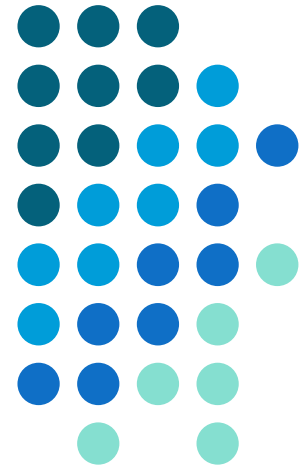


New Perspectives on Return

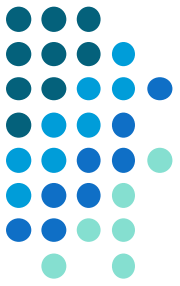
Desistance focused practice in a Dutch
model re-entry program for juvenile
offenders

Bas Vogelvang

Professor of Probation and Safety Policy
Center for Safety Policy and Criminal Justice
Avans University, Den Bosch, the Netherlands



NPR: New Perspectives on Return

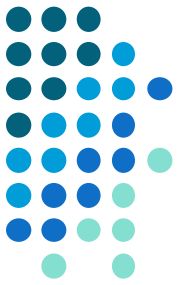


- Intensive re-entry service for adolescents and young adults 16-23 yrs.
- Amsterdam, Utrecht, Rotterdam, the Hague, Den Bosch
- Relapse rate below 40% after a 2 year release
 - RCT started January 2009
- Fully accredited / model program
- Criminal and voluntary framework
 - Court or local municipalities
- Desistance → what works → NPR



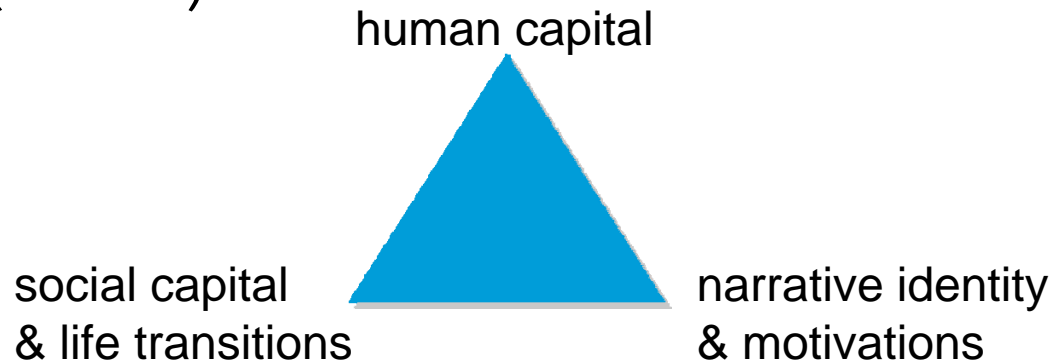
Desistance

- Decision: *“a criminal life is no longer becoming of me, I want a different kind of life”*
- It is not a crime-free gap in time, but the movement from the behavior of non-offending to the assumption of a role or identity of a non-offender or crime-free person.
- It is a complex process involving not only the offender, but also the (interactions with) judicial institutions, the social context and material / social-economical conditions (Maruna 2004).



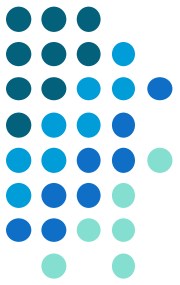
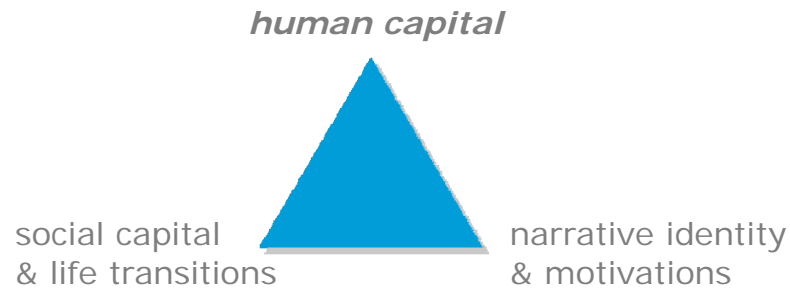
Desistance process research

