

# Capacity to Care: Building Competency in Geriatric Mental Health Care

# **Evidence Based Practices & Psychosocial Interventions**

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- Define Evidence Based Practice (EBP) for SW
- Highlight EB interventions in later life mental health
- Experience an EB intervention and discuss relevance for practice

# GOALS FOR PRESENTATION



#### What is EBP? Some definitions:

Conscientious, Explicit & Judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of individuals (Cummings & Kropf, 2009)

Integration of best research evidence with clinical expertise and patient values (Sacket et al., 2000).

Treatments which have sufficiently persuasive evidence to support effectiveness of outcomes (Rosen & Proctor, 2002).



#### **Common elements**

- Using Existing Studies
- Combining Practice + Evidence
- Persuasive (not conclusive) Support





Clinical state & circumstances

Clinical Expertise

Client preferences & actions

Current best practices

Haynes, Devereaux & Guyatt, 2002



## Why does it matter?

- Exponential increase in Information
- Reliance on invalid indicators (e.g., client satisfaction)
- Comparison of intervention across contexts/populations



## Five Steps in EBP (Thyer, 2006)

- Convert need for information into a question
- Track down best evidence to answer that ??
- Critically evaluate evidence
- Integrate evidence with clinical expertise and client values/circumstances
- Evaluate your effectiveness



# Step 1: Convert need for information into a question

#### Researchable

- Not Researchable Should all homeless individuals receive mental health treatment?
- Researchable Do homeless individuals who receive intensive case management have higher levels of functioning than those who do not?



### **Elements of Good Questions**

1. Client or problem of interest Description of client or problem as specific as possible. 1.Geriatric anxiety disorder 2.Older homeless substance abusers	



## Sample Questions: The good & bad

#### **Bad Questions**

- Does Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) work?
- Should older adults receive a mental health screening?

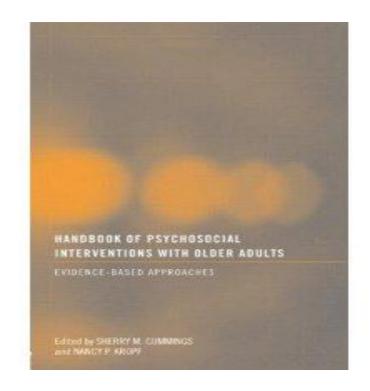
#### **Good Questions**

- Is CBT more effective than other psychosocial interventions after a significant late life loss?
- Does screening for geriatric depression when entering LTC lead to higher rates of accurate diagnosis?



## **Step 2: Get Best Evidence**

- Published materials
  - Journals vs. books
  - Books on EBP





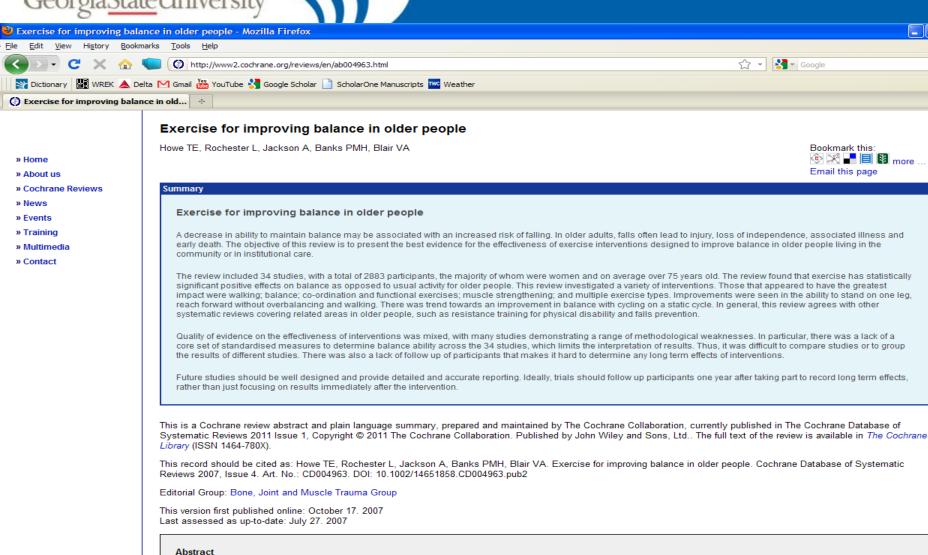
#### **Internet Resources**

- Cochrane Collaborative
  - -www.cochrane.org
- Campbell Collaborative
  - www.campbellcollaboration.org
- New York Academy of Medicine
  - www.socialworkleadership.org/nsw/index.php



