



INSTITUTE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENT

# An Intense Discussion on Outcome Measurement

*Operational Best Practices and  
Benchmarking in Behavioral Health*

October 10, 2013

# Panelists

- William Wood, MD Senior Medical Director Behavioral Health Amerigroup Corporation, Nashville, TN
- Jim Kupel, B.A. Principal, Crescendo Consulting Group, LLC, Portland, ME
- Jeb Brown Ph.D Center for Clinical Informatics, Salt Lake City, UT
- Moderator - Peter Brown Executive Director Institute for Behavioral Healthcare Improvement



INSTITUTE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENT

# A Word About the Institute for Behavioral Healthcare Improvement

- Organized in 2005
- Independent Not For Profit (501C3)
- Dedicate to helping organizations serving people with behavioral health problems to get better results
- Website is [www.IBHI.net](http://www.IBHI.net)
- Peter C. Brown Executive Director

# Evolution in Outcomes, Expectations by Payers

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**William G. Wood, M.D., Ph.D.**

*Senior Medical Director  
Behavioral Health*

*Amerigroup Tennessee*

October 10, 2013

# About WellPoint

WellPoint, Inc. was formed through the 2004 merger of WellPoint Health Networks, Inc. and Anthem, Inc

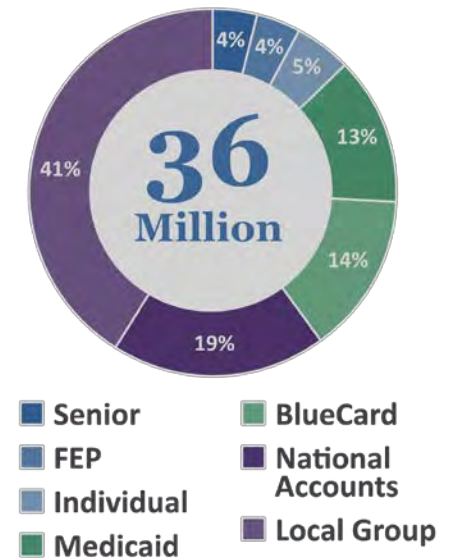
**Purpose Statement:** Together, we are transforming health care with trusted and caring solutions

**Vision:** To be America's valued health partner

**Values:** Trustworthy; Accountable; Innovative; Caring; Easy-to-do Business With

Serves approximately 36 million people in branded health plans and approximately 66 million people through subsidiaries

**Increasingly diverse customer base**






***Ranks No. 45 on Fortune 500; No. 2 on Fortune 500 health care companies listing***





# Historical Perspective

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## Initially payers were focused on reducing costs

-  Length of stay
-  Reducing admissions
-  Fewer services = lower cost

## Quality factors emerged

-  HEDIS indicators
-  Readmissions as indicator of quality of in-patient care
-  Admissions as indicator of quality of out-patient care
-  Emergency department utilization

