

The Connecticut Co-Occurring Practice Improvement Collaborative: Implementing Quality Using the DDCAT Index

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Background

The Dual Diagnosis Capability in Addiction Treatment (DDCAT) Index and Toolkit are measuring programs' co-occurring capability and guiding program development in Connecticut addiction treatment programs for individuals with co-occurring disorders (COD).

Specific Aims

1. Can the DDCAT be used to assess the treatment capacity for clients with co-occurring disorders in a statewide addiction treatment system of care, and can these data be used to guide strategic planning?
2. Can the DDCAT be used to guide program development and measure programs' co-occurring capability changes over time?

Methods

- The DDCAT Index is the program assessment tool used to:
 - systematically assess a 30% sample of all DMHAS-operated and funded addiction treatment programs;
 - assess pre and post co-occurring capability in nine addiction treatment programs that participated in a change process designed to increase their capacity to serve individuals with co-occurring disorders;
- All DDCAT assessments were done using a site visit methodology including multiple sources of data.

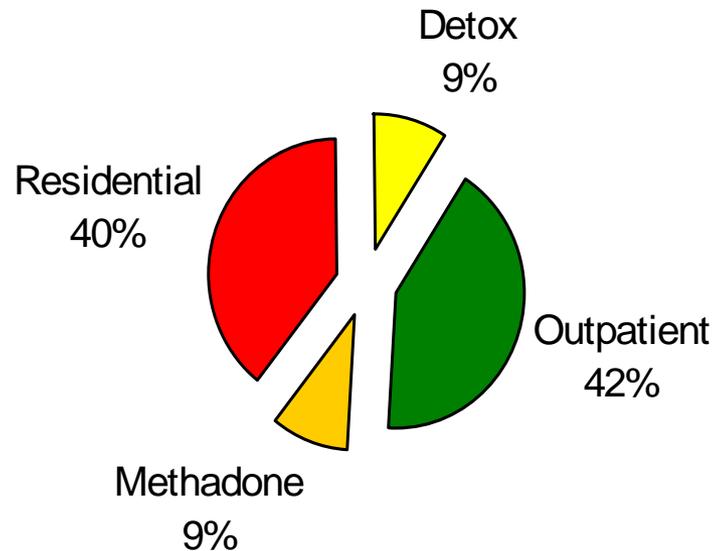
Intervention: Aim 2

- Practice Improvement Collaborative
 - With technical assistance, agencies developed implementation plans based on their baseline DDCAT assessment findings;
 - The DDCAT Toolkit and 2-days of onsite, expert training and consultation was provided to each program over 9 months;
 - During the intervention period, programs met together bimonthly as a Learning Collaborative including the trainer and project manager;
 - \$2,000 to offset staff time to participate.

Results: Statewide Assessment

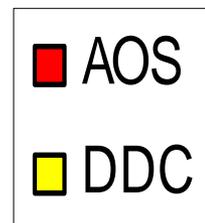
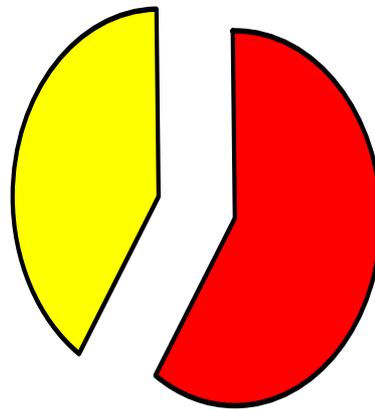
*These proportions by level of care match the statewide addiction treatment system; this is a 30% sample, stratified by level of care.

