

# Evidence-based psychiatry and psychotherapy: What works?

Presentation to National Association of Practising Psychiatrists  
15 February 2022



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# What have we learned from history? Have times changed?

- If I were to have stood before a learned gathering of my peers and colleagues 100-150 years ago, what methods or products would I have presented to you as efficacious in the treatment of a range of disorders, including low mood, pain, anxiety, insomnia, cough or toothache?



# Cocaine drops for toothache



- Very popular for children in 1885
- Not only did cocaine relieve the pain, it made children very happy!

# A bottle of Bayer's 'Heroin'



- Between 1890 and 1910 heroin was sold as a non-addictive substitute for morphine
- It was also used to treat children with a cough



# Metcalf's Coca Wine

- This was one of a huge variety of wines containing cocaine on the market
- It was widely advertised to improve mood!
- It also doubled as an ubiquitous medicinal treatment



From fresh Coca Leaves and the Purest Wine.

Recommended for  
**NEURALGIA, SLEEPLESSNESS,  
DESPONDENCY, ETC.**

For Fatigue of mind or body.  
**METCALF'S  
Coca Wine**

A Pleasant Tonic and  
Invigorator.

Coca Leaves have been recommended by Riber as valuable in **Febrile Disorders**, by removing their acid, amorphous, and for the same reason in **Paralysis**.

With decided anæmia and atropine-morbid conditions, they have been employed in **Typhus, Scorbuto, Catarrhs, Anæmia, Intoxication**, and to assist digestion.

Wine of Coca is probably the most valuable Tonic in the Materia Medica. With stimulating and anæsthetic properties, it is well adapted for the treatment of **Acid, "Voice Tremor,"** as **Public Speakers and Singers** will be found indispensable. Being a "tonic" of the vocal chords, thereby greatly strengthening and increasing the volume of voice.

**Dose of Wine of Coca.**—In wineglassfuls, three or four daily, before meals.

**Preparation.**—A small quantity of pure gold, upon receipt of **One Dollar**.

Prepared by **THEODORE METCALF & CO.,**  
12 Tremont Street, BOSTON, MASS.

Dr. ARCHIBALD SUMNER, "Prescriber," states that "Coca" induces energy, removes despondency, restores the spirit, and tones the consumer in bone, flesh, and great bodily muscles, and even adds of food to a surprising degree, richness and quantity.

# Mariani wine (1875)

**MARIANI WINE**

**MARIANI WINE** Quality, Purity  
**HEALTH, STRENGTH,  
ENERGY & VITALITY.**

**MARIANI WINE**  
FORTIFIED, STRENGTHENED,  
STIMULATED & REFRESHED  
THE BODY & BRAIN

HASTENS  
CONVALESCENCE  
especially after  
**INFLUENZA.**

His Holiness  
**THE POPE**  
writes that he has  
fully appreciated the  
beneficent effects of  
this Tonic Wine and  
has forwarded to Mr.  
Mariani as a token of  
his gratitude a gold  
medal bearing his au-  
gust effigy.

**MARIANI WINE**

Is delivered free to all parts of the United Kingdom by WHILCOX & CO.,  
85, Mark Lane Street, London, W., price 2/- per Single Bottle, 22/- half-  
dozen, 43/- dozen, and is sold by Chemists and Stores.

- Mariani wine was the most famous Coca (cocaine-based) wine of its time
- Pope Leo XIII used to carry a bottle with him at all times
- He awarded Angelo Mariani, the wine's producer, with a Vatican gold medal (perhaps because the wine made him feel better than his religion?)

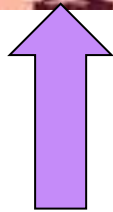


# Cocaine Tablets (1900)



- Very popular among stage actors, singers, teachers, and preachers, used to ensure an optimal performance by managing performance anxiety.
- Great to 'smooth' the voice, because of its "antiseptic" and "anaesthetic" properties

# Opium for newborns



46% alcohol

13/16 grains Opium to  
each fluid ounce

This product was an excellent soporific – Opium with 46% alcohol! Used to soothe colicky and hard-to-settle babies (a swig or two for the parents was also welcome!)





# Progress?

- Why have we stopped
  - prescribing heroin for pain relief?
  - putting cocaine in wine?
  - treating asthma with opium?
  - treating toothache, depression and performance anxiety with cocaine?
  - giving opium to newborns?

# Why have we stopped shackling people with mental disorders?



Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris, 1795

Dr Philippe Pinel, chief physician and founder of modern psychiatry



**Shockingly,  
we haven't!!**



## **Kept in chains: People with mental illness shackled in 60 nations**

<https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2020/10/10/rights-group-mentally-ill-shackled-and-chained-worldwide>



