

## Prevalence of Co-Occurring Disorders among Adolescents Referred for Substance Abuse Treatment

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## Overview

- Examine the prevalence of co-occurring psychiatric disorders in two samples
  - Efficacy trial conducted in Miami, Florida
  - Effectiveness trial conducted in 8 community-based substance abuse treatment agencies
- Examine differences in rates among African American, Hispanic, and White (non-Hispanic) adolescents
- Discuss clinical and social implications for adolescent substance abuse treatment

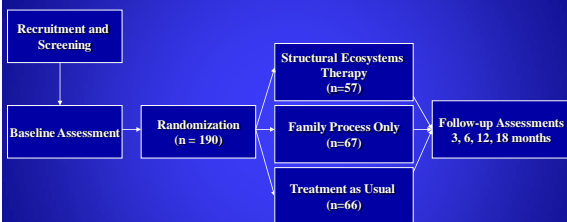
## Structural Ecosystems Therapy for Substance Abusing Minority Youth

NIDA Grant No R01-DA10574

Robbins et al., 2008

Is an ecologically-based intervention, structural ecosystems therapy, more effective than a family-process only treatment and treatment as usual in adolescent drug abuse treatment?

## Study Design



## Participant Characteristics

		Age			Gender	
		n	M	SD	Male	Female
African American	SET	22	15.91	0.92	18	4
	FAM	31	15.42	1.15	29	2
	CS	24	15.75	0.94	23	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>15.66</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>7</b>
Hispanic	SET	35	15.63	1.37	30	5
	FAM	36	15.83 <sup>a</sup>	1.08	30	6
	CS	42	15.14 <sup>b</sup>	1.14	33	9
	<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>15.57</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>20</b>

### Rates of Comorbidity

	Number of Disorders				
	0	1	2	3	4 (+)
African American	11.7	23.4	14.3	20.8	29.9
Hispanic	13.8	14.9	13.8	18.4	39.1
Total	12.8	18.9	14.0	19.5	34.8

### Rates of Externalizing Disorders

	Number of Externalizing Disorders			
	0	1	2	3
<b>Youth Report</b>				
African American	34.8	27.5	26.1	11.6
Hispanic	21.7	25.3	24.1	28.9
<b>Parent Report</b>				
African American	29.9	19.5	29.9	20.8
Hispanic	16.1	14.9	25.3	43.7

### Rates of Externalizing Disorders By Disorder

	Percent		
	African American	Hispanic	Significance
<b>Youth Report</b>			
Conduct Disorder	53.6%	56.6%	.711
Oppositional Defiant	41.6%	60.5%	<b>.016</b>
ADHD	20.8%	41.4%	<b>.005</b>
<b>Parent Report</b>			
Conduct Disorder	42.9%	67.8%	<b>.001</b>
Oppositional Defiant	41.6%	60.5%	<b>.016</b>
ADHD	40.3%	58.6%	<b>.019</b>

### Rates of Internalizing Disorders By Disorder

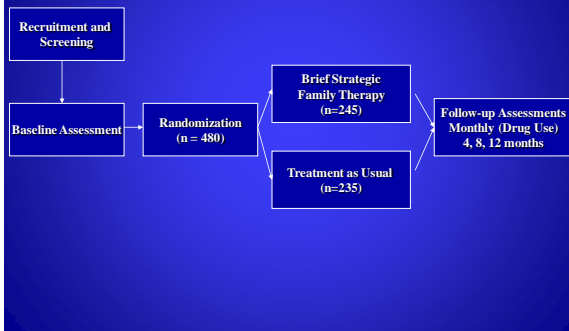
	Percent		
	African American	Hispanic	Significance
Simple Phobia	23.4%	32.2%	.210
Social Phobia	33.8%	27.6%	.391
Agoraphobia	40.3%	19.5%	<b>.004</b>
Panic Disorder	23.4%	23.0%	.953
Generalized Anxiety	31.2%	35.6%	.546
Major Depression	26.0%	33.3%	.304

### Brief Strategic Family Therapy for Adolescent Drug Abusers

National Institute on Drug Abuse  
Clinical Trials Network

Is an empirically supported family therapy, brief strategic family therapy, more effective than treatment as usual in real world community treatment settings?

