


What is Working?

- *Looked at 101 drug courts around the nation (detailed process studies/10 KC)*
- *69 included recidivism and cost evaluations*
- *In total, this study included 32,719 individuals (16,317 drug court participants and 16,402 comparison group members).*



What is Working?

- *What are the best drug courts doing?*

Found over 50 practices that were related to significantly lower recidivism or lower costs or both



What is Working?

Drug Court Top 10

- *Top 10 Best Practices for Reducing Recidivism*
- *Top 10 Best Practices for Reducing Cost (Increasing Cost Savings)*

Drug Court Top 10
Recidivism

10. The results of program evaluations have led to modifications in drug court operations

10. Drug Courts that used program evaluations to make modifications in drug court operations had 85% greater reductions in recidivism

The results of program evaluations have led to modifications in drug court operations

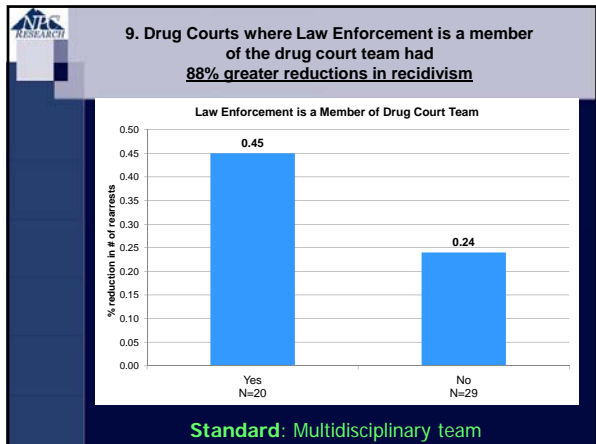
Response	N	% reductions in # of rearrests
Yes	21	0.37
No	13	0.20

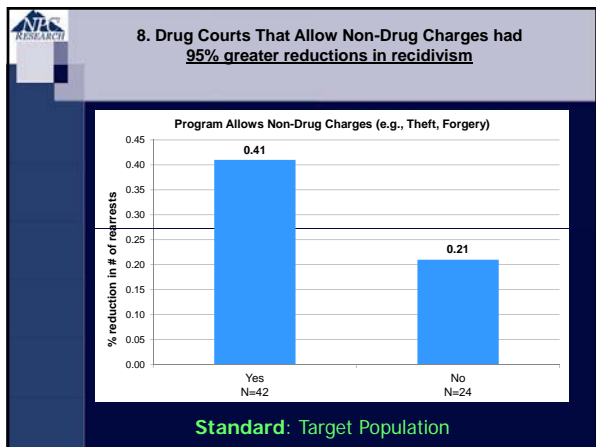
Standard: Data and Evaluation

Drug Court Top 10
Recidivism

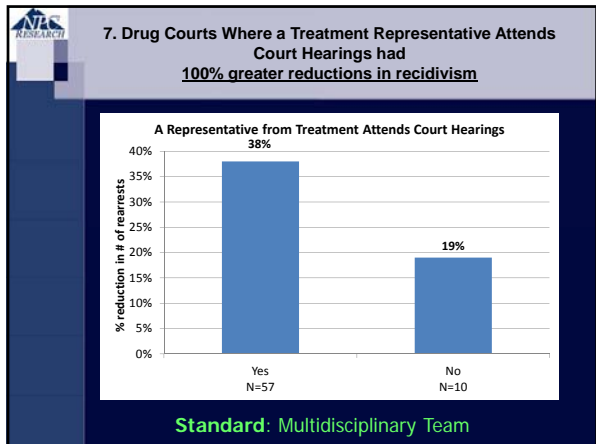
10. The results of program evaluations have led to modifications in drug court operations

