

**ADULT DRUG COURT  
BEST PRACTICE  
STANDARDS VOLUME II**

**“THE WAIT IS OVER”**

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT  
PROFESSIONALS




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**5 Biggest Challenges  
facing Drug Courts**

1. Team
2. Census
3. MAT
4. Equity
5. Sanctions




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**Volume I**

- I. Target Population
- II. Historically Disadvantaged Groups
- III. Roles & Responsibilities of the Judge
- IV. Incentives, Sanctions, & Therapeutic Adjustments
- V. Substance Abuse Treatment




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**Volume I**

**Target Population**



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**Volume I**

**Historically  
Disadvantaged  
Groups**



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**Volume I**

**Roles &  
Responsibilities  
of the Judge**



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**Volume I**

**Incentives,  
Sanctions, &  
Therapeutic  
Adjustments**



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**Volume I**

**Substance Abuse  
Treatment**



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**Volume II**

- VI. Complementary Treatment & Social Services
- VII. Drug and Alcohol Testing
- VIII. Multidisciplinary Team
- IX. Census and Caseloads
- X. Monitoring and Evaluation



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**Volume II**

**10 Big Things You Need to Know**




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**Complementary Treatment**

Participants receive complementary treatment and social services for conditions that co-occur with substance abuse and are likely to interfere with their compliance in Drug Court, increase criminal recidivism, or diminish treatment gains.




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**Complementary Treatment**

- A. Scope of Services
- B. Sequence and Timing of Services
- C. Clinical Case Management
- D. Housing Assistance
- E. Mental Health Treatment
- F. Trauma-Informed Services




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# Complementary Treatment

- G. Criminal Thinking Interventions
- H. Family & Interpersonal Counseling
- I. Vocational & Educational Services
- J. Medical and Dental Treatment
- K. Prevention of High-Risk Behaviors
- L. Overdose Prevention & Reversal




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## Complementary Treatment

- 1) Do not begin criminal thinking interventions during Phase 1.
- 2) Enlist at least one reliable prosocial family member, friend, or daily acquaintance to provide feedback to staff and assist participant.




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# Timing Matters




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**Drug & Alcohol Testing**

Drug and alcohol testing provides an accurate, timely, and comprehensive assessment of unauthorized substance use throughout participants' enrollment in the Drug Court.



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**Drug & Alcohol Testing**

- A. Frequent Testing
- B. Random Testing
- C. Duration of Testing
- D. Breadth of Testing
- E. Witnessed Collection



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**Drug & Alcohol Testing**

- F. Valid specimens
- G. Accurate & Reliable Testing Procedures
- H. Rapid Results
- I. Participant Contract



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Drug and Alcohol Testing

- 1) Randomly test at least twice per week, including weekends and holidays and require participants to report within 8 hours of notification.
- 2) Continue testing randomly at least twice per week until participant is preparing for graduation in the final phase.




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**Avoid Respite from Detection**

- A participant should have an equal chance of being called on any day of the week.
- Avoid randomizing in weekly blocks.
- Test routinely for all drugs commonly used by population.




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**Multidisciplinary Team**

A dedicated multidisciplinary team of professionals manages the day-to-day operations of the Drug Court, including reviewing participant progress during pre-court staff meetings and status hearings, contributing observations and recommendations within team members' respective areas of expertise, and delivering or overseeing the delivery of legal, treatment and supervision services.




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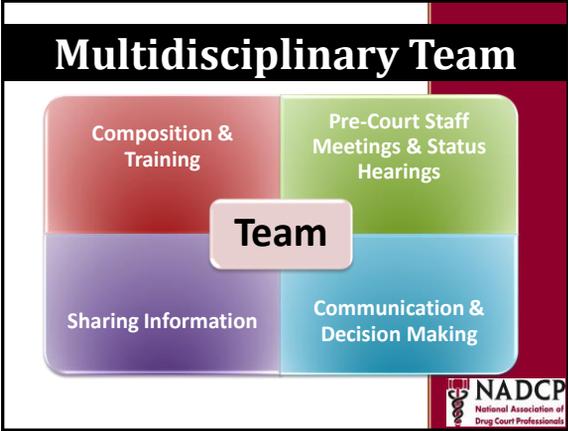
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- Multidisciplinary Team
- 1) Judge considers perspectives of all team member before making decisions that impact participants' welfare or liberty interests.
  - 2) Defense attorneys inform participants and team members whether they will share confidential information concerning participants with other team members.




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## Census and Caseloads

The Drug Court serves as many eligible individuals as practicable while maintaining continuous fidelity to best practice standards.




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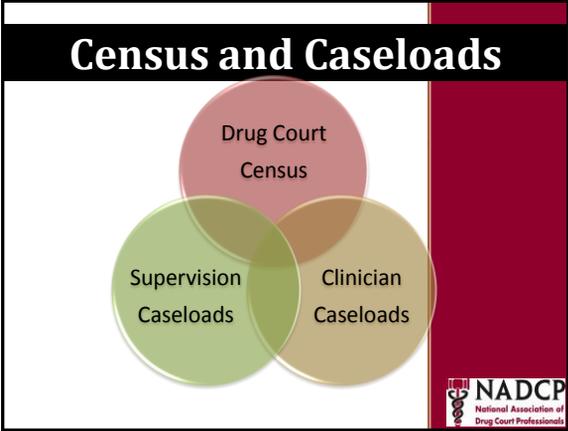
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	High Risk	Low Risk
High Need	30 to 1 (or less)	<b>Probation:</b> 50 to 1 <b>Treatment:</b> 30: 1
Low Need	<b>Probation:</b> 30 to 1 <b>Treatment:</b> 50: 1	200:1 <b>Don't Belong in Drug Court</b>

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## Monitoring & Evaluation

The Drug Court routinely monitors its adherence to best practice standards and employs scientifically valid and reliable procedures to evaluate its effectiveness.

NADCP  
National Association of  
Drug Court Professionals

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**Monitoring & Evaluation**

- A. Adherence to Best Practices
- B. In-Program Outcomes
- C. Criminal Recidivism
- D. Independent Evaluations
- E. Historically Disadvantaged Groups




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**Monitoring & Evaluation**

- F. Electronic Database
- G. Timely & Reliable Data Entry
- H. Intent-to-Treat Analyses
- I. Comparison Groups
- J. Time at Risk




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Monitoring and Evaluation

- 1) Analyze outcomes for all participants, including those who withdrew or were terminated early.
- 2) Staff members are required to record information regarding service provision within 48 hours.




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**Overdose Prevention**

- 1) Drug Court should educate participants, family members, and close acquaintances about avoiding or reversing overdose
- 2) Drug Courts support local efforts to teach Drug Court personnel, probation officer, law enforcement and other first responder to lawfully, safely, and correctly use overdose reversal medications like naloxone

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Voices  
from the  
Battlefield

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**ADULT DRUG COURT  
BEST PRACTICE  
STANDARDS VOLUME II**

TWALTON@ALLRISE.ORG




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