## **People with mental health conditions locked up in chains**

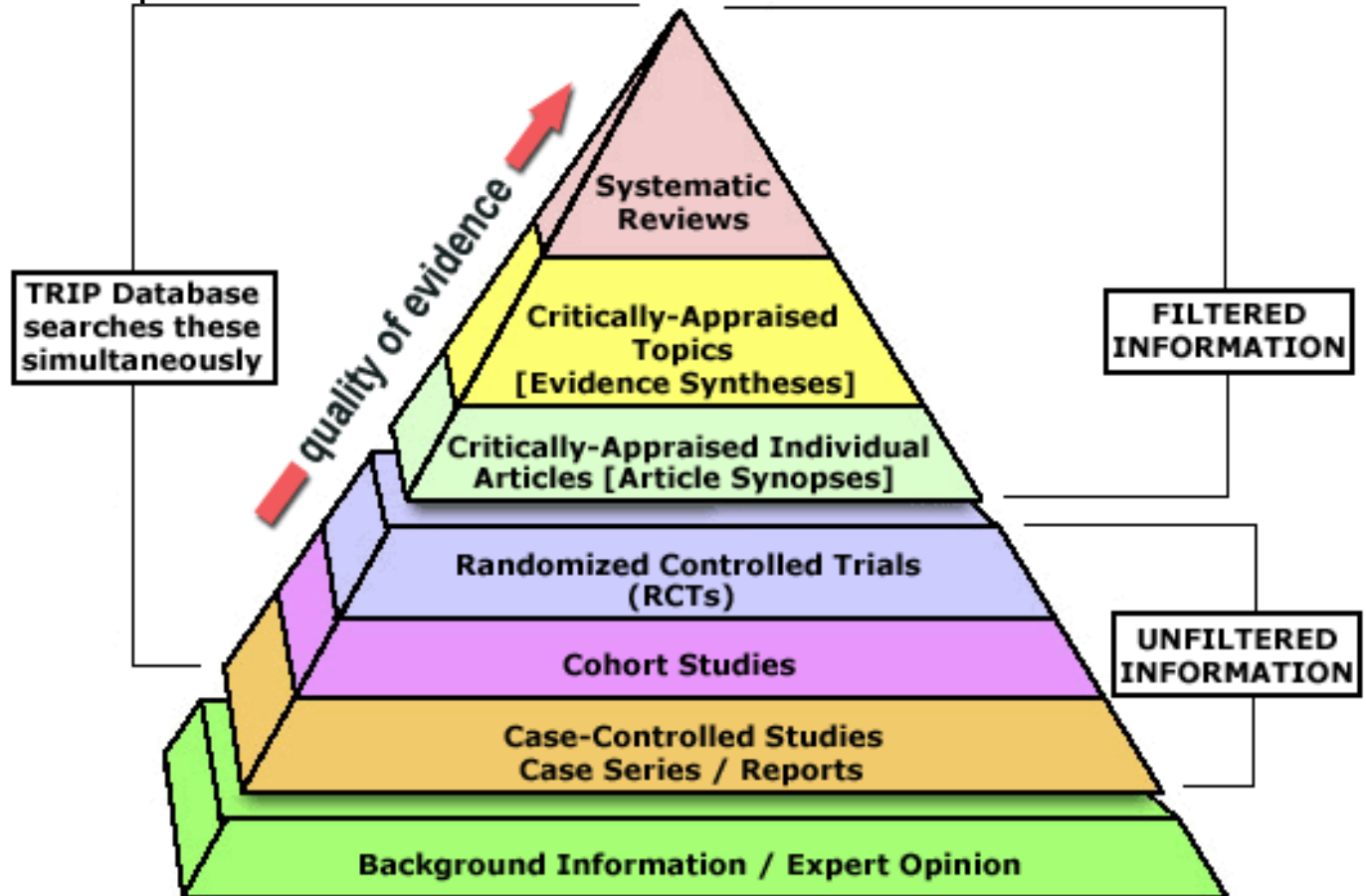


Living in Chains. Shackling of People with Psychosocial Disabilities Worldwide.



[https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media\\_2020/10/global\\_shackling1020\\_ETR.pdf](https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media_2020/10/global_shackling1020_ETR.pdf)

Purportedly, we now have evidence-based medicine, robust research methods, independent oversight, transparency...an understanding of side effects, ethics, and replication to help us select efficacious treatments but our professional bodies misuse the science for political or unconscious reasons.







We are currently grappling  
with a schism in opinion  
regarding psychiatric  
treatment.

Profound differences in  
theory are never gratuitous  
or invented. They grow out  
of conflicting elements in a  
genuine problem.

John Dewey. In Dworkin, M. (1959). *Dewey on  
Education* pp. 20, 91



# Historical origins of the schism in the current debate

## ■ From consciousness → conditioning

- **Ivan Pavlov's** “conditioned reflex” and **John B Watson's** “behaviourism” ~1913 - reaction against the philosophical (i.e., introspective) origins of psychology and reliance on “subjectivism.”
- **Fenichel's** statistical report (1930) on psychoanalytic psychotherapy outcomes at Berlin Psychoanalytic Institute (1920 to 1930)
- **Freud's** despondency about his “interminable therapy”





# Historical origins of the schism in the current debate

- **Eysenck** (1952) → psychotherapy not effective (hopelessly flawed study but VERY INFLUENTIAL)
- **B F Skinner** - operant conditioning (1950s) – the basis of cognitive – behaviour therapy.