9. Law Enforcement is a member of the drug court team

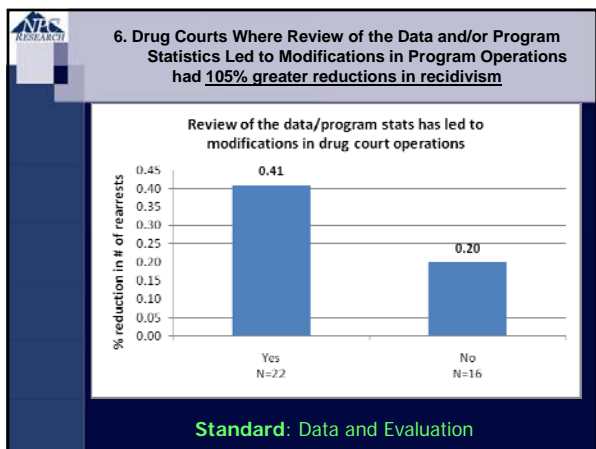




- Drug Court Top 10 *Recidivism***
10. *The results of program evaluations have led to modifications in drug court operations*
 9. *Law Enforcement is a member of the drug court team*
 8. *Drug Court allows non-drug charges*
 7. *A representative from treatment attends court sessions*



- Drug Court Top 10 *Recidivism***
10. *The results of program evaluations have led to modifications in drug court operations*
 9. *Law Enforcement is a member of the drug court team*
 8. *Drug Court allows non-drug charges*
 7. *A representative from treatment attends court sessions*
 6. *Review of the data/program stats has led to modifications in drug court operations*



Drug Court Top 10
Recidivism

5. *A representative from treatment attends drug court team meetings (staffings)*

5. Drug Courts Where a Representative From Treatment Attends Drug Court Team Meetings (Staffings) had **105% greater reductions in recidivism**

A representative from treatment attends drug court team meetings (staffings)

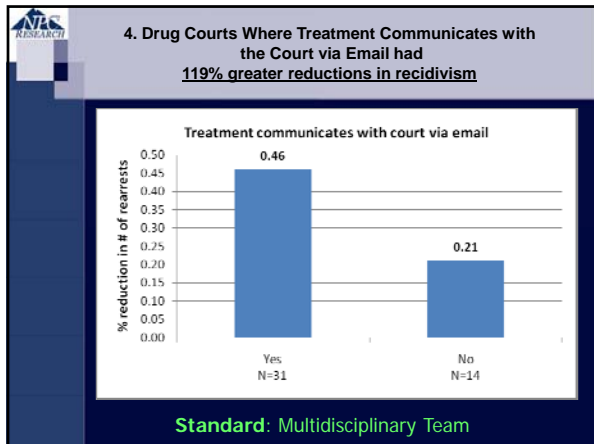
Response	N	% reduction in # of rearrests
Yes	50	0.39
No	11	0.19

Standard: Multidisciplinary Team

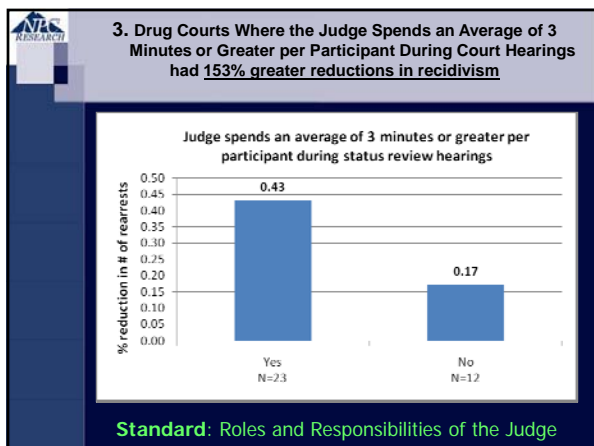
Drug Court Top 10
Recidivism

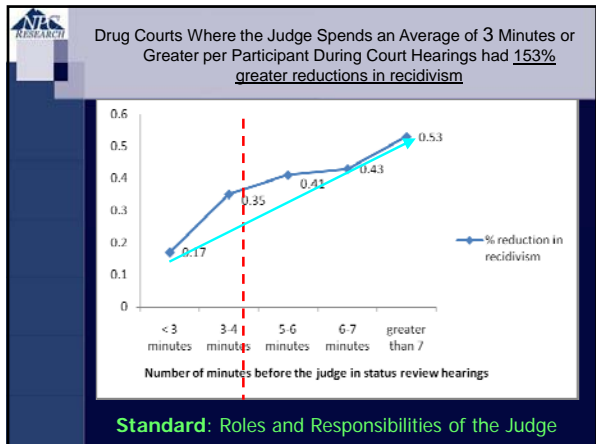
5. *A representative from treatment attends drug court team meetings (staffings)*

