

# User-Centered Design and the Implementation of Evidence-Based Interventions

Aaron Lyon, PhD.  
Acting Assistant Professor

University of Washington  
Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences

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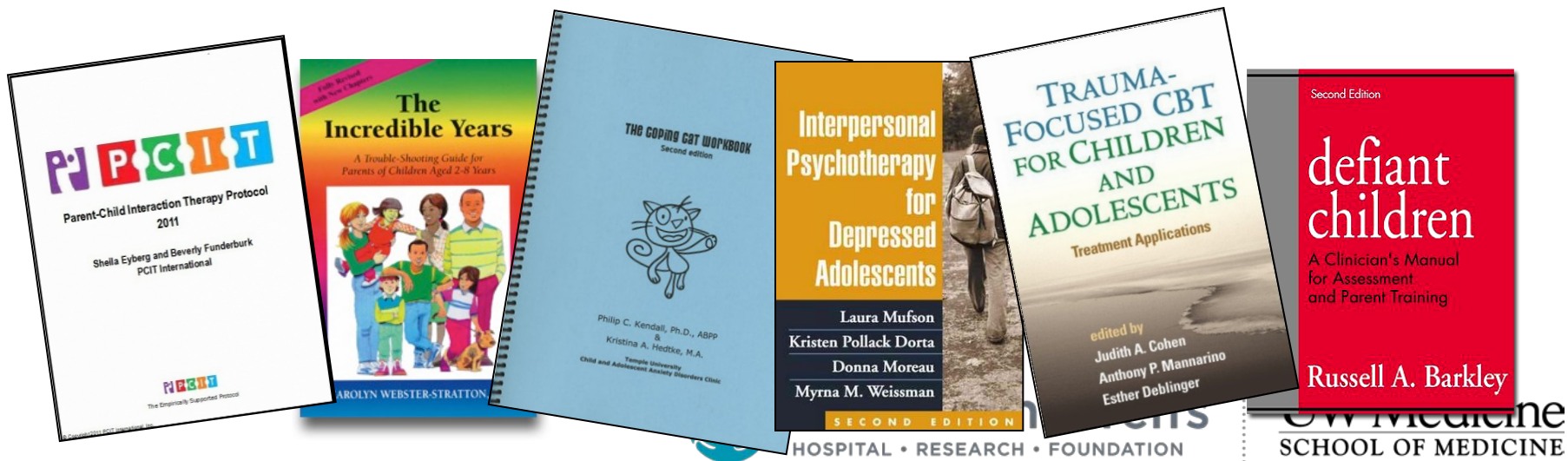
# Overview

1. The **design** of evidence-based treatments
2. Feasible, contextually-appropriate quality improvement in school-based mental health (SBMH)



# Evidence-Based Treatment / Practice

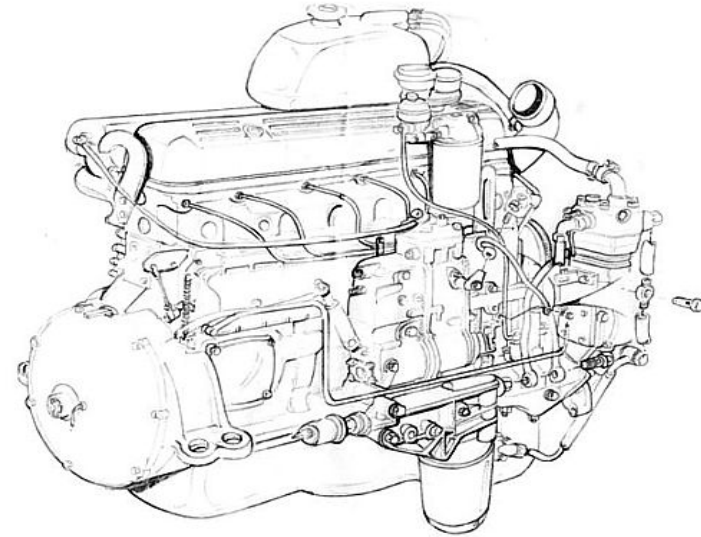
- Evidence-based practice (EBP): “The integration of the best available research with clinical expertise in the context of patient characteristics, culture, and preferences” (APA, 2006)
- Most of the empirical literature exists at the level of individual evidence-based treatment (EBT) protocols (Chorpita et al., 2007)
  - Historically, EBT protocols have been the primary medium for the dissemination & implementation of effective practices