- Zig-zag process: relapse is to be expected
- 3 factors (McNeill):



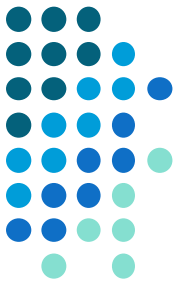
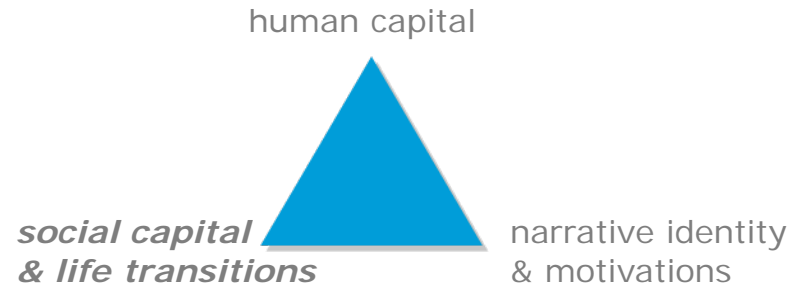
- Push by professionals as passers-by:
 - right place, right time, right thing
 - think desistance process first, interventions second

Human capital



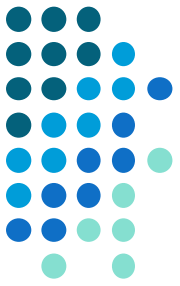
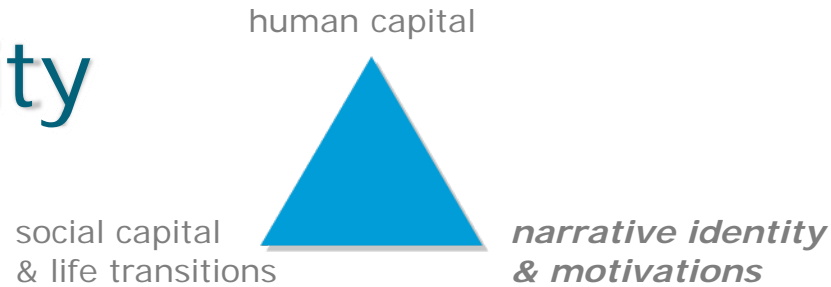
- Maturity: competencies
 - capabilities, skills, virtues, education, talents
- Males: 25 years as turning point, women earlier.
- Persisters: both addicted and heavily into crime, little training or counselling to improve skills and competencies
- Rehabilitation: cognitive skills to resist immediate temptations.
- Professional's job: role of trainer or coach

Social capital

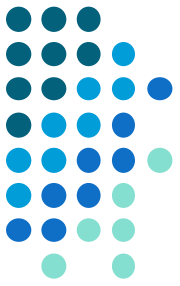


- Social ties and social opportunities
 - Bonding, bridging, linking ... criminal
- Memorable transitional moments
 - Being released from detention
- Capital becomes important and meaningful: walk the line
 - 'fits you and hits you': Charlie's eyes.
- Reintegration: maintenance of desistance efforts / combine with rehabilitation
- Professional: counsellor, advocate

Narrative identity & motivations



- Identity: the story the juvenile tells of himself
 - chapters, character, plot - leads to new crimes as 'destiny'
- Desistance: chapters & character change ('new me'), different plot as a new destiny to manifest.
 - father, rather than a dealer with a child
 - new destiny includes 'making good', a hero giving sense to the past
- Professionals: working alliance
 - respectful, direct, positive, not insisting or moralising, clear limits set, show that they care
 - alliance precedes competency training or behavioral intervention