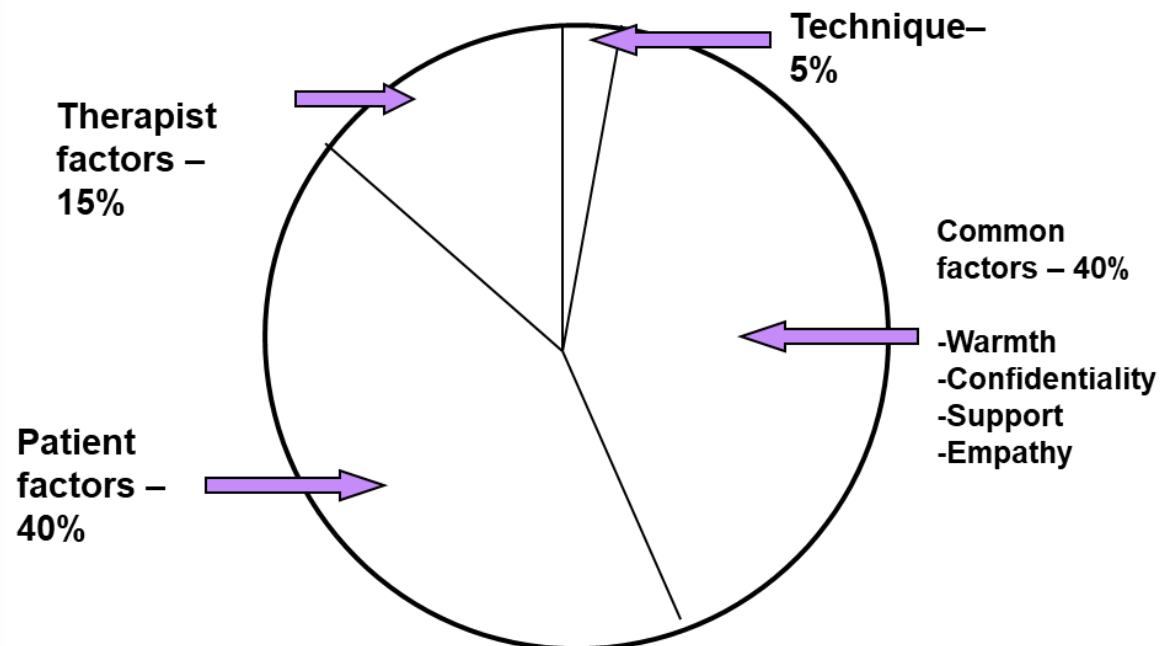
## Backlash

- **Hadley Cantril, 1956**
  - in the brief history of his science the subject of man as a living, striving, anxious, hopeful, curious, valuing, prayerful organism has been somewhat neglected (p. 3).
- **Gordon Allport, 1955**
  - we need to transcend the limitations of a psychology of species, and develop a more adequate psychology of personal growth
- Perhaps these comments are equally pertinent to the biological psychiatrist of today...?

# Historical origins of the schism in the current debate

## ■ From meaning-making to medication

- **Prozac** (1974) → Biological psychiatry
- Smith, Glass and Miller (1980) → birth of meta-analysis: psychotherapy effective; but therapists, not methods effective







# Historical origins of the schism in the current debate

- Aaron Beck and the DSM-111 (1980) → primacy of diagnosis, new disorders, treatment of symptoms, not person.
- Advent of learning theory based therapies (BT, CT, CBT)
- Focus on short term interventions
- Focus on manualized therapies
- Focus on medication
- New wave of methodologically sophisticated research



# Looking forward

- Effectiveness vs efficacy (Seligman, 1995) – Patient perception of therapy best indicator of outcome (Lambert, 2006) cf Fenichel (1920-1930)
- Publication bias and “big pharma”
  - Depression studies
  - CBT studies
  - Neglect of adverse outcomes in all forms of therapy
  - Problem of dropout
  - Inclusion of “single diagnoses” patients in RCTs don’t match clinical cases
- Steady march of new, competitive, and alternative theories and therapies – the third wave of CBT – mindfulness, DBT, ACT; third wave of psychoanalytic therapies (experiential, existential, attachment-informed, ISTDP, relational, mentalization-based)
- Advent of brain-based therapy and rise of neuropsychiatry/neuro-psychotherapies



# Are psychoanalytically oriented psychotherapies effective?

If so, which ones?

Long vs short term? Both?

If so, for which condition? Which patient?



**Table 2. Effect Sizes of STPP, CBT, Other Forms of Psychotherapy, TAU, and Waiting-List Controls**

Treatment/Control Group	No. of Studies	Effect Sizes	
		Mean (SD)	Range
STPP			
Target problems (pre-post)	17	1.39 (0.83)	0.21 to 3.60
Target problems (pre-fu)	16	1.57 (0.88)	0.40 to 3.60
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-post)	15	0.90 (0.48)	0.41 to 1.90
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-fu)	13	0.95 (0.50)	0.32 to 1.80
Social functioning (pre-post)	11	0.80 (0.37)	0.20 to 1.55
Social functioning (pre-fu)	8	1.19 (0.72)	0.50 to 2.75
CBT			
Target problems (pre-post)	11	1.38 (0.49)	0.47 to 2.21
Target problems (pre-fu)	9	1.33 (0.41)	0.81 to 1.96
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-post)	10	1.04 (0.52)	0.38 to 1.81
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-fu)	8	0.97 (0.63)	0.23 to 1.86
Social functioning (pre-post)	8	0.92 (0.29)	0.45 to 1.31
Social functioning (pre-fu)	5	1.05 (0.39)	0.37 to 1.36
Other psychotherapies			
Target problems (pre-post)	9	1.14 (0.79)	0.07 to 2.00
Target problems (pre-fu)	9	1.13 (0.88)	-0.10 to 2.14
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-post)	8	0.82 (0.84)	0.07 to 2.80
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-fu)	8	0.74 (0.88)	-0.12 to 2.80
Social functioning (pre-post)	4	1.10 (1.15)	0.37 to 2.80
Social functioning (pre-fu)	4	0.79 (1.16)	0.00 to 2.80
TAU			
Target problems (pre-post)	3	0.55 (0.56)	0.19 to 1.20
Target problems (pre-fu)	3	0.84 (0.78)	0.20 to 1.71
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-post)	1	0.22	0.22
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-fu)	1	0.24	0.24
Social functioning (pre-post)	1	0.38	0.38
Social functioning (pre-fu)	1	0.95	0.95
Waiting list			
Target problems (pre-post)	4	0.27 (0.33)	0.00 to 0.72
Target problems (pre-fu)		NA	NA
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-post)	4	0.12 (0.13)	-0.04 to 0.24
General psychiatric symptoms (pre-fu)		NA	NA
Social functioning (pre-post)	2	0.21 (0.23)	0.04 to 0.37
Social functioning (pre-fu)		NA	NA

Abbreviations: CBT, cognitive-behavioral therapy; NA, not available; pre-fu, retherapy vs follow-up assessments; pre-post, pretherapy vs posttherapy assessments; STPP, short-term psychodynamic psychotherapy.

Short-term psychodynamic psychotherapy (<40 sessions) yielded significant and large pre-treatment-posttreatment effect sizes for -target problems (1.39), -general psychiatric symptoms (0.90), and -social functioning (0.80).

These effect sizes were stable and increased at follow-up (1.57, 0.95, and 1.19, respectively).