Background

Objectives



Diminished ability to maintain balance may be associated with an increased risk of falling. In older adults, falls commonly lead to injury, loss of independence, associated illness and early death. Although some exercise interventions with balance and muscle strengthening components have been shown to reduce falls it is

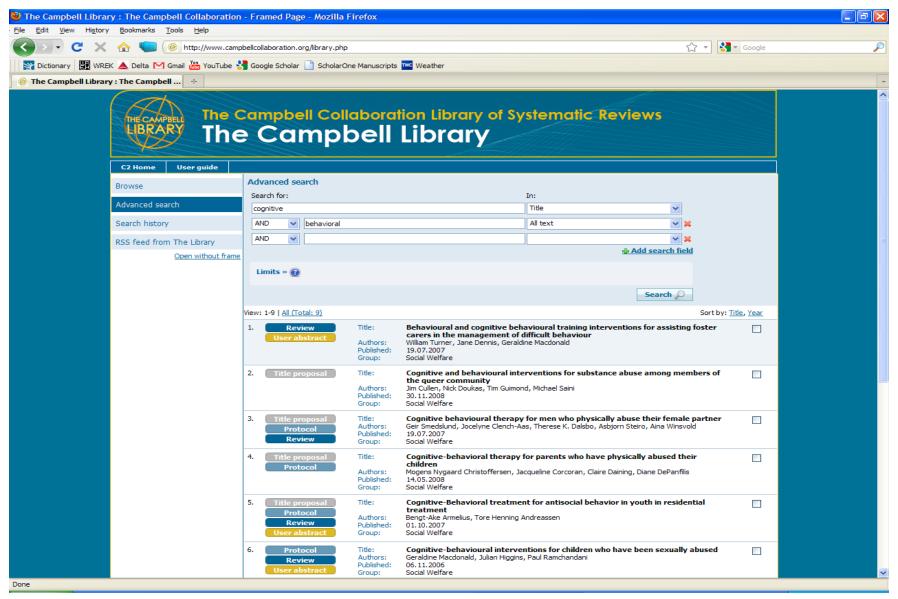
not known which elements, or combination of elements, of exercise interventions are most effective for improving balance in older people.

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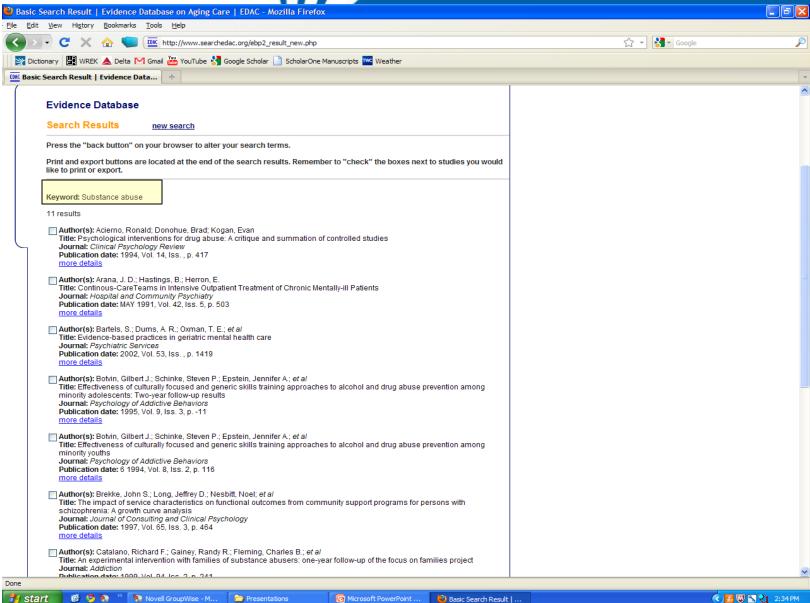
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## Step 3: Evaluate Evidence

Level 1

- Meta Analysis of Randomized Control Trials (RCTs) or
- Systematic Reviews of RCTs

Level 2

At least one properly designed RCT

Level 3

 Controlled studies – no randomization (e.g. multiple groups)

Level 4

- Non controlled studies
- Case study evidence



# Step 4: Research+Clinical Expertise+Client Values

- Sort out level of evidence for various approaches
- If equivalent:
  - Training/expertise of practitioner
  - Cost factors
  - Treatment preferences (e.g., drugs/therapy)



## **Step 5: Evaluate Your Practice**

What context does intervention work? Not work?