- *'My thing is my personhood and trying to be a better person and fighting that fight within myself' (Sonny Rollins)*

www.achievement.org



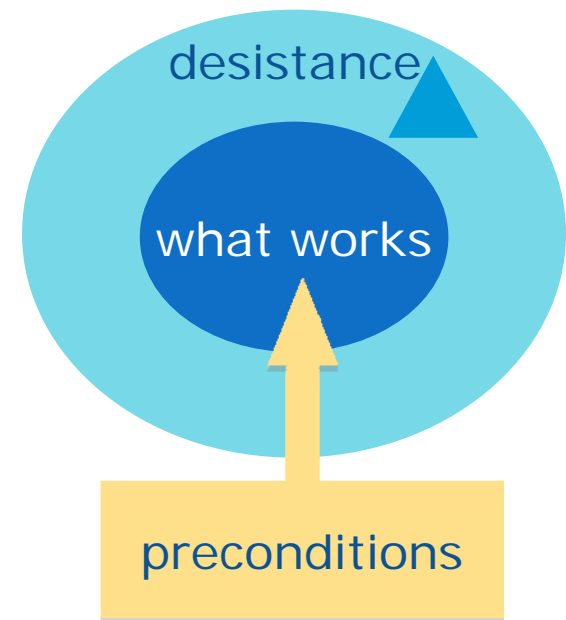
NPR: 'What Works' based

- Human capital: focus on *what works*
- Conditions to enhance the effectiveness of justice sanctions and interventions
 - What works is not concentrated on a life story, but it believes the criminal justice intervention must be based on the following principles:
 1. Risk principle
 2. Needs principle
 3. Responsivity principle
 4. Professionalism principle
 5. Integrity principle
 6. Context principle
 - 6 conditions for the assessment of interventions
 - basis for the Dutch Department of Justice interventions
 - NPR is built on these 6 conditions



From theory to practice

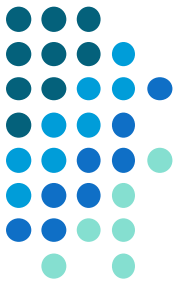
- 6 what works conditions
 - Case study
 - Integration with desistance factors
 - Preconditions for successful implementation and management of NPR





1 Risk Principle

- Bryan:
 - 16, mentally challenged
 - mugging, theft, violent extortion, always in a group
 - family guardian CPS
- Savry: high risk
 - 80% of juveniles relapse within 5 years
 - difficult to improve human capital and maintain social capital in detention centre
- Risk Principle:
 - intensity follows risk
 - NPR is only provided to juveniles with a moderate to high chance of recidivism and lasts 6-9 months



2 Needs Principle

- Bryan:
 - two-parent family, one younger brother, loving, caring mother who is unable to handle him, authoritarian father
 - bonding social capital
- Steve:
 - visits Bryan in correctional institution in order to prepare a *discharge plan*
 - prevention of immediate relapse

Criminogenic needs

2 - Needs principle



- Factors that may add to the likeliness of committing new offenses :
 - Criminal history *(static)*
 - Housing and living skills *(dynamic)*
 - Education, work and learning skills *(dynamic)*
 - Income and budgeting skills *(dynamic)*
 - Family and partner relationships *(dynamic)*
 - Peers / friends and leisure time *(dynamic)*
 - Drug abuse *(dynamic)*
 - Alcohol abuse *(dynamic)*
 - Mental health *(static/ dynamic)*
 - Thinking patterns, conduct problems and social skills *(dynamic)*
 - Criminal attitude *(dynamic)*

NPR target group

2 - Needs principle



- Criminogenic needs make up a profile with NPR that must be matched
 - No open house.
- NPR target group:
 - Juveniles between the ages of 16 and 23 who have a moderate to high risk of recidivism, and moderate to serious delinquency related problems with **skills, thinking patterns, and behavior**.
 - The juveniles return to society after having stayed in a juvenile or adult correctional institution, or closed treatment center for a minimum of 1 month. The juvenile has committed at least 3 offenses, one of which is at least serious (maximum penalty: 4 years imprisonment).