DDCAT Sample
n=53



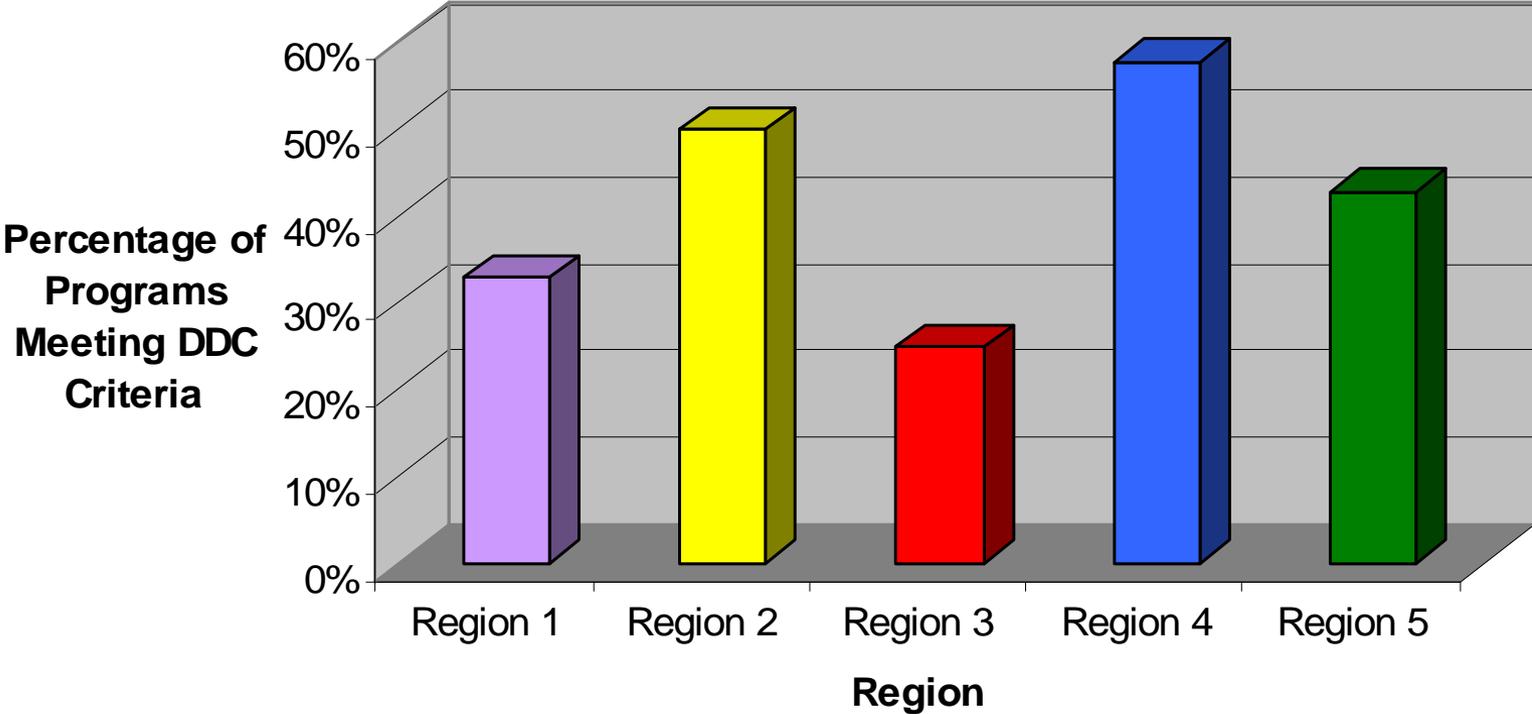
Results: Statewide Assessment

Dual diagnosis capability of
programs(n=53):
AOS=31 (58.5%); DDC= 22 (41.5%)