4. *Treatment communicates with court via email*

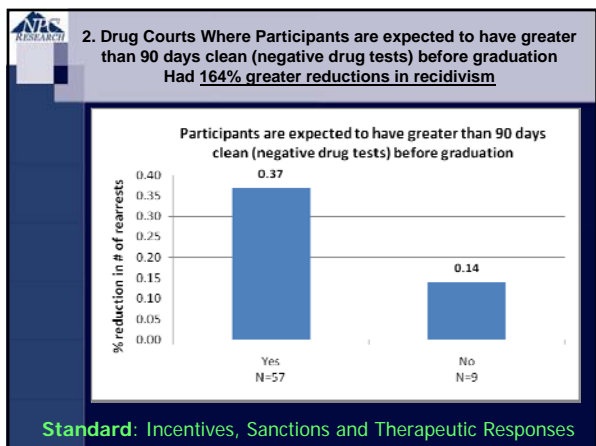


- Drug Court Top 10**
Recidivism
- A representative from treatment attends drug court team meetings (staffings)*
 - Treatment communicates with court via email*
 - Judge spends an average of 3 minutes or greater per participant during status review hearings*





- ### Drug Court Top 10 *Recidivism*
5. *A representative from treatment attends drug court team meetings (staffings)*
 4. *Treatment communicates with court via email*
 3. *Judge spends an average of 3 minutes or greater per participant during status review hearings*
 2. *Participants are expected to have greater than 90 days clean (negative drug tests) before graduation*



2. Drug Courts Where Participants are expected to have greater than 90 days clean (negative drug tests) before graduation Had 164% greater reductions in recidivism

Clean Days	N	Reduction in Recidivism
0-90 days clean	15	25%
91-180 days clean	39	35%
181-365 days clean	10	45%

Standard: Incentives, Sanctions and Therapeutic Responses

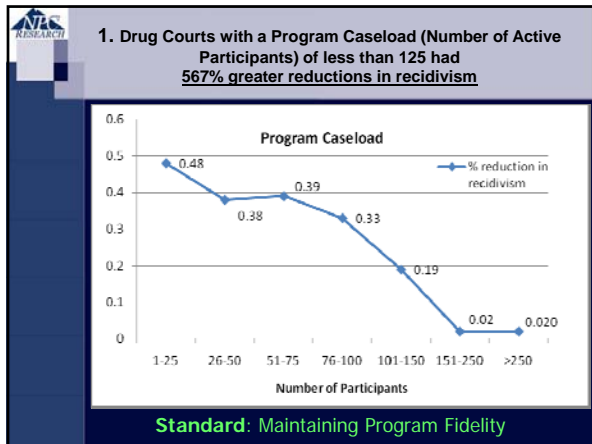
**Drug Court Top 10
*Recidivism***

- 1. Program caseload (number of active participants) is less than 125**
- 2. Participants are expected to have greater than 90 days clean (negative drug tests) before graduation**
- 3. Judge spends an average of 3 minutes or greater per participant during status review hearings**
- 4. Treatment communicates with court via email**
- 5. A representative from treatment attends drug court team meetings (staffings)**

1. Drug Courts with a Program Caseload (Number of Active Participants) of less than 125 had 567% greater reductions in recidivism

Caseload	N	% reduction in # of rearrests
Yes	29	0.40
No	13	0.06

Standard: Maintaining Program Fidelity



- 1. Drug Courts with a Program Caseload (Number of Active Participants) of less than 125 had 567% greater reductions in recidivism**
- In larger drug courts:**
- The Judge spent less time per participant in court (nearly half the time)
 - Tx and LE were less likely to attend staffings
(All team members were less likely to attend staffings)
 - Tx and LE were less likely to attend court hearings
 - Tx was less likely to communicate with the court through email
 - Greater number of Tx agencies (8 vs 3)
 - Drug tests were less frequent
 - Team members were less likely to be trained
- *All findings above were statistically significant ($p < .05$)