# Engineering vs. Design

## Engineering

- Frequently rule-bound
- Arriving at outcomes is often complicated, but formulaic
- Functional, yet inelegant solutions
- Exists independent of human response



## Design

- Sometimes subjective
- Seeks parsimony
- Results in products that meet requirements well / in compelling ways
- HIGHLY dependent on human processes / human interactions

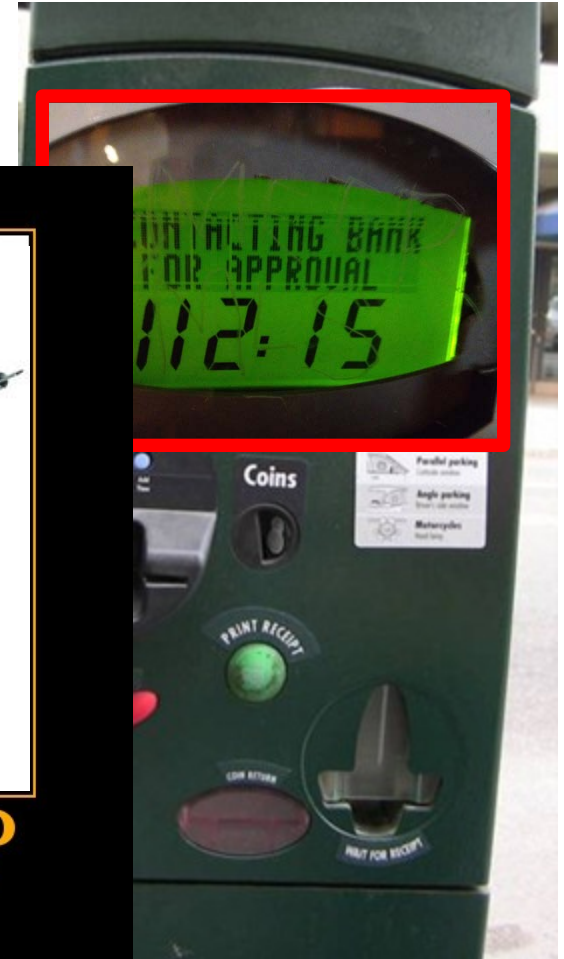


# EBTs are Well Engineered

- Produce intended effect, using all means necessary
- Generally present a universal and robust “solution” to a single problem
- Emphasize technical “correctness” (e.g., fidelity)



# EBTs are TERRIBLY Designed



## FEATURE CREEP

The misguided notion that somehow more is always better.



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# EBTs are TERRIBLY Designed

- Long (e.g., 12-16+ sessions), often with diminishing returns
- Generally inflexible (or perceived to be)
- Complicated / difficult to learn
  - Even harder to learn well (e.g., w/ fidelity)
  - Unclear what parts are important (unpacking studies)
- Prone to increasing complexity
  - Often w/o added benefit...

*“Participants in the E-PCIT condition received the identical **motivational enhancement** and **PCIT interventions** as participants in the PCIT condition...[and] **individualized enhanced services were added**, with particular attention to services targeting parental depression, current substance abuse, and family, marital, or domestic violence problems...”* (Chaffin et al., 2004)



# Some Design Principles...violated by most EBTs

- **Learnability** – When possible, increase the ease/speed of learning and mastery
- **Functional Minimalism** – Too many features, functions, or components will reduce usability
- **Cognitive Load** – Minimize the amount of thinking required to complete a task
- **Exploit Natural Constraints**
  - Especially when transported to new settings, EBTs are often fighting against local system constraints



# Design is a Key Implementation Factor

- Implementation: *Active and planned efforts to mainstream an innovation within an organization (Greenhalgh, 2004)*
- EBT/EBP = products intended for users
  - Problematic design inhibits the uptake and sustained use of innovations by individuals and systems



# Designing EBP for Implementation

- Consider your users
  - *“The user is not like me.”* (Norman)
- Carefully evaluate the context of use and user experiences
- Simplify!
- Iterate, iterate, iterate



**GOOD  
DESIGN**



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# Standardized Assessment, Progress Monitoring, and the Adaptation of a Measurement Feedback System

Funding sources:

*National Institute of Mental Health (K08 MH095939 – Lyon, PI)*

*The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (Community and School Collaborations Program)*

*Public Health of Seattle and King County*



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THE **CHECKLIST** MANIFESTO • HOW TO GET THINGS RIGHT

*Emphasize low-cost,  
high-yield practice  
changes and methods  
to support them*

**ATUL GAWANDE**

BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF  
*BETTER AND COMPLICATIONS*