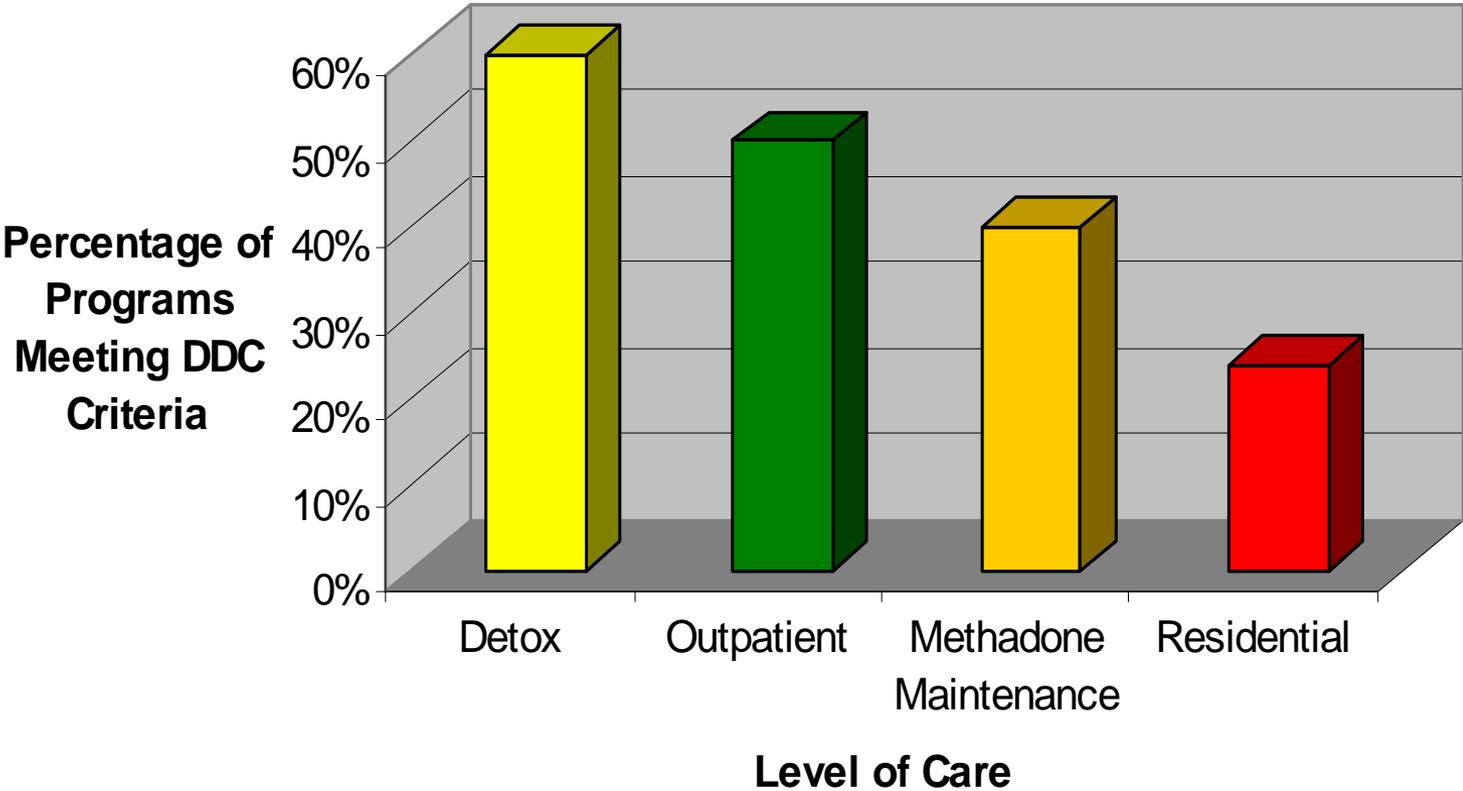
Results: Statewide Assessment

Dual Diagnosis Capability by Region



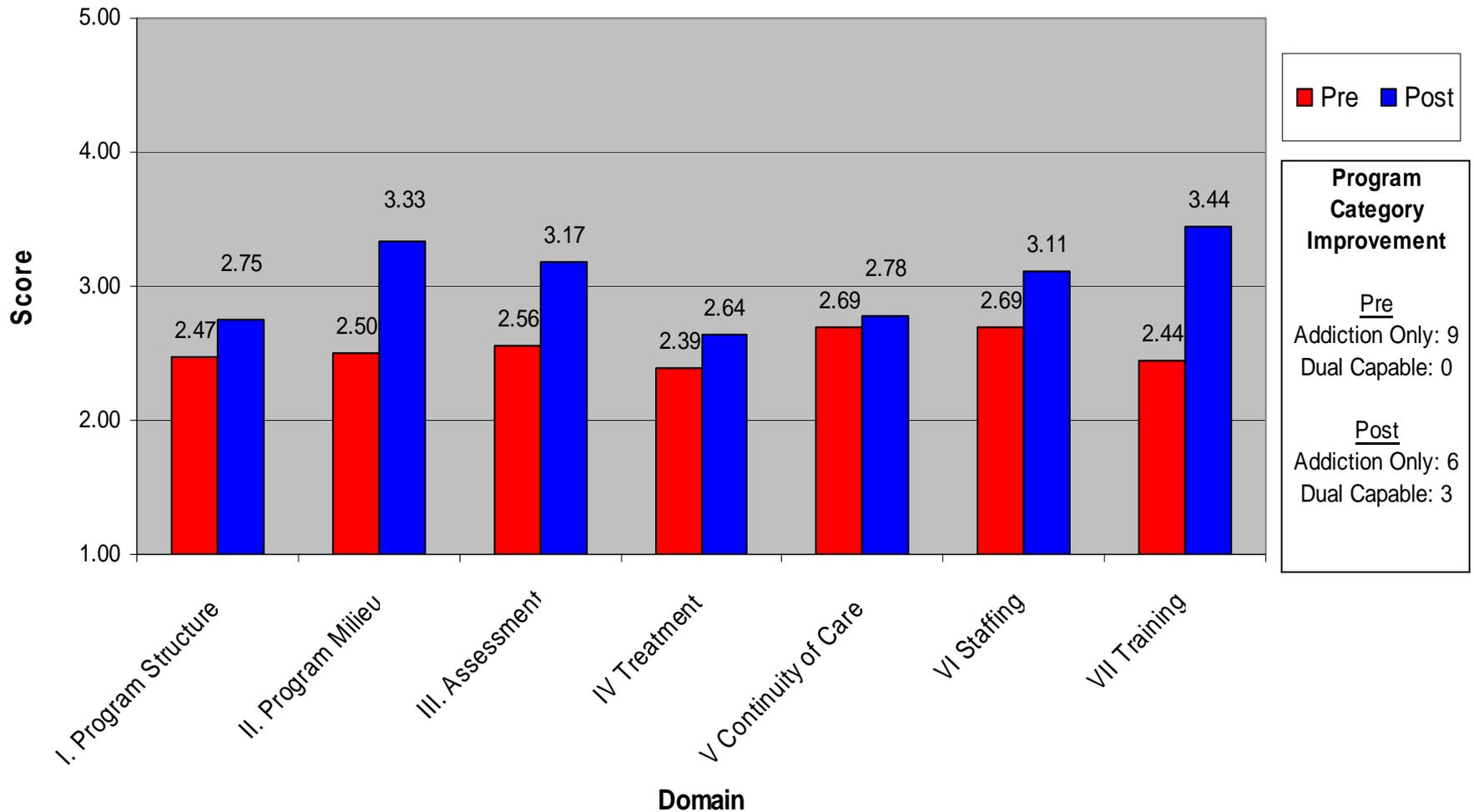
Results: Statewide Assessment

Dual Diagnosis Capability by Level of Care



Results: Collaborative

Collaborative DDCAT Pre and Post



Summary

- Data-based, systematic, statewide assessment is possible with the DDCAT;
- The DDCAT is a useful tool for treatment providers working to improve their services for individuals with COD and for researchers examining those addiction treatment changes.

Limitations

- Small N
- Relationship between specific implementation strategies across programs not linked with differential DDCAT scores;
- Relationship between DDCAT program assessments and client indicators/outcomes not examined.

Next Steps: Systems/Practice

- Statewide sample of DDCAT assessments informed workforce development activities;
- DDCAT domains and items being used to develop the DMHAS Co-Occurring Enhanced Program Guidelines;
- These Guidelines are being implemented with Intensive Outpatient Programs, using a 25% rate increase incentive, and with residential treatment programs;
- Other levels of care and more programs may be targeted for further development using these Guidelines;
- Co-Occurring Capable Program Guidelines are being developed based on the DDCAT and may be used as the minimum standard of care.

Next Steps: Future Research

- Specific patient-level and program-level data collection is planned across more programs to more rigorously test the relationship between DDCAT scores, program changes over time, and client indicators/outcomes.

Contact Information

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