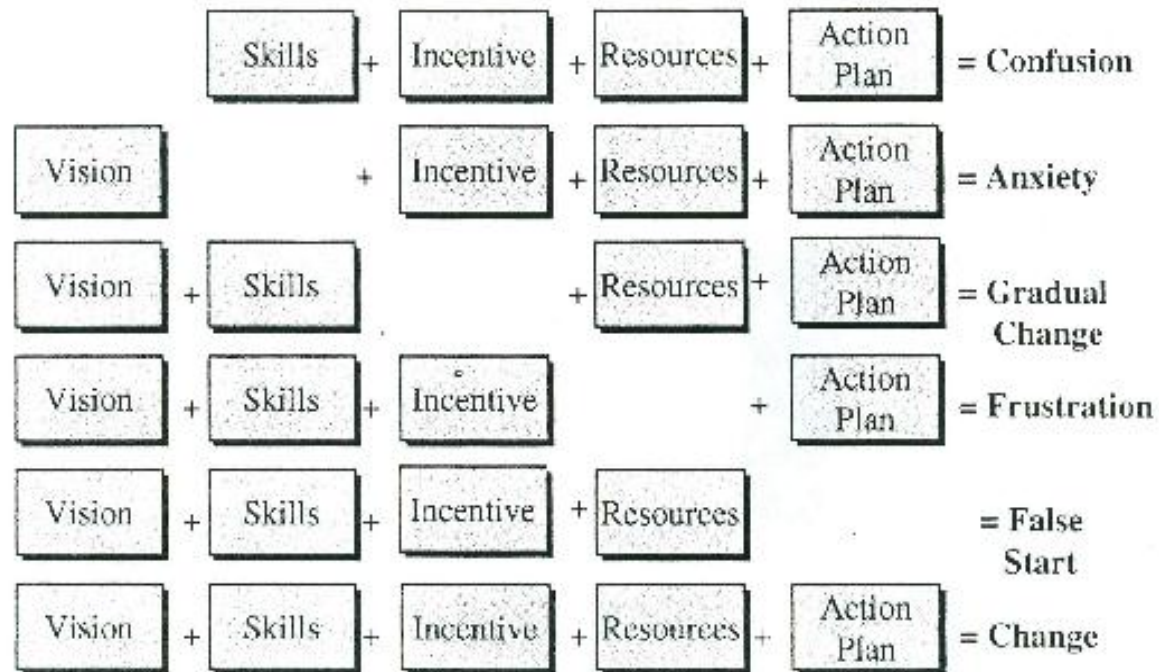
I THINK YOU SHOULD BE MORE SPECIFIC HERE IN STEP TWO