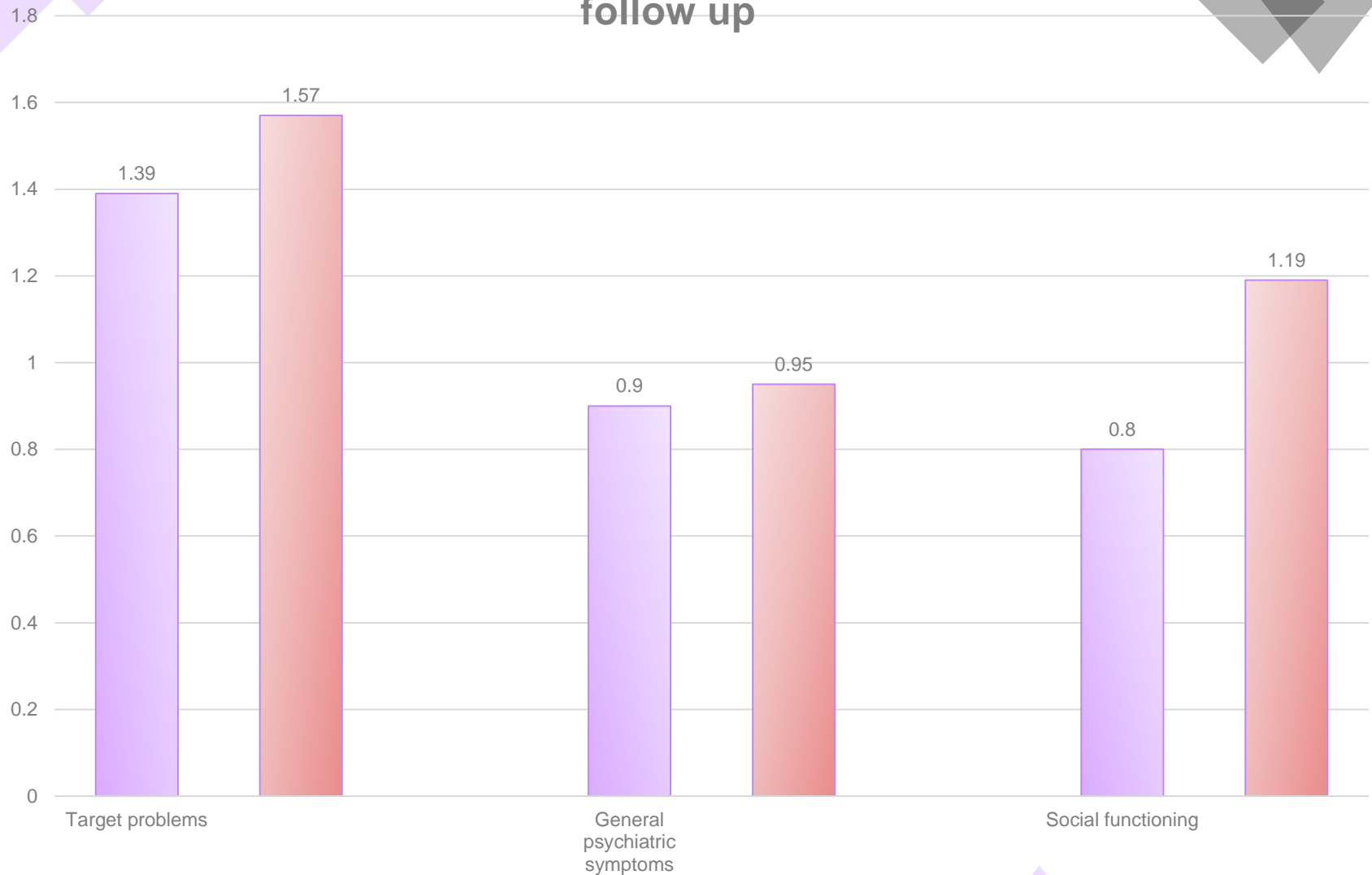
Effect sizes of STPP significantly exceeded those of waiting-list controls and treatments as usual.

No differences were found between STPP and other forms of psychotherapy.

Leichsenring, Rabung, Leibling (2004). The efficacy of short-term psychodynamic psychotherapy in specific psychiatric disorders. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*, 61. 20



## Change in effect size at end of treatment and one year follow up





# Short term PDP for Personality Disorders

Allan Abbass<sup>1</sup>, Joel Town, Ellen Driessen (2011). The efficacy of short-term psychodynamic psychotherapy for depressive disorders with comorbid personality disorder

DOI: [10.1521/psyc.2011.74.1.58](https://doi.org/10.1521/psyc.2011.74.1.58)

**Conclusion:** STPP warrants consideration as a first line treatment for combined personality disorder and depression.

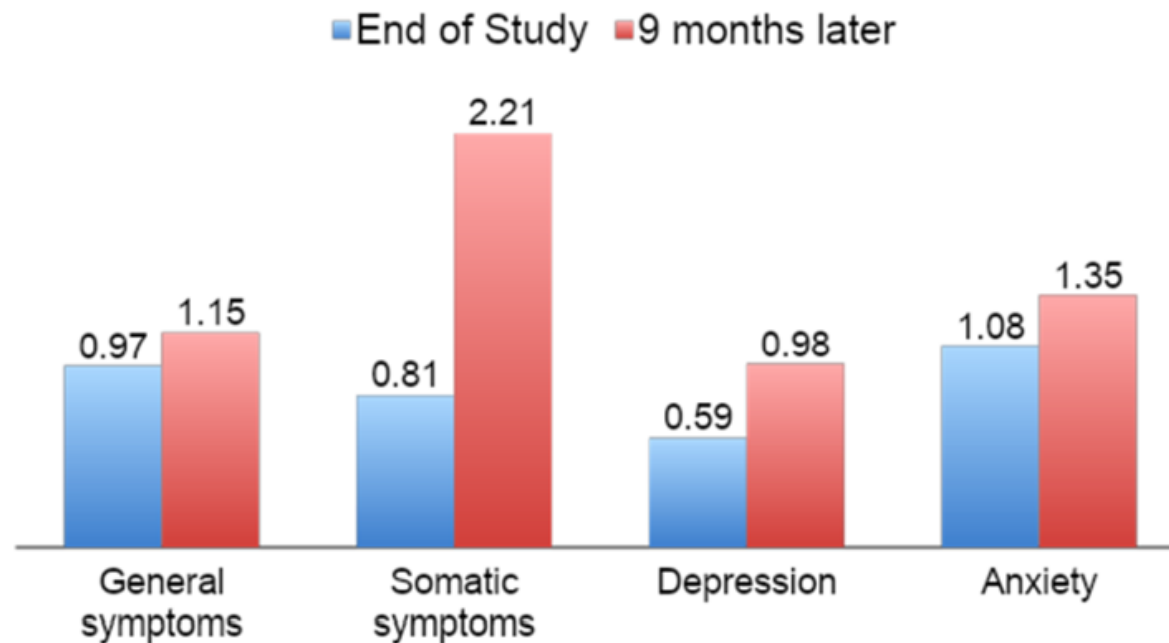
Joel M Town<sup>1</sup>, Allan Abbass, Gillian Hardy (2011). Short-Term Psychodynamic Psychotherapy for personality disorders: a critical review of randomized controlled trials DOI: [10.1521/pedi.2011.25.6.723](https://doi.org/10.1521/pedi.2011.25.6.723)