- Themes in the Top 10**
- Multidisciplinary Team:**
- *Teams Sink or Swim Together*
 - *Relationships Matter*
- Incentive and sanction guidelines/requirements for phase advancement/drug testing:**
- *Structure, Consistency and Accountability*
- Target Population and eligibility criteria:**
- *Setting the program and participants up for success*
- Data and Evaluation:**
- *Continuous Program Improvement Leads to Positive Outcomes*

Why Standards??

- Put null findings in context (10-18%)
- Disown harmful programs (6-9%)
- Prevent regression to old habits (model drift)
- Protect “brand name” from incursions
- Define standard of care for ourselves
 - Limit appellate review to conformance with standards rather than creating standards
 - Congressional committees, agencies, etc.



Why Standards? (cont.)

- Reduce legal & constitutional errors
 - Procedural due process requires standards, rational basis, and notice of rights being waived
- Reduce disparate impacts (violations of Equal Protection)
- Provide support and political cover for needed services and expenditures
- Demonstrate maturity of our profession





Standards



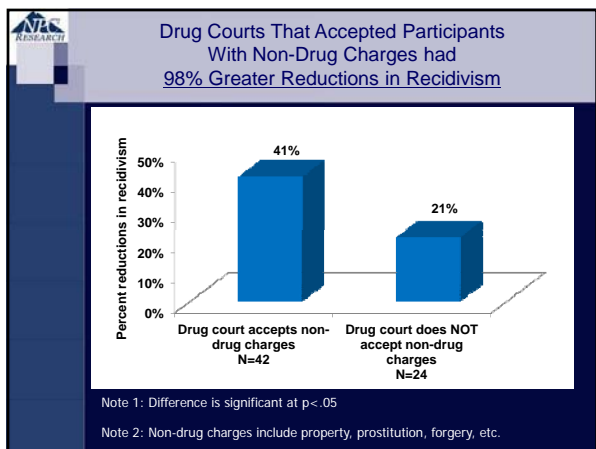
BASED ON THE RESEARCH

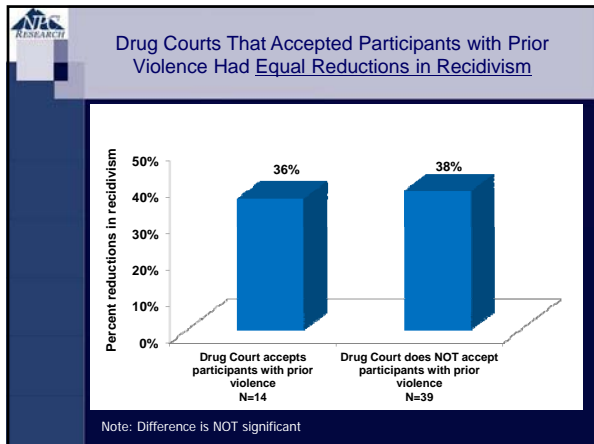
- ✓ Research Quality
 1. Experimental / controlled
 2. Quasi-experimental or matched-comparison
- ✓ Research in Drug Court or Related Setting

Volume I

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

- Target Population**
- Eligibility & exclusion criteria are based on empirical evidence
 - Assessment process is evidence-based
 - A. Objective eligibility criteria
 - B. High-risk & high-need participants
 - C. Validated eligibility assessments
 - D. Criminal history disqualifications
 - “Barring legal prohibitions . . .”
 - E. Clinical disqualifications
 - “If adequate treatment is available...”