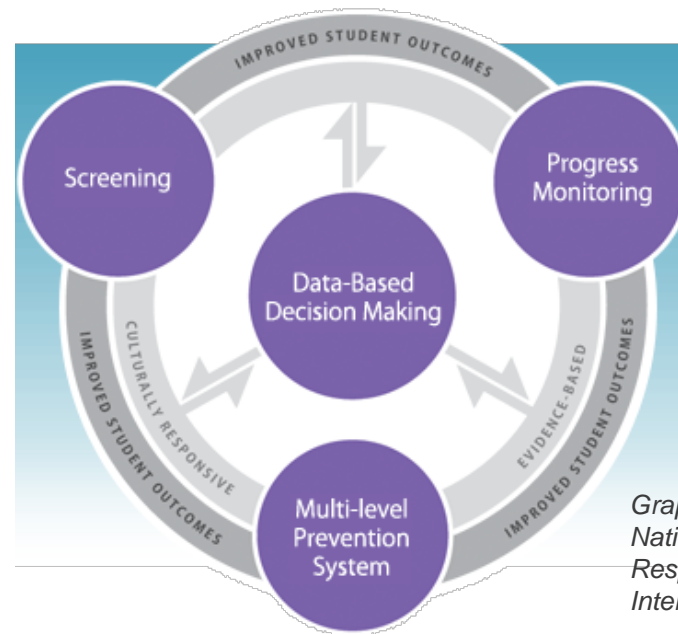
# Enhancing EBP Learnability

- Disseminate / Implement key competencies instead of full Tx packages (Beidas et al., 2011; Rotheram-borus et al., 2012)
  - **Simplified EBP Design → Enhanced Learnability**
- SA and progress monitoring may be the “low-hanging fruit” of EBP implementation
  - Effective use can result in improved outcomes (Bickman et al., 2011; Lambert et al., 2003)
  - Findings indicate good uptake of SA following training in SBMH (Lyon et al., 2011)



# Contextual Appropriateness / Fit with Natural Constraints

- Assessment and Monitoring aligns with ***Response to Intervention (RtI)*** educational models of data-driven decision making



*Graphic from the  
National Center on  
Response to  
Intervention*



# How common is SA in Mental Health?

- SA tools are used infrequently by MH practitioners regardless of their discipline (Hatfield & Ogles, 2004; Gilbody et al., 2002)
- 40% use parent rating scales; 29% use child self-report rating scales (Palmiter, 2004)
- When provided with scored assessment profiles, SA information infrequently used for Tx planning/progress monitoring (Garland et al., 2003)





# SA Use in Schools

Survey responses from SBHC practitioners (*n* = 16)

Percent of Caseload:	0%	1-39%	40-60%	61-100%
Gave a SA measure in initial 1-2 meetings	47%	27%	27%	--
Gave a SA measure at termination	63%	36%	--	--
Gave a SA measure	38%	44%	19%	--
Gave a SA measure to a teacher	81%	19%	--	--
Gave feedback about a SA measure	50%	31%	13%	6%
Changed Tx plan based on SA data	69%	31%	--	--
Changed indiv. session plan based on SA	56%	38%	6%	--



# Adapting a Measurement Feedback System (MFS) for School-Based Clinicians

- MFS provide computerized infrastructure to support assessment and monitoring of intervention targets (Bickman, 2008)
  - Also support communication among providers about treatment progress (for supervision, consultation)
- MFS selected: *Mental Health Integrated Tracking System* (MHITS; Unützer)
  - Previously used to support collaborative care for adult depression