**Conclusion:** STPP an efficacious, empirically-supported treatment for PDs, producing significant and medium to long-term improvements for a large percentage of patients.

Improvements are substantial at end of study, and increase after treatment ends

## Efficacy of Psychodynamic Treatment

Cochrane Library Meta Analysis:  
Effect Sizes



Cochrane – respected, independent organization  
Meta analysis of 26 randomized control trials, 1431 patients, vs WL

Source: Abbass et al, 2004

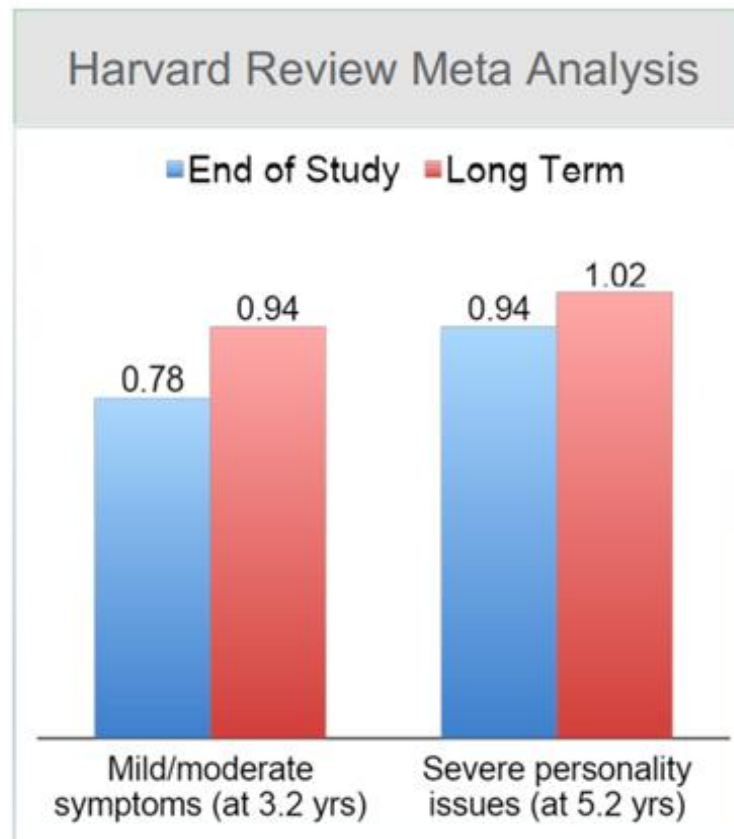




# Efficacy of LTPP

For complex mental health conditions

## Improvements continue 2 – 5 years after treatment ends



LTPP of at least  
150 sessions



Source: de Maat et al, 2009



# Long > Short term PDP

P Knekt<sup>1</sup>, O Lindfors, T Härkänen, M Välikoski, E Virtala, M A Laaksonen, M Marttunen, M Kaipainen, C Renlund (2008).

**Randomized trial on the effectiveness of long- and short-term psychodynamic psychotherapy and solution-focused therapy on psychiatric symptoms during a 3-year follow-up**

•DOI: [10.1017/S003329170700164X](https://doi.org/10.1017/S003329170700164X)

**Conclusion:** Significant reduction in symptoms of anxiety and depression during 3-year follow-up. STDP more effective than LTDP during first year. During second year follow-up no significant differences were found between the short-term and long-term therapies, but **after 3 years of follow-up LTDP was more effective.**

Paul Knekt<sup>1</sup>, Olavi Lindfors, Maarit A Laaksonen, Raimo Raitasalo, Peija Haaramo, Aila Järvikoski (2008).

**Effectiveness of short-term and long-term psychotherapy on work ability and functional capacity- -a randomized clinical trial on depressive and anxiety disorders**

DOI: [10.1016/j.jad.2007.08.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2007.08.005)

**Conclusion:** Work ability during the 3-year follow-up. Short-term therapies showed 4-11% more improved work ability scores than long-term therapy at 7 month follow-up. During second year follow-up, no significant differences were found between therapies. **After 3 years follow-up, long-term therapy was more effective than the short-term therapies** with 5-12% more improved scores. No differences in the prevalence of individuals employed or studying or in the number of sick-leave days were found between therapies during follow-up.