# New Focus on Quality



## **Utilization over time, more reflective of quality of care**

*Paradigm shift*

Person focused care

*Integrated care*

Physical and behavioral care

## **Social factors emerge as significant issues to address**

*Length of inpatient stay*

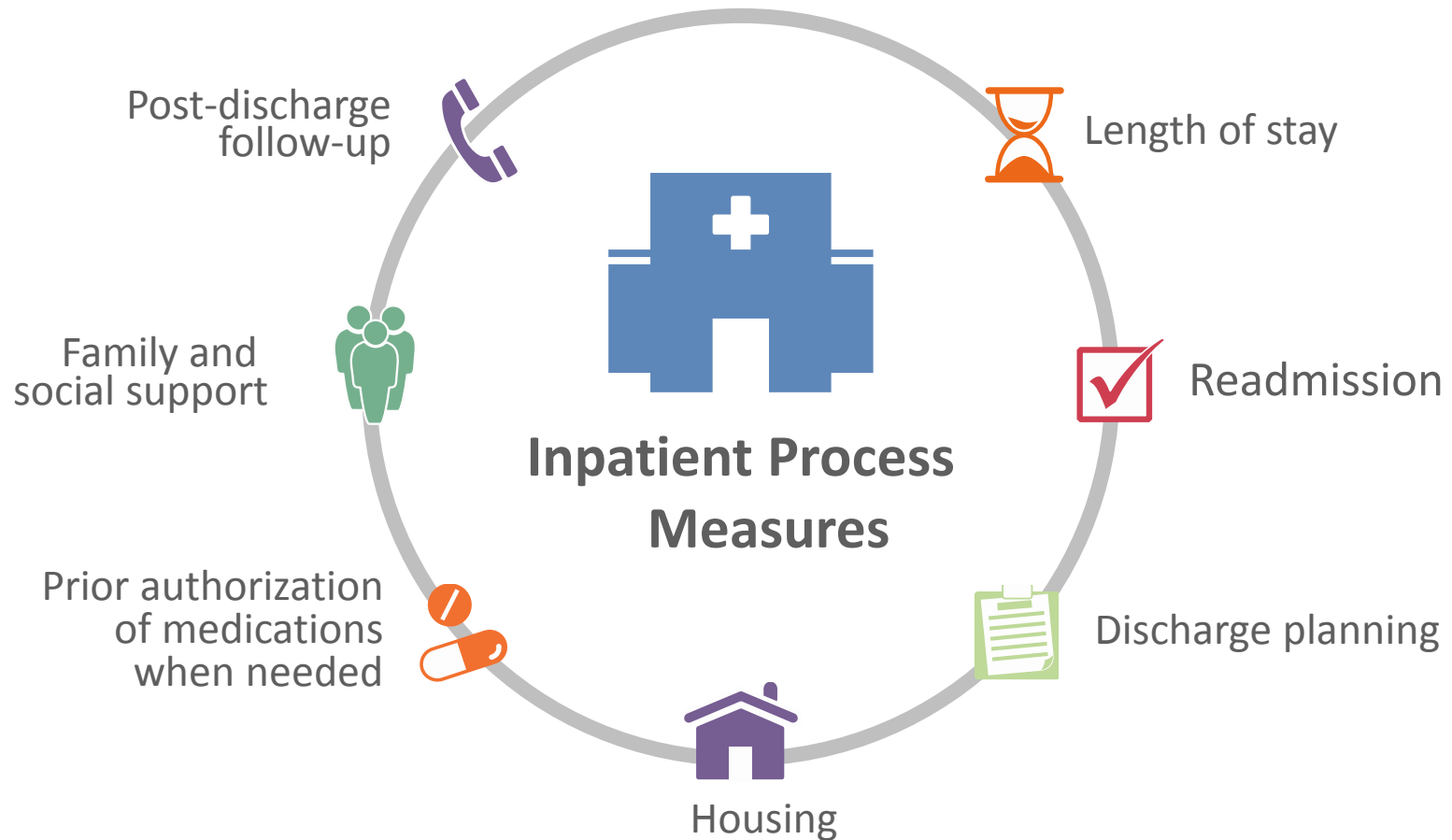
Determined by needs of person

*Recognition that readmissions may be reflective of:*

Needs of individual

Quality of care

# Multiple Factors Now Important





# Current Factors of Importance



- Outpatient process measures
- Physical measures
- Breast cancer screening
- PCP visits
- Diabetic screening
- HgA1C
- Eye exam

# Goals

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**Enhance recovery process**



**Reach maximum functional status**



**Achieve long-term stability**



# New Focus: Improving Life Function and Enjoyment

**Q-and-A**

**William.Wood@Amerigroup.com**



# Harbor Performance Initiative

*Operational Best Practices and  
Benchmarking in Behavioral Health  
from Maine to San Diego*

# Operational Best Practices and Benchmarking Program Background

- ▶ HPI participants include a dozen select peer organizations across the country.
- ▶ The original purpose was to identify best practices within relevant peer organizations.
- ▶ The overarching goal was, and is, to enable organizations to improve patient care and operate more effectively in the changing healthcare environment, e.g. bundled payments, ACOs, value-based contracting.
- ▶ Participants are using key benchmarks as a tool for an on-going learning community that tracks and shares performance on key metrics.
- ▶ The group believes that sharing our individual performance, knowledge and expertise in a candid and collegial environment can improve performance for all members.