## Knowledge Exchange and Change Management

### Critical Success Factors For Change



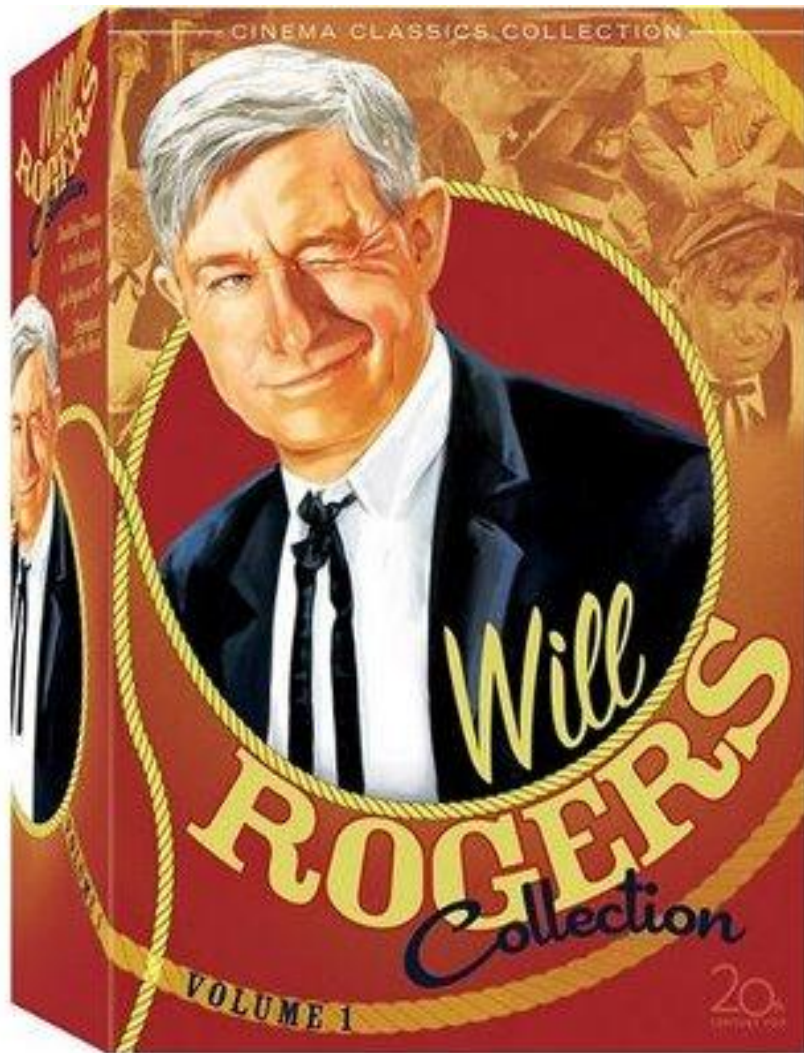
# Stages of Change

## ➤ Prochaska - DiClemente (1982)

- Precontemplation
- Contemplation
- Preparation
- Action
- Maintenance







- “People need to know you care, before they care what you know.”  
– Will Rogers

# Precontemplation

## (Why change, we're perfect?)

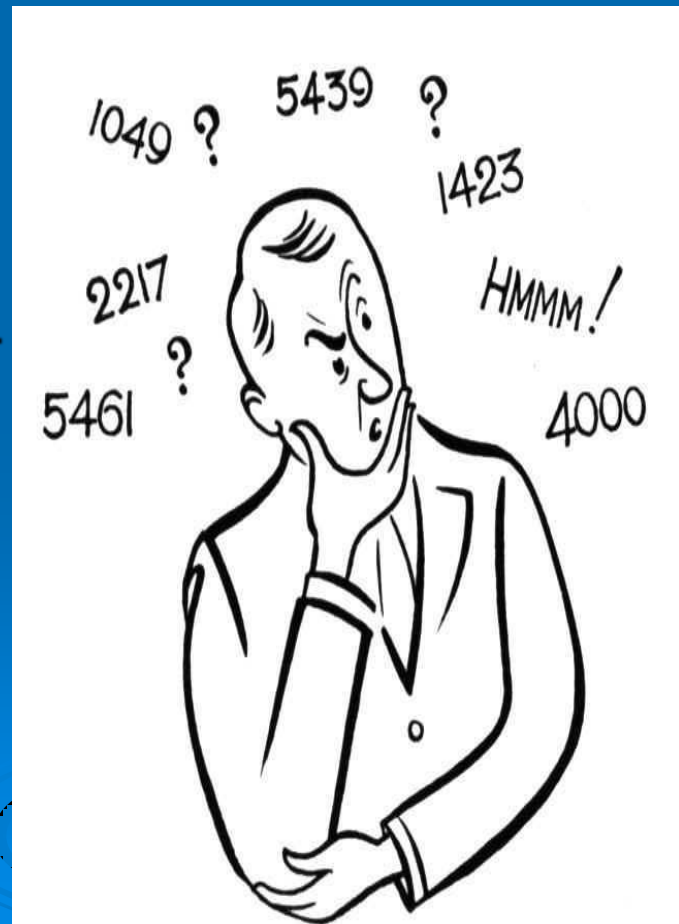
- Senior leadership support was secured & communicated
- The new approach was presented to the team
  - clear, credible and continuous manner
  - several months prior to training
- Opportunities were taken to discuss the model
  - team meeting, individual supervisions, informal meetings
- Asking Questions & eliciting feedback
  - how the model would impact culture & work style
- A Presentation was delivered summarizing:
  - previous 3 months of preparation
  - similarities and differences with current approaches to treatment
  - sampling of CRA tools



# Contemplation

(This will effect me how?)