# Long > Short term PDP

[Paul Knekt<sup>1</sup>](#), [Olavi Lindfors](#), [Laura Sares-Jäske](#), [Maarit Laaksonen](#) (2012)

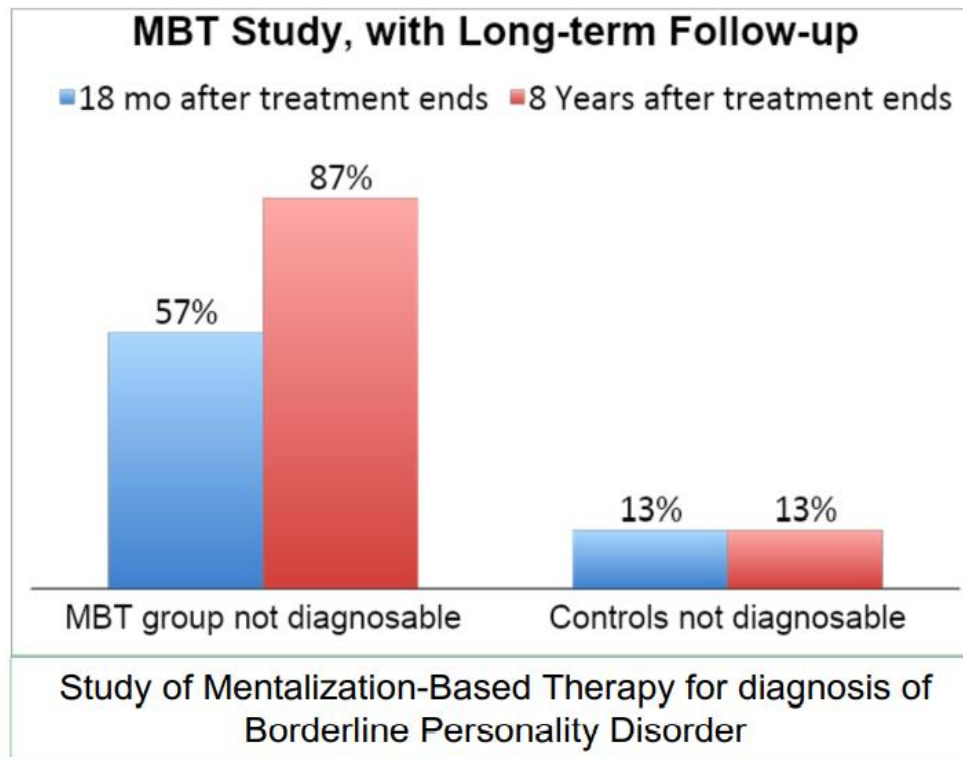
## The effectiveness of psychotherapy on depression in the long term

Duodecim. 2012;128(3):267-74.

**Conclusion:** During a **5-year follow-up**, patients' recovery from symptoms and improvement in work ability were greater in long-term therapy compared with two, equally effective, short-term therapies.

Although short-term therapies were more cost-effective, many patients in them did not recover.

Even up to 8 years, after treatment ends, results continue to improve

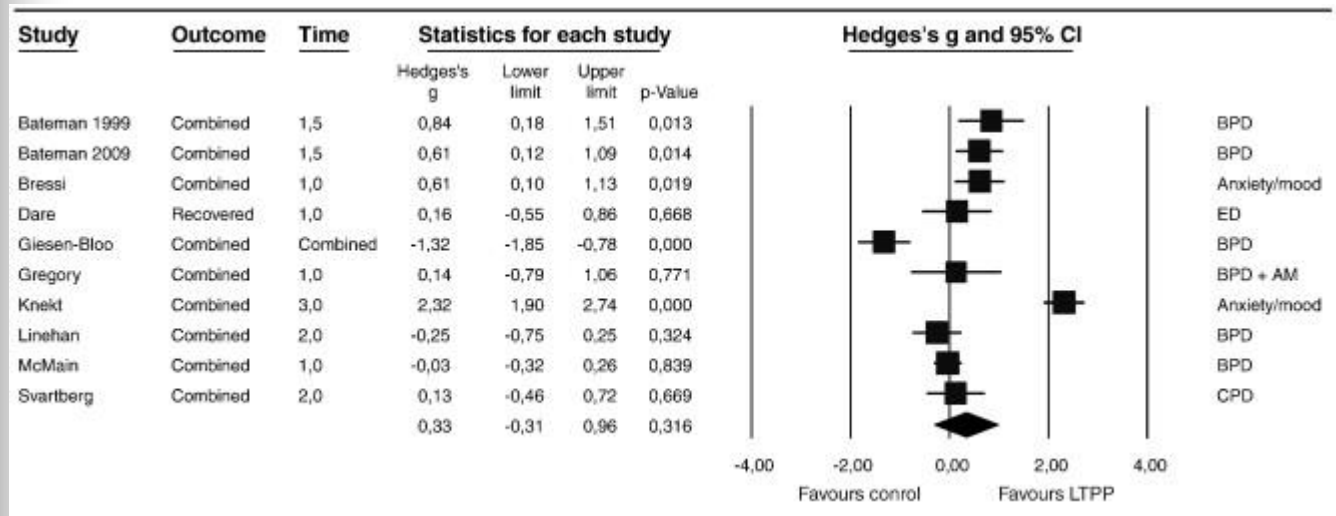
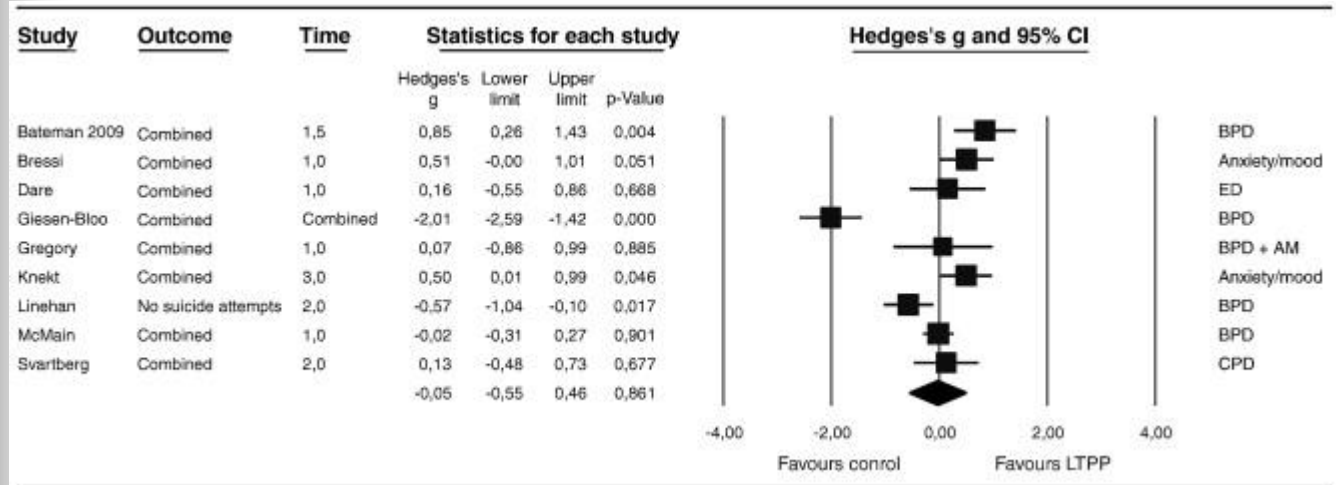