NPR program goal

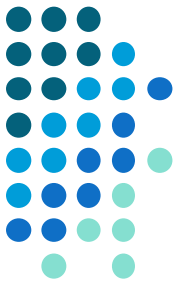
2 - Needs principle



- NPR is a multi-modal program that improves the following dynamic criminogenic needs:
 - Delinquency related needs with regard to the juvenile's *behavior* (behavioral problems).
 - Delinquency related needs with regard to *skills* and *thought patterns*,
 - Delinquency related needs on other modifiable criminogenic factors that have a *negative impact* on the juvenile's skills, thought patterns, and behavior (e.g., work, income, housing, or drug use).

Bryan's criminogenic needs

2 - Needs principle



- HIT (*How I Think*): Bryan's thinking patterns
 - blaming others, justifying/wrongful identifying, and lying, physical aggression as acceptable means to solve problems.
- EXIT / RISC (Dutch LSI versions) & self report. All of Bryan criminogenic needs:
 - human capital: thought patterns, behavioral problems, lack of skills, education, working and learning
 - social capital: relations with friends and parents
 - narrative identity / motivations: worries about his explosiveness and his bad friends, does not want to disappoint his parents again

Additional NPR assessment tools

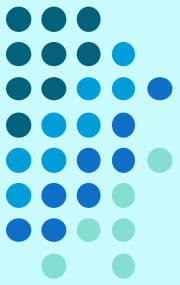
2 - Needs principle



- Social network mapping and analysis
- BDHI-D (overt and covert aggression)
- Crime Pics II (criminal attitudes – optional use)
- Utrecht Coping List (coping styles – optional use)

NPR target group policy

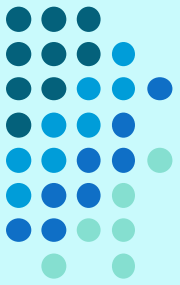
1-2 – Risk & Needs principles



- Careful targeting of the NPR target group in the municipal (provincial) *policy*, as well as within the chain of collaborating partners in the region.
- Collaborating partners such as the courts, correctional institutions and parole or probation officers commit themselves to the program.
- Effective positioning of the project within the chain of collaborating partners
- Careful screening and decision making by NPR staff with regard to the admission process

NPR target group policy

1-2 – Risk & Needs principles



- Registration and research of input, throughput and output/outcome;
- Early discovery of significant changes in the input;
 - NPR as an alternative to detention.
- Early communication with NPR developer when considering an expansion and/or change of the target group.

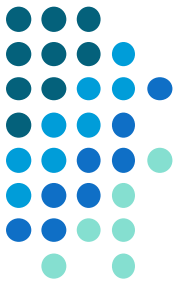


3 Responsivity principle

- 4-6 weeks *post-release* Treatment plan
- Basic working alliance
 - Bryan: suspicious, reacts aggressive (no understanding), stubborn,
- (Im-)possibilities to profit from NPR:
 - Bryan: verbally strong, streetwise, 'can handle a lot', tends to stick to certain thought patterns
- Learning style
 - Bryan: change is met with misunderstanding and unwillingness
- Motivation
 - Bryan: work and education, live a 'normal' life, succeed before his parents
- NPR model of *presence and circular steering*

Use of presence & circular steering

3 *Responsivity principle*



- Steve and Bryan steer each other in their communications.
 - The model prevents any patronising or approach of Bryan in an authoritarian way
 - Steve's approach is direct, honest, persistent and confronting
 - Conflict family guardian
 - Room for behavioral instructions
 - Desistance: Steve makes himself familiar with Bryan's identity, makes room for experiences of respect, agency and making good

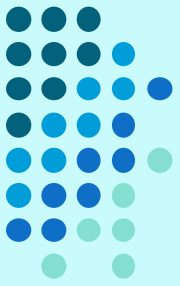


4 Context Principle

- Steven visits Bryan's family, work and training location.
- Risk situations provide for the best opportunities to learn.
- Desistance: context contains social capital and transitional periods :
 - Preferred context for cognitive behavioral interventions
 - Applied as additions to resettlement and family interventions