- Provided Practitioners manual with all tools and Text Book
  - Clinical Guide to Alcohol Treatment; The Community Reinforcement Approach (Meyers and Smith)
- Audio taping introduced.
- Training was always presented as an option.
- Life Link Training Institute 3 day training
  - began formal implementation process.



# Preparation

(You want to put a tape recorder where?)

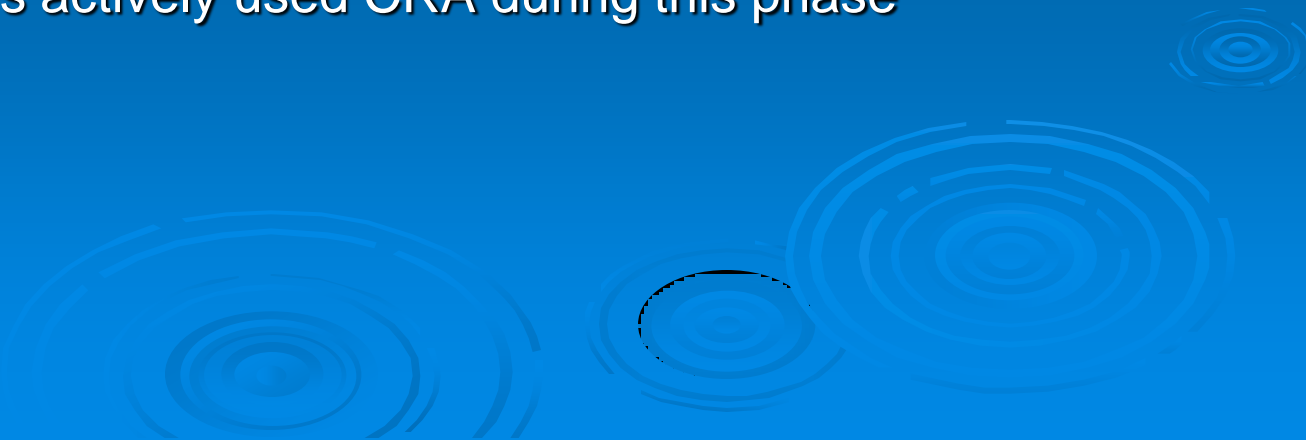
- Establishing of date to begin audio taping (3months)
- Began using role play
- Team cohesion became evident
- Challenges/language/philosophical fit/cultural fit



# Action

(You're a star!)

- Presented clinical tapes at team meetings
- Use of “positive sandwiches” introduced
- Art of *how* VS the Mechanics of *what*
- Team began using the various tools in an integrated way
- All team members actively used CRA during this phase



# Maintenance

(What was all the fuss about)