Minimum 18 months Tx

Source: Bateman, Fonagy, 2009

# LTPP not effective? Beware investigator allegiance effects

Defined as >40 sessions  
Most had 1 year F/U



Smit, Huibers, Ioannidis, van Dyck, van Tilburg, Arntz (2012). The effectiveness of long-term psychoanalytic psychotherapy—A meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. *Clinical Psychology Review*, 32, 2.





# Superiority of LTPP for complex mental disorders

- Abbass, Hancock, Hernderson, & Kisley, 2004, 2006
- de Maat, Philipszoon, Schoevers, Dekker, & de Jonghe, 2007
- de Maat, de Jonghe, Schoevers, & Dekker, 2009
- Leichsenring & Rabung, 2008, 2011b
- Leichsenring, 2009
- Gerber et al., 2011
- Town, Diener, Abbass, Leichsenring, Driessen, & Rabung, 2012
- Leichsenring, Abbass, Luyten, Hilsenroth, & Rabung, 2015



# Superiority of LTPP for persistent depression

- Response to brief psychotherapy is limited in many depressed patients (Cuijpers, van Straten, Bohlmeijer, Hollon, & Andersson, 2010; Cuijpers, van Straten, Schuurmans, et al., 2010)
- which has led to the development of treatments that offer maintenance, particularly in patients with chronic depression (Steven, 2011).



# Open Door review of outcome and process studies in psychoanalysis

Efficacy studies of PDT in specific mental disorders

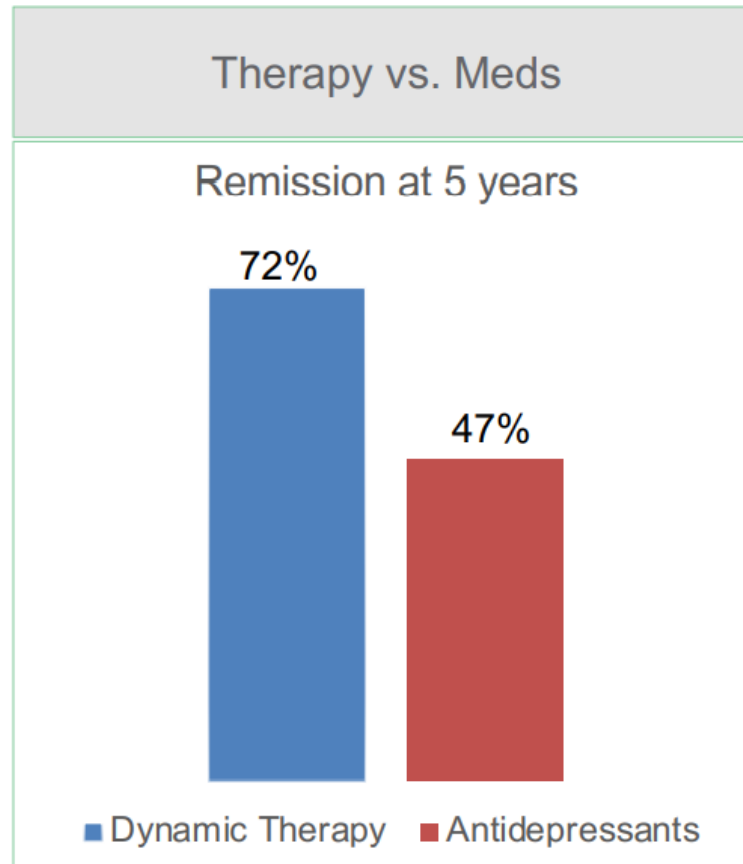
- **47 RCTs** provide evidence for the efficacy of **LTPP** in specific mental disorders in the **International Psychoanalytic Association Open Door Review (2015)**.
- Depressive disorders
- Anxiety disorders
- Somatoform disorders
- Eating disorders
- Substance abuse disorders
- Borderline personality disorder
- Cluster C personality disorder
- Avoidant personality disorder

[https://www.ipa.world/ipa/IPA\\_Docs/Open%20Door%20Review%20III.pdf](https://www.ipa.world/ipa/IPA_Docs/Open%20Door%20Review%20III.pdf)