Hx Disadvantaged Groups

- Equivalent opportunities to participate and succeed in Drug Court
 - A. Equivalent access (intent & impact)
 - B. Equivalent retention
 - C. Equivalent treatment
 - D. Equivalent incentives & sanctions
 - E. Equivalent legal dispositions
 - F. Team training (remedial measures)

NADCP
National Association of Drug Court Professionals

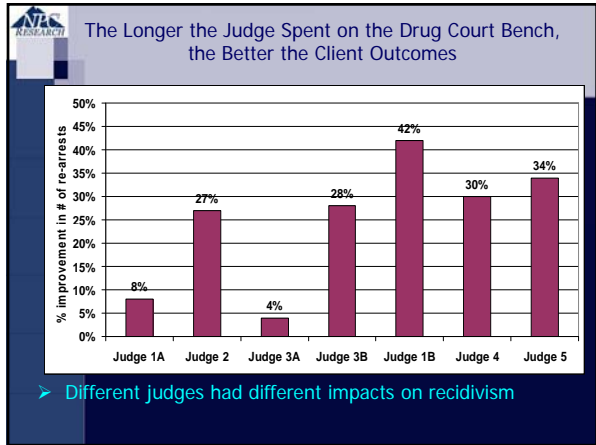
Hx Disadvantaged Groups

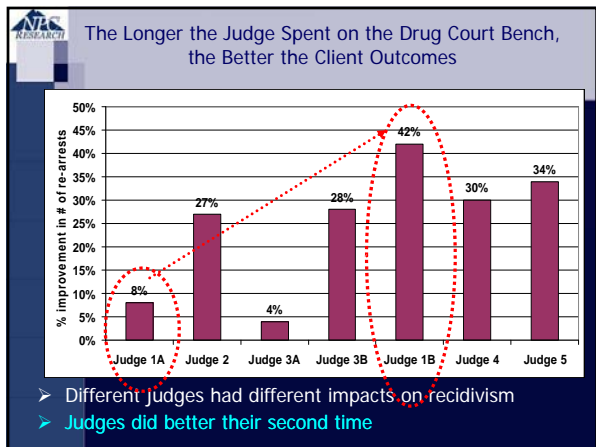
	Graduated	Terminated	Stat Test
Variable	Mean	Mean	Sig?
Gender (Percent Male)	50%	80%	Yes
Age	43.5	35.3	Yes
Ethnicity (Percent White)	80%	40%	Yes
Percent Married	22%	15%	No
Years of Education	12.8	13.3	No
Prior Number of Felonies	1	2.4	Yes
% with Prior MH Tx	11%	20%	Yes
Number of Sanctions	3.33	9.70	Yes

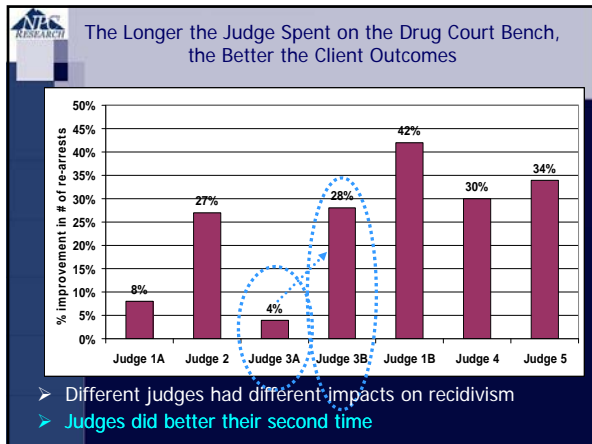
Roles of the Judge

- Contemporary knowledge; active engagement; professional demeanor; leader among equals
 - A. Professional training
 - B. Length of term
 - C. Consistent docket
 - D. Pre-court staff meetings
 - E. Frequency of status hearings
 - F. Length of court interactions
 - G. Judicial demeanor
 - H. Judicial decision-making

