Risk Need Responsivity in the Context of BHTCC

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“The Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) Model of Correctional Assessment & Treatment”
DEFINITIONS

- Risk – Chance of future criminal activity
- Need – Target changeable risk factors for crime
- Responsivity –
  - General – Learning style of offenders generally
  - Specific – Specific characteristics of individual
- Risk - WHO
- Need - WHAT
- Responsivity - HOW
PRINCIPLES

- **RISK** – Focus on high risk individuals
- **Need** – Criminogenic needs
- **Responsivity** –
  - General – Cognitive-Behavioral
  - Specific – Gender, age, cognitive-skill level, motivation
Major Risk Factors for Recidivism: Central Eight

**Big Four**
- History of antisocial behavior
- Antisocial personality pattern
- Antisocial cognition
- Antisocial associates

**Moderate Four**
- Family circumstances
- School/Work
- Leisure/Recreation
- Substance Abuse
CAUTION ABOUT RNR for BHTCC

- Risk ≠ likelihood of violence

- Limited data on applicability of person with mental illness & co-occurring disorders
Relevant Research for Persons with Mental Illness/Co-occurring

- Risk – Solid on same risk factors & assessment tools
- Need – Solid on criminogenic needs
- Responsivity –
  - General – Solid on behavioral/cognitive strategies
  - Specific – No evidence
“Sometimes…..specific responsivity concerns are misused as a way to keep doing what has always been done”.

(Andrews, 2012: 139)
“Non-criminogenic needs that clinicians enjoy addressing may be declared mistakenly to be specific responsivity factors that demand special attention”

(Andrews, 2012: 139)