Report for :   
 Report Created on : Monday, October 1, 2012, 2:41PM

# CURRENT PATIENTS

FLAGS	MHITS ID	NAME	POPULATION	ENROLLMENT DATE	STATUS	CLINICAL ASSESSMENT			# OF SESS - IONS	WKS IN TX	LAST FOLLOW UP CONTACT						CONTINUED CARE PLAN	PSYCH. NOTE	PSYCH EVAL
						DATE	PHQ -9	GAD -7			DATE	PHQ -9	DEP IMPR	GAD -7	ANX IMPR	MED			
99	000217	Anderson, Frank	U	5/1/2012	L1	5/1/2012			19	21	9/7/2012	10*		11*		✓		9/27/2012	
99	000014	Contrary, Mary	MT	12/15/2008	L1	12/15/2008			6	198	7/26/2012	18*				✓			
99	000047	Delay, Tom	U	12/14/2009	L1	12/14/2009	25		2	146	8/3/2012					✓			
99	000228	Devito, Danny	G	4/20/2012	L1	5/25/2012	15		1	18									
99	000012	Doe, Jenna	UVO	11/25/2008	L1	3/3/2008			1	239									
99	000095	Doe, John	UVFMO	5/12/2010	UA				0	0									
99	000049	Duke, Daisy	M	1/4/2010	UA				0	0									
99	000036	Gutierrez, Mario	O	8/12/2009	L1	8/12/2009	21		1	163									
99	000026	Joe, Baby	C	4/24/2009	L1	1/26/2010			2	139	2/1/2010					✓			
99	000027	Joe, Baby	C	4/24/2009	L1	7/20/2012			1	10									
99	000029	John, Doe	V	4/30/2009	L1	4/30/2009			1	178									
99	000024	Mccain, John	V	4/17/2009	L1	2/9/2012			1	33									
99	000035	Mctest, Testy	U	5/16/2009	L1	5/17/2009		17	1	176									
99	000207	McTest, Testy	S	3/1/2012	UA				0	0									
99	000051	Monroe, Marilyn	M	1/5/2010	L1	1/5/2010	24		2	142	1/1/2010					✓			
99	000025	Palin, Bristol	U	4/20/2009	UA				0	0									
99	000046	Palin, Todd	V	11/23/2009	L1	11/23/2009			1	149								2/17/2	
99	000286	Romney,	U	8/10/2012	L1	8/10/2012			2	7	8/10/2012								

# MFS Development Process

- *Iterative* adaptation of the system with regular user testing/input

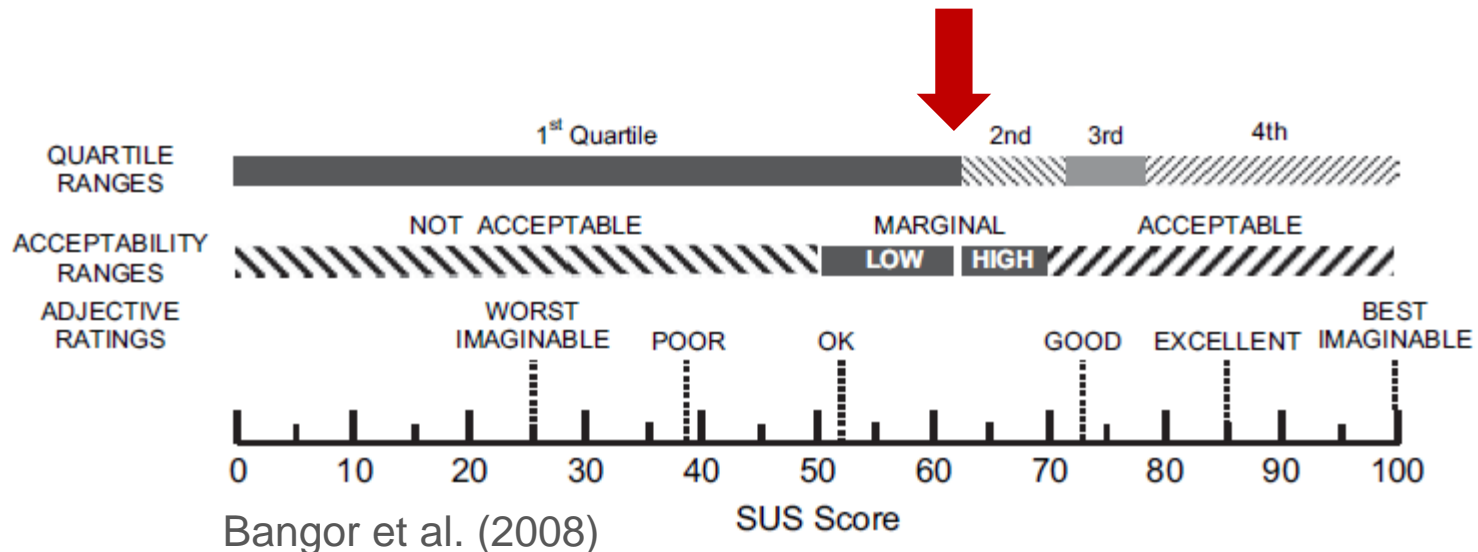


- Recent MFS development efforts:
  1. Focus groups to evaluate provider workflow, usability of different MFS components, etc.
  2. Piloting and feedback with the un-adapted system
  3. Feedback from a year-long stakeholder committee,
  4. **Trial with clinicians ( $n = 14$ ) randomized to adapted MFS or assessment as usual (AAU)**
    - Both received same SA/progress monitoring training