- Sub population differences?
- Expected amount of change? Sustainability? Costs?



# EVIDENCE BASED PSYCHOSOCIAL INTERVENTIONS IN LATER LIFE





### **Health Conditions**

Chapter	Case Management	Education/ Training	CBT Protocols	Support Group	Technological Interventions
Cancer		Journaling increased emotional expression and decreased risk of PTSD, exercise group had improved body image and fitness, lowered depression when paired with peer counselor, audio tapes increased self efficacy, meditation/wellenss increased relaxation and decreased stress	Group decreased depression and increased optimism, improved family functioning	Partners had less stress, enhanced marital quality, patients had decreased negative affect, enhanced social support network	Phone group had positive experience with care providers, phone education intervention lead to greater knowledge of disease,
Cardiac Conditions		Increased sexual functioning, lowered health care costs, increased quality of life, decreased chest pain.	Decreased re-hospitalization, decreased additional cardiac events, decreased depression and isolation	Especially for me, increased quality of life	
Diabetes	Increased independence, ADLs, knowledge of condition, overall functioning	Increased self efficacy, self care behaviors, diet adherence, exercise, weight management		Increased self care behaviors, social support network, weight maintenance and adherence to diet	Increased diet knowledge, diet adherence, independence
Pain		Decreased experience of pain and physician visits, improved self efficacy behaviors	Enhanced functioning, pain tolerance, self efficacy for patient and family members, decreased depression	Improved self efficacy behaviors, enhanced coping behaviors	Improves pain and disability status, reduced doctor visits
HIV/AIDS				Increased social support, coping, well being, quality of life	Increased support and health-related knowledge



# Cognitive & Mental Health Conditions

Chapter	Social Support/Psycho- Educational Groups	Psychotherapy or Wellness Groups	Individual / Family Psychotherapy	СВТ
Dementia		Decreased anxiety and depression, improved reminiscence, decreased depression and agitation enhanced communication	Memory training improved recognition and recall, improved well being, improved quality of life, life review enhanced social interaction and decreased isolation	Improved relaxation and social participation
Depression & Anxiety	Social support interventions decreased depression	Reminiscence decreased depression, relaxation decreases anxiety	Behavioral, reminiscence, life review, bibliotherapy, problem solving approaches and psychodynamic therapies decreased depressive symptoms	Individual and group interventions decreased depression and anxiety
Substance Abuse	Age specific groups enhanced treatment completion		Problem solving increased abstinence, enhanced community adjustment, elder specific treatment enhanced abstinence and increased overall health status.	Increases abstinence, increased treatment adherence



#### **Late Life Social Roles**

Chapter	Social Support/Psycho- Educational Grps	Psychotherapy or Wellness Grps	Individual / Family Psychotherapy	Case Management/ Interdisciplinary Team
End of Life	Enhanced social adjustment of bereaved spouses, reduced depression, helped with coping	Increased engagement of bereaved spouses, improved role function and mental health		Improved satisfaction and symptom management,
Family Caregivers	Decreased depression and anxiety for caregivers, decreased behavior problems for care recipients, improved caregiver affect, increased caregiver knowledge of resources	Increased general well being	Decreased / delayed institutionalization of care recipient	
Grandparent Caregivers	Reduced loneliness and isolation, increased access to services, increased grandparent skills, enhanced technology proficiency			Improved grandparent functioning, mental health, access to resources, satisfaction with services
People with DD and Caregivers	Increased future planning, increased caregiver skills, increased knowledge for people with DD, increased leisure choices and life satisfaction		Increased family ability to plan for future care issues	Increased future planning efforts and access to services



# REMINISCENCE: A EBP INTERVENTION



#### Reminiscence

- Related to Eriksons "ego integrity vs. despair" stage of later life.
- Dr. Robert Butler reminiscence can have positive impact on integration of history/present/future
- Naturally occurring process integrated in multiple settings



Reminiscence: Holidays & Celebrations





### **Questions**

- What was your reminiscence about?
- What was this experience like for you positive?
- What experiences did you retrieve about yourself, your family, culture, community?
- How could this be effective with older adults?