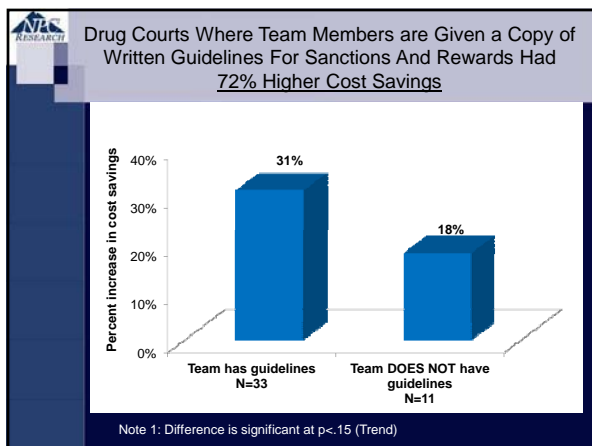


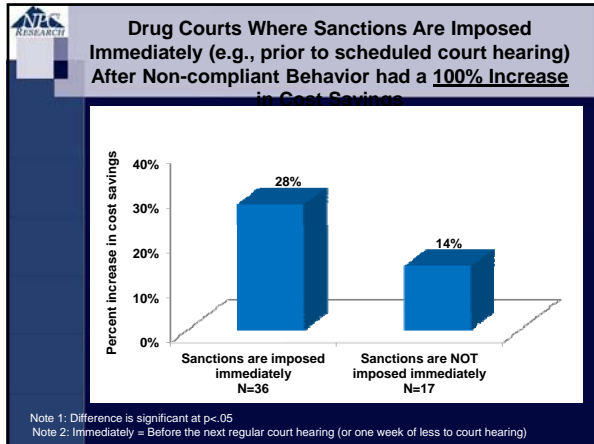


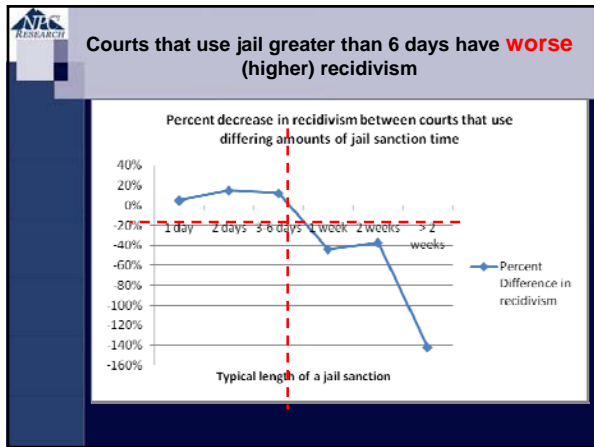


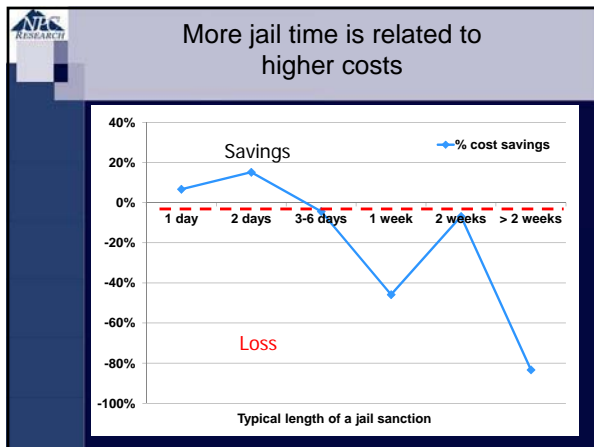


- NPC**
- ## Incentives & Sanctions
- Predictable, consistent, fair, and evidence-based
 - Advance notice
 - Opportunity to be heard
 - Equivalent consequences
 - Professional demeanor
 - Progressive sanctions
 - Licit substances
 - Therapeutic adjustments
 - Incentivizing productivity
- NADCP**
National Association of Drug Court Professionals