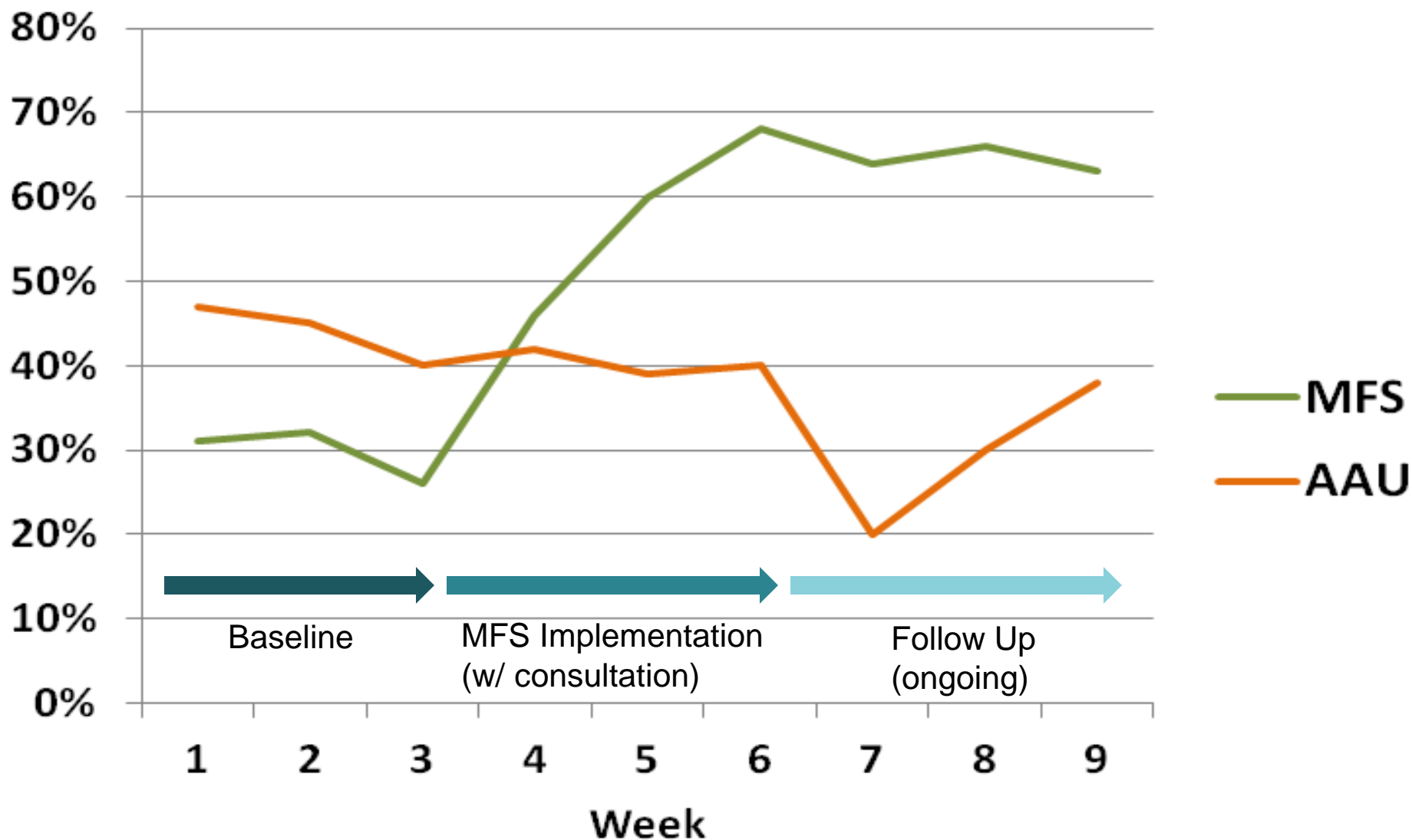


# Preliminary Outcome: System Usability

- System Usability Scale (SUS; Brooke, 1996)
  - 10-item measure of overall usability; yields 0-100 score
  - Most sensitive and robust usability assessment tool (Bangor et al., 2008; Tullis & Stetson, 2004)
- Administered to MFS group after ~6 wks of use
  - **Mean SUS Total Score: 61.4** (marginally acceptable)



# Preliminary Outcome: % of Caseload Receiving Data-Based Feedback for MFS vs. Assessment as Usual (AAU)



# Questions and Discussion

**Sometimes**



**beats**