# Method and Approach

- ▶ The original study utilized a four-part approach
- ▶ Crescendo aggregated and “de-duped” a list of 75+ key measures collected in peer group institutions.
- ▶ Refined and standardized metric definitions.
- ▶ Identified a common set of core measures and collects data quarterly.
- ▶ Executed participant agreements
- ▶ The group refuses to let the perfect become the enemy of the good.
- ▶ The focus is upon ideas and actions that can be operationalized
- ▶ We are all “leaders” and “learners.”

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# Data Benchmarks Review

## Participation

- ▶ Very high rate of participation
- ▶ Organizational data and reports are individually password protected and being held on an encrypted server

## Time based trends

- ▶ Most data ranges are reasonably similar – 2012Q1 and 2012Q4
  - Participant composition changed somewhat
  - Not all measures were collected in both periods

## Internal consistency

- ▶ Organizations that were leaders (or learners) in 2012Q1 tend to still maintain that role
- ▶ There are lots of opportunities for everyone

# Data Profiles

<u>Measures</u>	<u>2013Q1 Median</u>	<u>2013Q1 Min</u>	<u>2013Q1 Max</u>
<b>Occupancy rates</b>	89%	82%	94%
<b>Readmission rates</b>	8%	4%	11%
<b>Denials to inpatient care facilities</b>	45%	23%	124%
<b>HBIPS</b>			
a. Admission screening	99.5%	82%	100%
b. Hours of physical restraint used	0.24	0.09	0.79
c. Hours of seclusion use by unit	0.30	-	2.47
d. Patients discharged on multiple antipsychotic medications	8%	0%	12%
e. Patients discharged on multiple antipsychotic medications with justification	83%	25%	100%
f. Post discharge continuing care plan created	97%	87%	100%
g. Post discharge continuing care plan transmitted to next level of care provider	90%	66%	99%



# Data Profiles

<u>Measures</u>	<u>2013Q1 Median</u>	<u>2013Q1 Min</u>	<u>2013Q1 Max</u>
<b>Medication errors - Doses</b>	0.0179%	0.0030%	0.0880%
Medication errors - Severity A	23%	0%	96%
Medication errors - Severity B	23%	4%	33%
Medication errors - Severity C	35%	0%	64%
Medication errors - Severity D	9%	0%	20%
Medication errors - Severity E	0%	0%	0%
Medication errors - Severity F	0%	0%	0%
<b>Patient falls - With Injury</b>	0.57	0.10	1.65
<b>Patient falls - Without Injury</b>	2.93	0.58	4.59
<b>Patient safety incidents</b>	1.43	-	3.46

# Data Profiles

<u>Measures</u>	<u>2013Q1 Median</u>	<u>2013Q1 Min</u>	<u>2013Q1 Max</u>
<b>Staffing ratios</b>			
Medical	0.84	0.67	1.64
Psychologist	-	-	0.04
Nursing	5.37	3.18	6.70
Psych Techs	5.31	0.29	7.35
Other clinical / direct care	1.95	1.62	3.87
Administrative	3.23	1.15	3.60
Operations	2.47	1.91	5.60
<b>Average cost per patient day</b>	\$1,004	\$715	\$1,596
<b>Average Length of Stay</b>	10.17	8.90	15.50

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# Contact Information

- ▶ Jim Kupel, 207.774.2345 ext-11;  
[jimk@crescendocg.com](mailto:jimk@crescendocg.com)
- ▶ Scott Good, 207.774.2345 ext-15;  
[scottg@crescendocg.com](mailto:scottg@crescendocg.com)

# Outcomes Informed Care

## An Introduction

### Contents:

- Slideshow on Outcomes Informed Care
- Tutorial on Getting Started

# What is Outcomes Informed Care?

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- Routinely administered questionnaires in which patients report on various stressors in their lives.
- Clinicians are given access to continuous feedback on patients' improvement.

# Why are we doing this?

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- Research in the last 10 years has demonstrated that a higher percentage of clients improve with Outcomes Informed Care.
- Multiple studies have shown that therapists are unable to achieve the same results without the use of questionnaires.