Substance Abuse Treatment

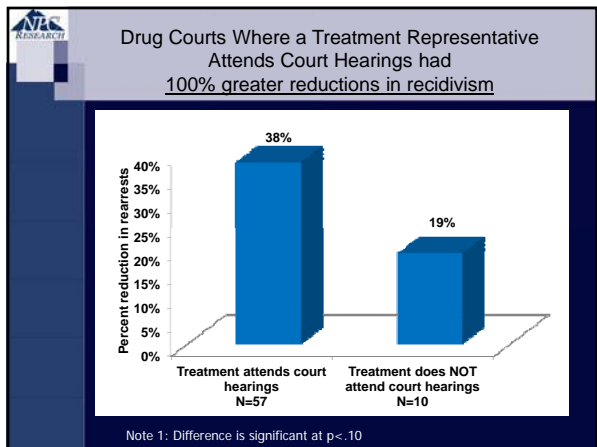
- Based on treatment needs and evidence-based
 - A. Continuum of care
 - "if adequate care is unavailable . . ."
 - B. In-custody treatment
 - C. Team representation
 - D. Treatment dosage and duration
 - E. Treatment modalities
 - F. Evidence-based treatments
 - G. Medications

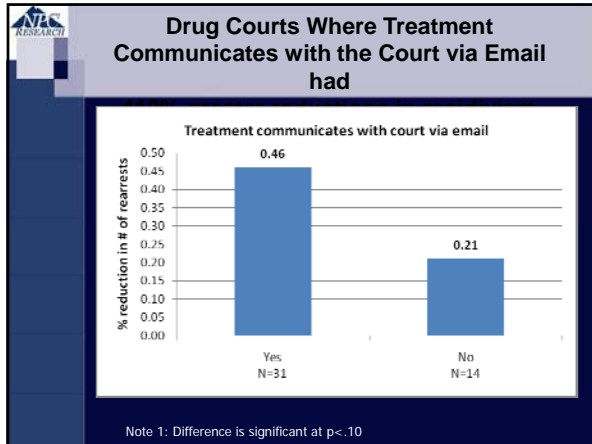
NADCP
National Association of Drug Court Professionals

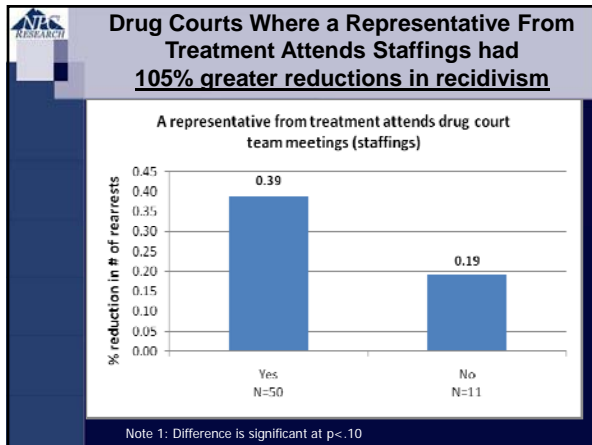
Substance Abuse Tx (cont.)

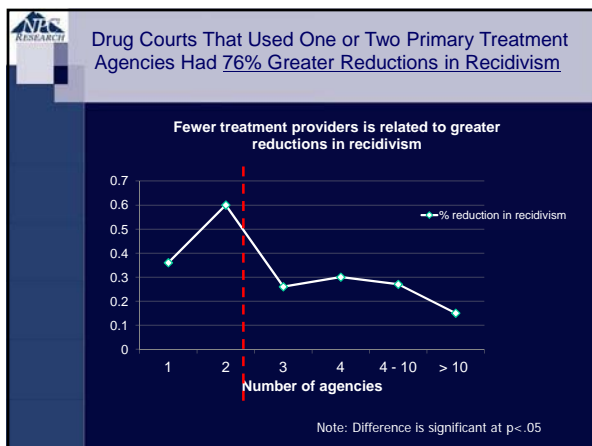
- Based on treatment needs and evidence-based
 - ...
 - H. Provider training and credentials
 - I. Peer support groups
 - J. Continuing care

NADCP
National Association of Drug Court Professionals











 **Conclusion:**



Before DC **After DC**

58

 **Questions?**

 **Contact Information**

Judge Stephen Manley
Contact Info?

Shannon Carey, Ph.D.
carey@npcresearch.com
www.npcresearch.com

60



Acknowledgements

Thank you to the judges, coordinators and staff at numerous drug courts who welcomed us to their program, answered our un-ending questions and helped us find and collect mountains of data!