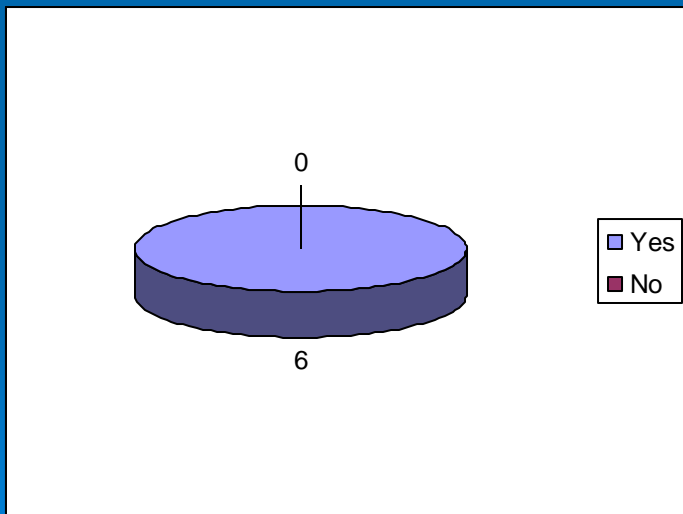
- First team in Canada to be CRA certified
- Final training and graduation celebration
- Team members began mentoring each other
- Continued audio taping, coaching sessions and team trainings
- Challenge: “therapist drift”



# Are we meeting objectives?

Were the objectives of  
CRA made clear?