## Study Design



## Community Agencies



## Participant Characteristics

	N	%	Mean (SD)
Age			16.02 (1.32)
Gender			
Male	377	78.5	
Female	103	21.5	
Ethnicity			
Hispanic/Latin	213	44	
White	148	31	
African American	110	23	
Other	9	2	
Family Composition			
Biological 2-parent	120	25	
Biological 1-parent	224	47	
Extended	53	11	
Blended	64	13	
Adoptive	8	1.7	
Foster	3	0.6	
Other	8	1.7	
Family Income			
< \$10,000	75	15.82	
\$10,000 to 19,999	121	25.53	
\$20,000 to 29,999	82	17.3	
\$30,000 to 39,999	50	10.55	
\$40,000 to 49,999	34	7.0	
> \$50,000	99	21	
Missing	13	3	

## Rates of Externalizing Disorders By Disorder

	Percent			Significance
	African American	Hispanic	White, non Hispanic	
<b>Youth Report</b>				
Conduct Disorder	33.6%	43.2%	39.2%	.401
Oppositional Defiant	31.0%	39.4%	<b>50%</b>	<b>.021</b>
ADHD	19.1%	25.3%	<b>37.2%</b>	<b>.006</b>
<b>Parent Report</b>				
Conduct Disorder	58.2%	65.6%	70.3%	.253
Oppositional Defiant	74%	<b>84.0%</b>	<b>87.2%</b>	<b>.031</b>
ADHD	64.5%	68.1%	67.6%	.934

## Rates of Internalizing Disorders By Disorder

	Percent			Significance
	African American	Hispanic	White, Non Hispanic	
Simple Phobia	9.1%	12.7%	12.2%	.811
Social Phobia	15.4%	14.5%	<b>25.7%</b>	<b>.045</b>
Agoraphobia	9.0%	7.0%	8.1%	.413
Panic Disorder	5.4%	8.4%	<b>14.2%</b>	<b>.056</b>
Generalized Anxiety	5.4%	6.1%	<b>14.2%</b>	<b>.028</b>
Major Depression	6.4%	8.9%	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>.002</b>

Parent reports of depression: 23.6%, 42%, 52% (p < .0001)

## Age and Race/Ethnicity

- In Study One....
  - Among Hispanic youth, no correlation was observed between age and behavior problems (drug use, delinquency), pre-treatment arrests, family functioning, etc. (irrespective of reporter)
  - Among African American youth, inverse correlations between age almost every indicator of problems (irrespective of reporter)
- Study 2
  - Findings were less consistent
    - Across groups few correlations were observed
    - However, some evidence supported Study One, in that some inverse correlations were observed

### Clinical Implications

- High rates of internalizing and externalizing disorders
- Racial/ethnic differences
  - Explain agoraphobia
  - Predicting engagement and retention in treatment?
- Social injustice
  - Referrals to treatment for Minority youth
    - Inverse age-behavior problem relationships

### Main Findings

- SET more effective in engaging and retaining adolescents in treatment
  - More sessions in SET than FAM (22.4 vs. 13.2)
  - Hispanics receive more sessions than African Americans (20.9 vs. 12.7)
- SET more effective in reducing drug use than FAM and TAU
  - Only for Hispanic adolescents
- SET and FAM more effective than TAU in improving family functioning
  - Strongest for African American participants

### Main Findings

- BSFT 2.5 times more likely to engage, and 1.5 times more likely to retain, youth in treatment than TAU
  - African Americans least likely to engage and retain (compared to other racial/ethnic groups)
    - Only 50% successfully retained in BSFT, compared to 25% in TAU
- Weak treatment differences observed for adolescent drug use
- BSFT more effective than TAU in improving family functioning
  - Strongest for African American participants