# Advocacy

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- Outcomes let us demonstrate the value of human based mental health services (as opposed to drug based)
- Makes the case for increase in funding and reimbursement rates
- It empowers you, the clinician.
  - Practice based evidence **lets you demonstrate** to payers and policy makers **what works**, rather than them tell you what to do.

# Outcomes Informed Care Works

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“The combination of measuring progress (i.e. monitoring) and providing feedback consistently yields clinically significant change... Rates of deterioration are cut in half, as is drop out. Include feedback about the client’s formal assessment of the relationship and the client is less likely to deteriorate, more likely to stay longer, and twice as likely to achieve a clinically significant change.”

- Duncan, Miller, Wampold & Hubble (2009); From Introduction in *Heart & Soul of Change*; page 39



# The therapist matters...

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“The variance of outcomes due to therapists (8%-9%) is larger than the variability due to treatments (0%-1%), alliance (5%) and the superiority of empirically supported treatment to placebo (0%-4%).”

-Wampold (2005); From The psychotherapist in *Evidence-Based Practices in Mental Health*, Norcross, Beutler & Levant (Eds), p. 204

“... when effects to treatments are noted, who provides the treatment, the quality of the alliance, and the clinician and recipients expectations of success provide a far better explanation of the results than any presumed specific effects due to the medications.”

-Sparks et al. (2009) Psychiatric drugs and common factors: An evaluation of risks and benefits for clinical practice in *Heart & Soul of Change*; Duncan, Miller, Wampold & Hubble (Eds); page 221

# Concept of Therapeutic Alliance

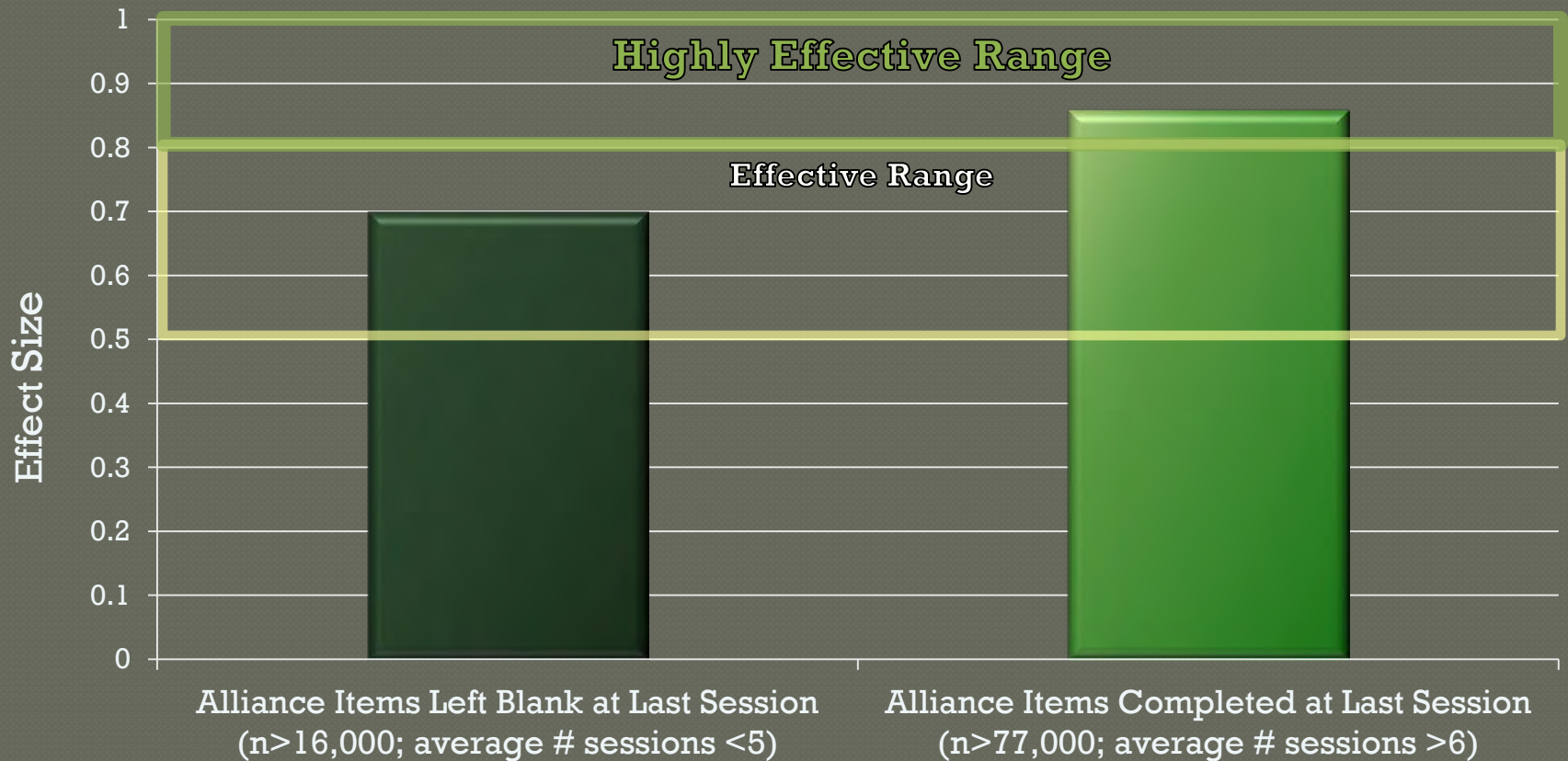
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## Three Components:

- **Tasks:** Behaviors and processes within the therapy session that constitute the actual work of therapy
- **Bonds:** The positive interpersonal attachment between therapist and client of mutual trust, confidence, and acceptance.
- **Goals:** Objectives of therapy that both client and therapist endorse.

# Alliance Results

Feedback makes a difference



# Meta Questionnaire

- Were the questionnaires helpful in your treatment?
- Did you have concerns about their use?
- Was your doctor/therapist interested in your responses?
- Were you honest?
- Matched with outcomes questionnaires to check frequency of Alliance items completion

We apologize for yet another questionnaire! We want to learn about your experiences completing ACORN questionnaires. We want to know if the questionnaires were helpful to you and your doctor/therapists, and how you think they could be improved.

Client ID (optional):

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Clinician ID (optional):

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Date completed

Org ID

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Thank you for your help!

Please indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

	Agree	Somewhat agree	Not sure	Somewhat disagree	Do not agree
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The questionnaires asked about some of symptoms and problems for which I sought help.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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I found that the questionnaires were a helpful part of the treatment process.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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I think that the questionnaires could have helped my doctor/therapist understand how I feel.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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I believed that the doctor/therapist was interested in how I answered the questions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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The questionnaires did not ask about the things that were most important to me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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My responses to the questionnaires were an honest reflection of how I really felt.