- 100% agree



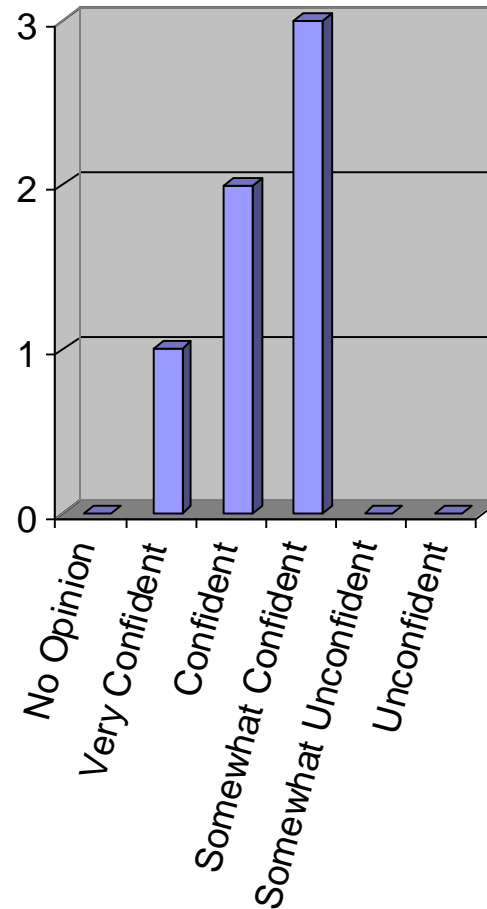
Has training met these  
objectives

- 100% agree



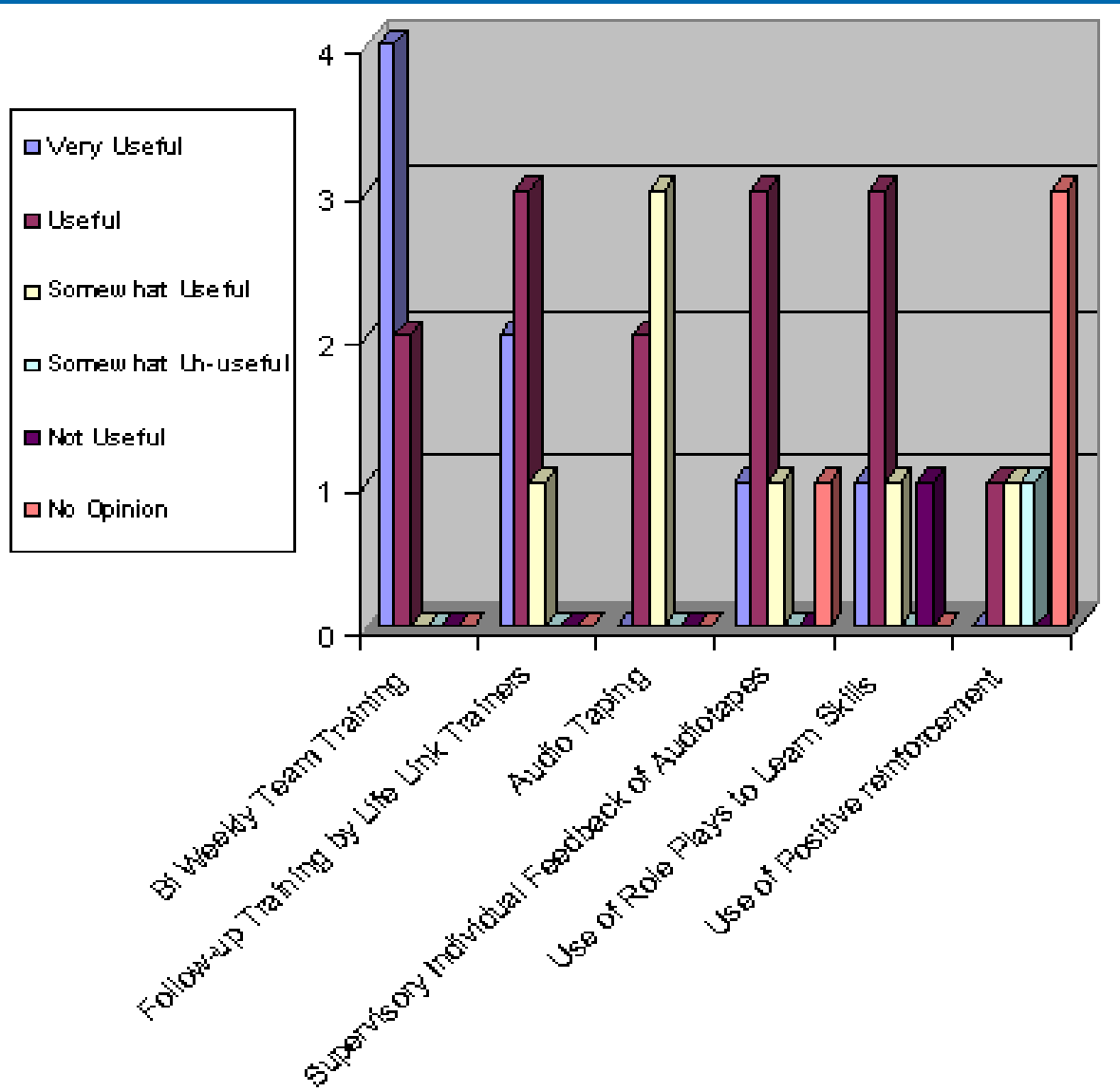
# Confidence in CRA Application

- Are we confident in applying CRA in the clinical setting?





# Are CRA Training Activities Useful?



➤ Any comments?

➤ Positive Reinforcement

- Specific feedback is useful
- Does this refer to staff?
  - Useful vs. manipulative

# Barriers to Learning CRA

- Focus on alcoholism
  - Gambling not in learning material
- Counters feminist counseling principles
  - ❖ Directiveness VS the client centered approach
    - ❖ Meshing of therapist and client agenda
  - ❖ Less beneficial for clients with a 'quick turnaround.'
    - ❖ Gamblers see to be gone before building relationship, work plans

# Improving CRA Implementation



- Role-play practice
  - More = Better
- Case Discussions
  - At team meetings
- The paperwork process
  - CRA forms

if you don't support it they will leave







ANY PERSONS (EXCEPT PLAYERS)  
CAUGHT COLLECTING GOLF BALLS  
ON THIS COURSE WILL BE  
PROSECUTED AND HAVE THEIR  
BALLS REMOVED

“Systems intended to support our work shouldn’t interfere with our work”





# What have we tried

- Teams lead training
- Clinical Managers lead training
- Imbed on going training in research projects

PARSONS

# Does someone close to you have a gambling problem?

Call to find out more about a research study looking  
at the best way to help concerned family and friends.