NPR positioning and housing policy

3 – Context principle

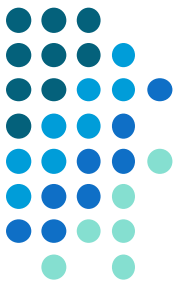


- Positioning: NPR projects are situated at the front door of the organisation.
 - recognisability and accessibility for juveniles and the network.
 - information materials present NPR as an independent work method within the organisation.
- Housing of NPR projects in the immediate surroundings of the juveniles.
 - early discovery function: recurring problems and their solutions as building blocks for policy making

5 Professionalism Principle



- Partnerships
- NPR-team: fellow social workers, behavioral specialist, team supervisor
- Extensive training and booster sessions
- Bryan:
 - family interventions
 - specific cognitive behavioral techniques aimed at losing himself in anger less quickly, saying no to wrong friends, and keeping up at the workplace.



NPR interventions

Basic interventions

- An scripted intake interview
- Working alliance based on presence and circular steering
- Motivational interviewing
- Situational leadership
- Network creation by establishing day occupation
- Practical aid
- Adapting counselling frequency to risks
- Constant availability and additional supporting contact through email and text messages.

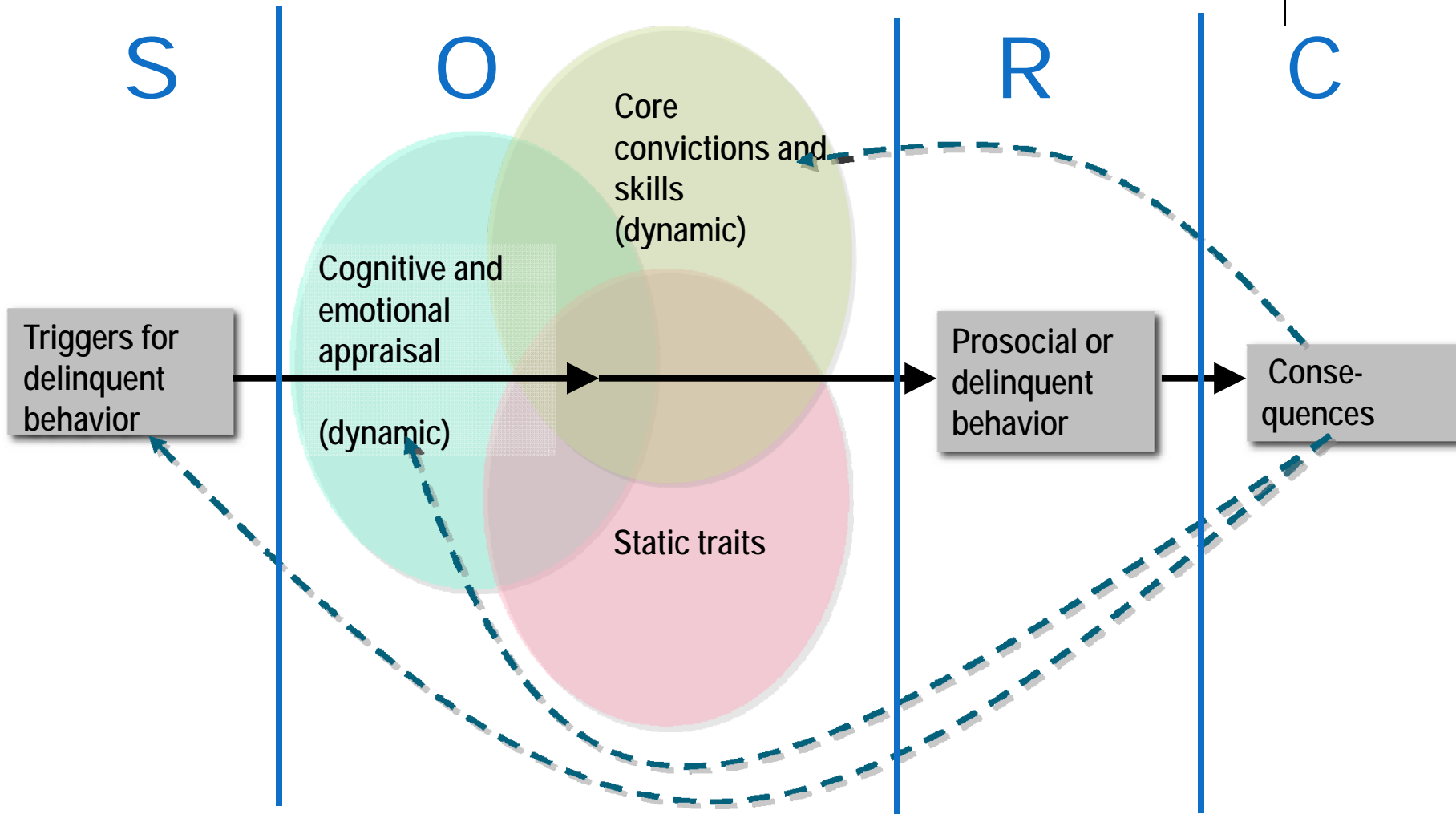
Specific interventions

- *behavior modification techniques*
- *Cognitive reflective interventions*
- *5G interview for the internalisation of prosocial behavior series*
- *Chance interviews in preparation of risk situations*
- Social surroundings analysis
- Reducing social isolation
- Consultation with the family regarding commitments
- Upbringing / parenting interventions
- Methodical responses to family a/o juvenile resistance

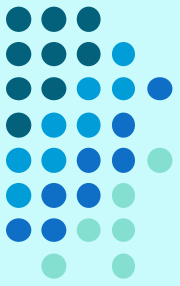
SORC-model NPR



5 Professionalism principle



NPR professionalism policy



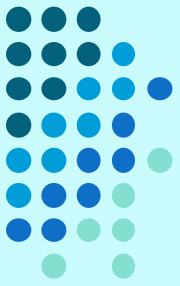
- Team size & team composition
 - 4-7, multi-ethnic, multi-specialized
- Case-load & hands-on approach
 - 6 / 144-168 hours
 - protect workers from bureaucracy
- Output warranties