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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The questionnaires were too long.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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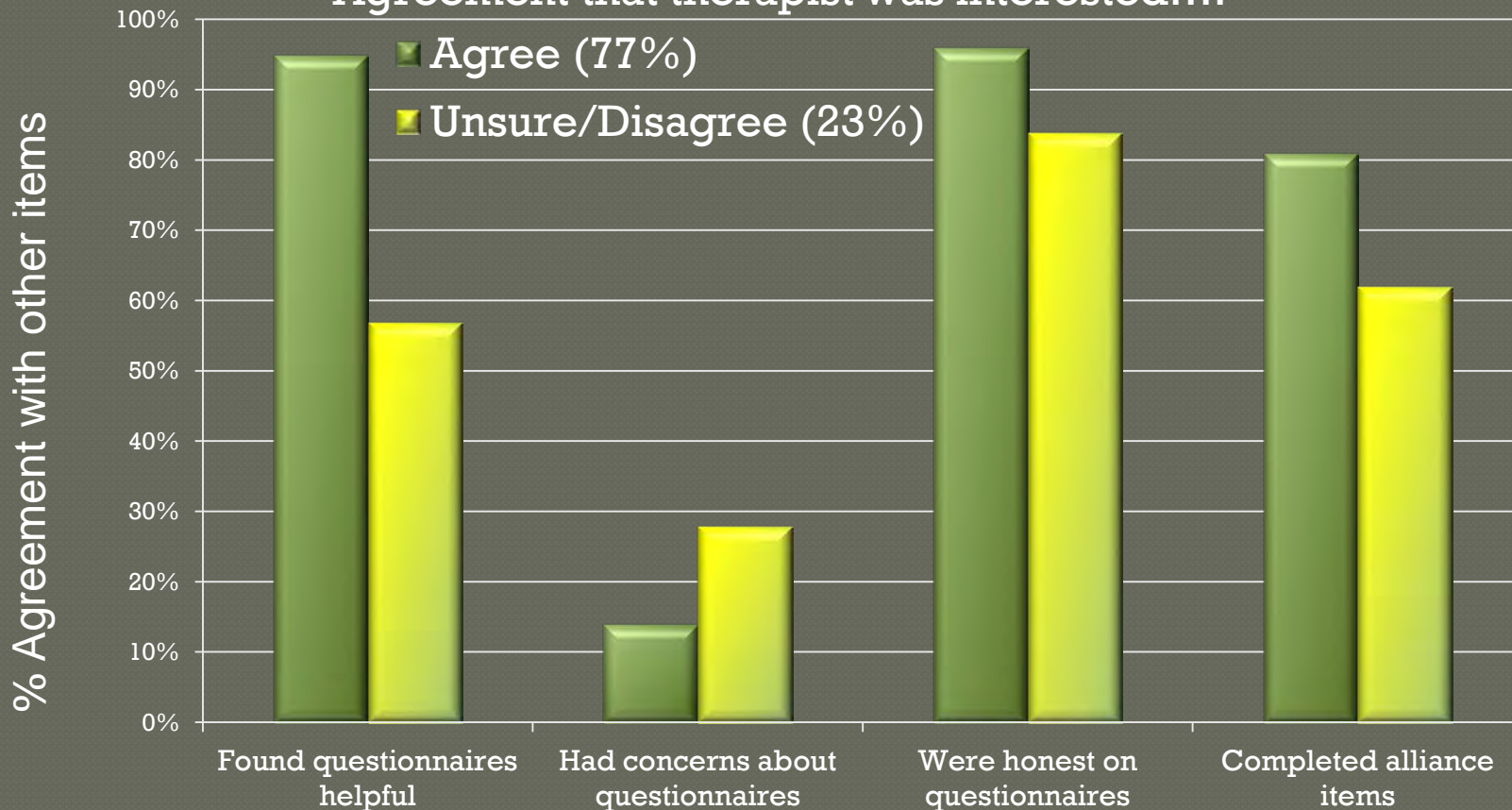
I was afraid that the questionnaires might be used in ways that there were not in my best interest.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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I was afraid that the questionnaires would compromise my confidentiality. . .	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Please use the space below to add any comments or suggestions as to how the ACORN questionnaires can be improved. You may continue on the back.

# I believed the therapist was interested in how I answered the questions...

Agreement that therapist was interested....



Sample size = 255 respondents

# Tips to achieve good outcomes

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- **Use questionnaires routinely**
  - Frequent assessments associated with better outcomes
  - Explain purpose, encourage honest responses
  - Thank the client
- **Take advantage of alliance items**
  - Clients who complete Alliance items consistently tend to have better outcomes
  - Clients willingness to give honest feedback on Alliance is associated with better outcomes
  - Higher Alliance scores early in treatment with decreasing scores over time are associated with better outcomes
- **Get Feedback. Use your Clinician's Toolkit**
  - Monitor off track cases – strive to keep them in treatment
  - Monitor risk indicators – substance abuse, thoughts of self harm, increase in alliance scores

# Who do I contact for help?

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- Questions about missing or incorrect data

[Datacenter@clinical-informatics.com](mailto:Datacenter@clinical-informatics.com)

Contact the Datacenter directly at (801)993-2683

- Clinician to clinician consultation & help

Joanne Cameron, PhD

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(801)739-6268

- Technical questions

Jeb Brown PhD

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