[helpsonline.net](http://helpsonline.net)

1-866-289-4099

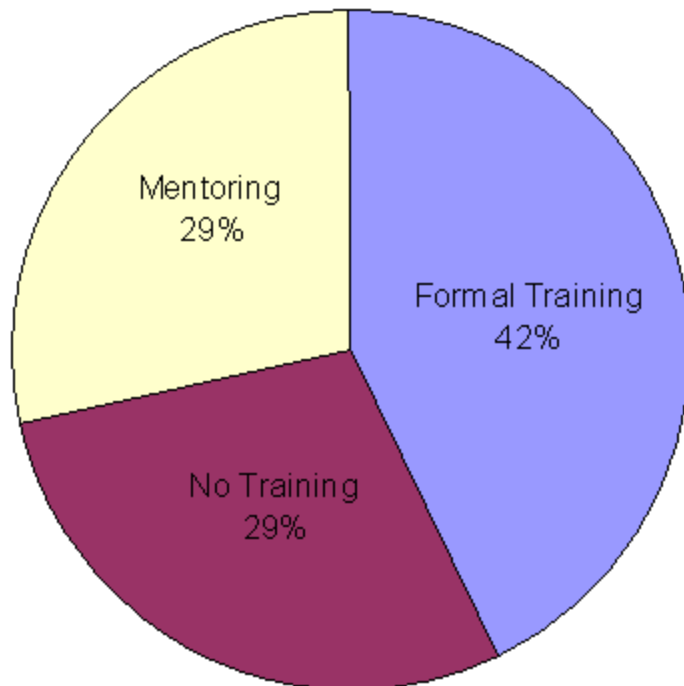


How's that been working for ya

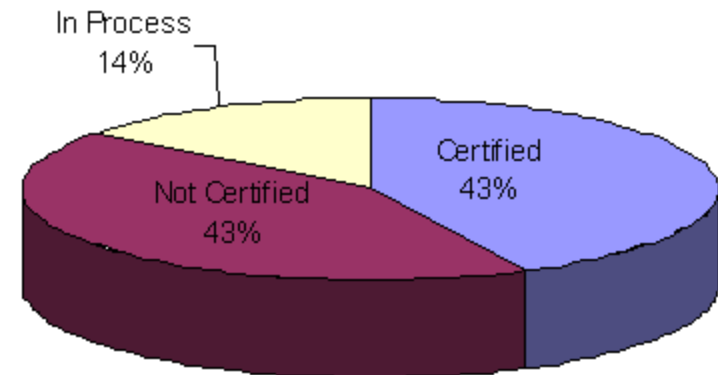


# CRA Training & Certification

**CRA Training**



**CRA Certification**

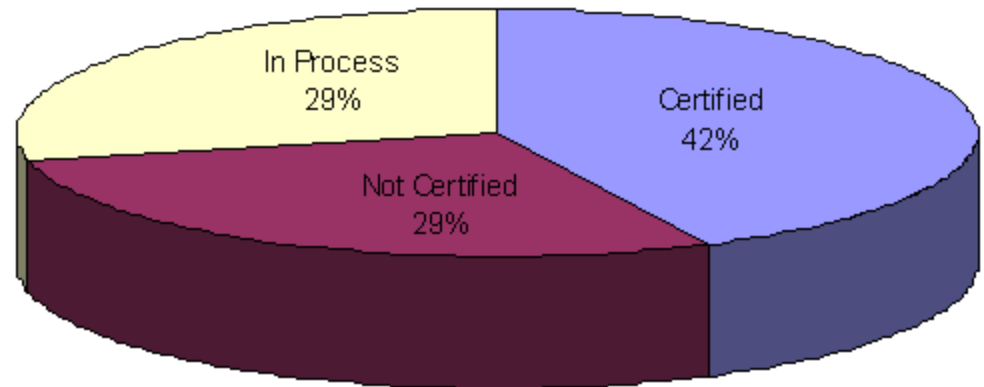


# CRAFT Training & Certification

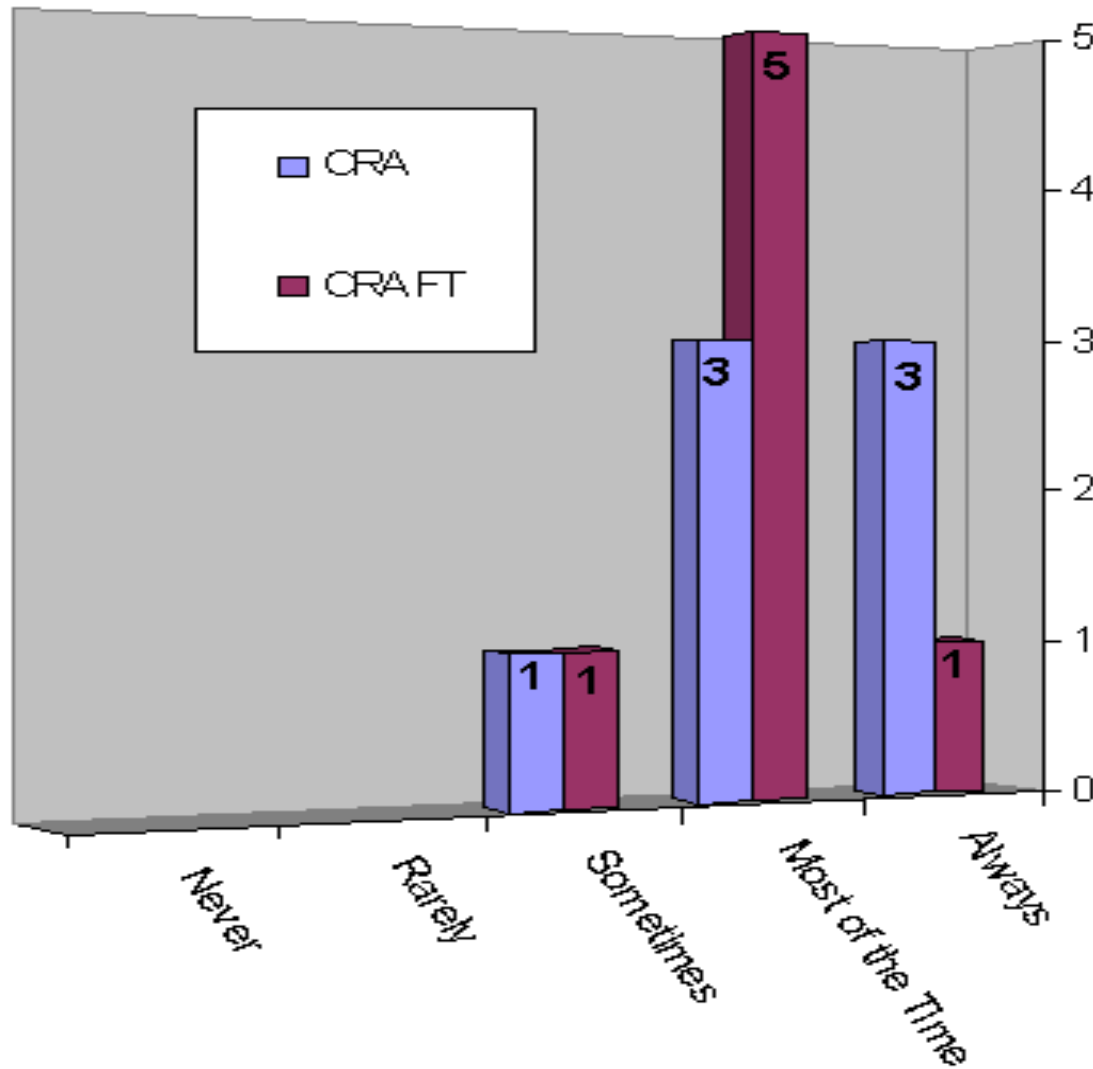
CRAFT Training  
**100%**



CRAFT Certification

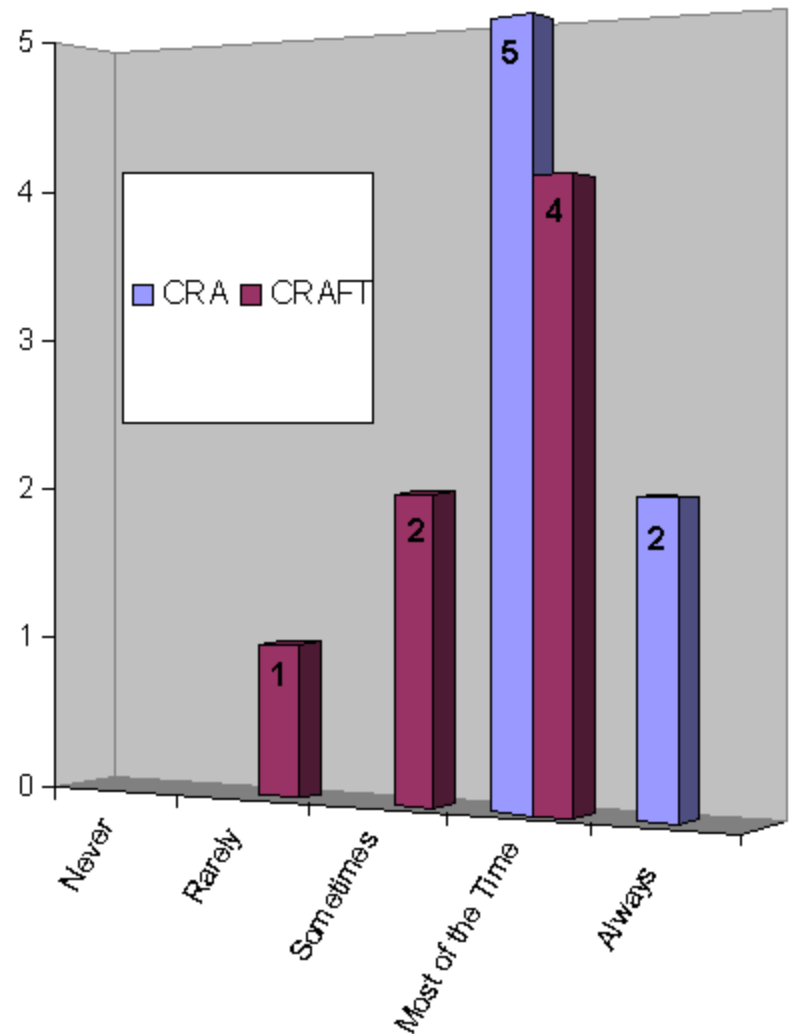


# How often are CRA & CRAFT practiced?




# Functional Analysis Use

- Clinician comments:
  - would use more if more accessible
    - Standard Assessment



# What other regions have tried in Nova Scotia

- Clinical Manager as Training Leader (part of an existing position)
  - Clinical Therapist as Training Leader (part of an existing position)
- 



*Cadillac*



# What other regions have tried in Nova Scotia

- Clinical Practice Educators  
(2 full time positions)

# Resources

- Miller, W. R., Sorensen, J. L., Selzer, J. A., & Brigham, G. S. (2006). Disseminating evidence-based practices in substance abuse treatment: A review with suggestions. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, 31*, 25-39.
- Purvis, G., & Mac Innis, D. (2009) ' Implementation of the Community Reinforcement Approach (CRA) In a Long-Standing Addictions Outpatient Clinic *Journal of Behavior Analysis in Health, Sports, Fitness and Medicine* Vol 2(1) pp.32-42
- Meyers, R. J., & Smith, J. E. (1995). *Clinical guide to alcohol treatment: The community reinforcement approach*. New York, NY: The Guilford Press.

➤ For Further Information:

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