 - team, organization, municipality/province, Dep. of Justice
- Registration, reporting, research
 - 10% addition research & development
- NPR Network Group



6 Integrity Principle

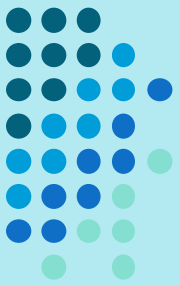
- Steve does not change the objectives or the order of the program, and he does not add any interventions or techniques.
- NPR: 9 - 13 months.
 - Phase 1: From registration to discharge. Month – 4/5 to 0.
 - In order to transfer to Phase 2, the juvenile must have housing, an income, and a day occupation.
 - Phase 2: Re-entry and intensive counselling. Month 1 to 4.
 - Very high supervision / visiting frequency in first 2 weeks
 - Phase 3: Finalisation: long-term objectives. Month 5-9/13.
 - Follow-up meetings 3, 6, and 12 months after finalisation.

NPR treatment integrity policy



- Supervised case-meetings following training (6-9 months)
- Annual audit by Program Bureau, linked to license extension and adjusted quality contract
 - Evaluation of organizational performance, team's performance and that of each NPR social worker
- Between audits, the team safeguards the treatment integrity on it's own by an intensive training and supervision structure
 - Video-monitoring of interviews, registration, etc.

NPR treatment integrity policy



Goal	Instruments	Frequency
Insight into input and response of all juveniles	Registration Treatment Plan Final evaluation	All treatments
Insight into performance quality (program-integrity)	Progress notes	All first 10 cases for every worker Low fidelity: Repeated after 3 months Every other 10th case, with a minimum of 1 case per year (licensing)
Securing treatment-integrity and professionalism	Videomonitoring Case—supervision	Video: All first 10 cases for every worker. Supervisor attends 4 sessions. Low fidelity: Repeated after 3 months . Case—supervision: Every 6 weeks for every case, aligned with booster training
Insight into client satisfaction	Client satisfaction interview	All treatments
Insight into organizational and partnership support for NPR	Structured interview (management)	Every 6 months

NPR