## Benefits of psychotherapy endure



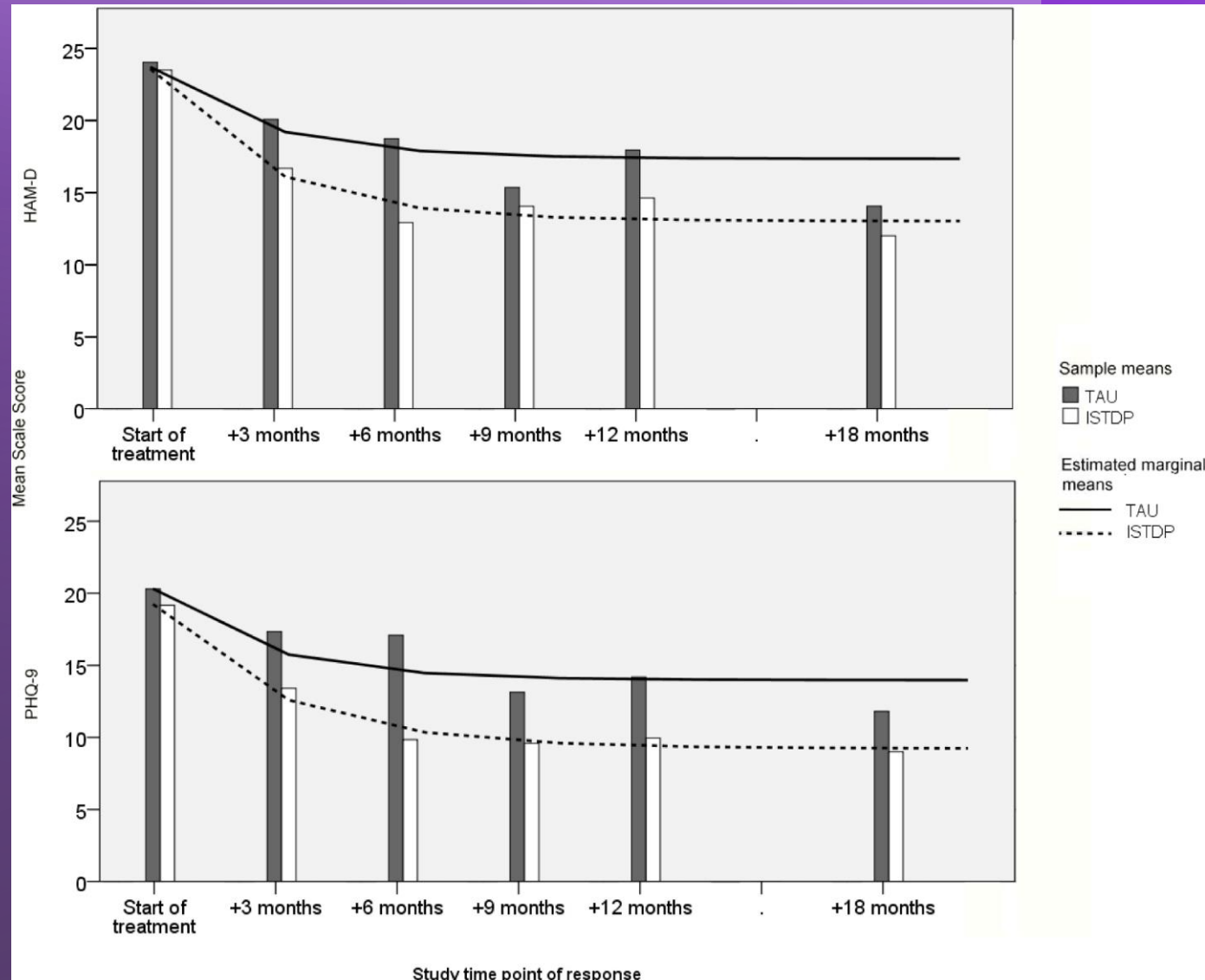
Source: Rosso et al, 2019

# Is it all about the higher dose?

- YES! Both a high dose and the application of psychoanalytic techniques facilitate therapeutic change in patients with major depression.
- LTPP is an effective treatment for major depression.

Zimmermann, Löffler-Stastka, Huber, Klug, Alhabbo, Bock, & Benecke (2015). *Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy*, 22, 469–487.

## 40% in remission from treatment resistant depression at 18 months following ISTDP



Town, Abbass, Stride, Nunes, Bernier, Berrigan (2020). Efficacy and cost-effectiveness of intensive short-term dynamic psychotherapy for treatment resistant depression: 18-Month follow-up of the Halifax depression trial., *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 273, 194-202. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2020.04.035>.





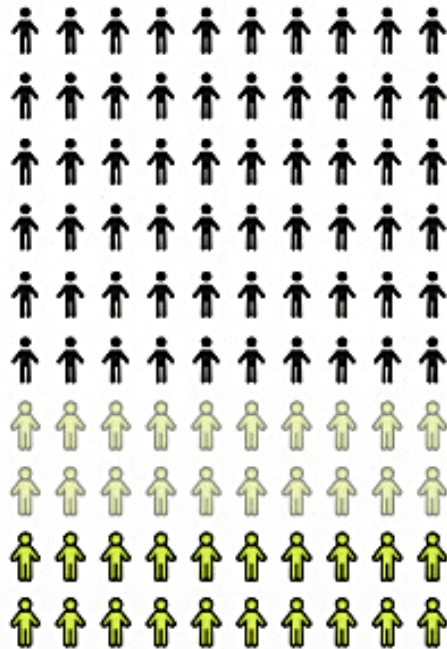
# What are the alternatives?


- \*Antidepressants
- \*CBT
- \*Placebo
- \*Passage of time/do nothing

## How well can antidepressants relieve symptoms?

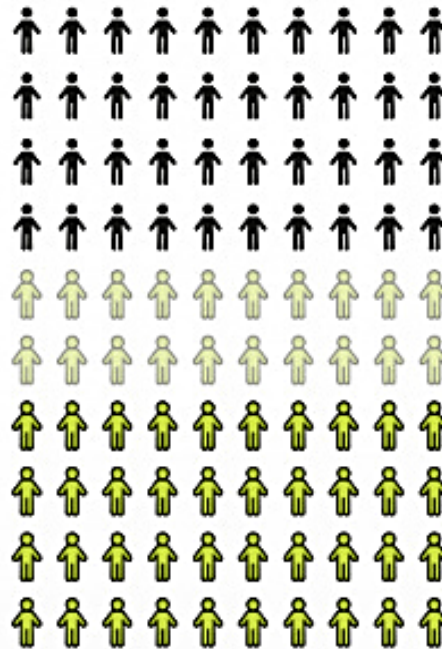
Studies of people with moderate or severe depression showed:


### Without antidepressant



 = About **20 to 40** out of 100 people who took a placebo noticed an improvement of their symptoms within six to eight weeks

### With antidepressant



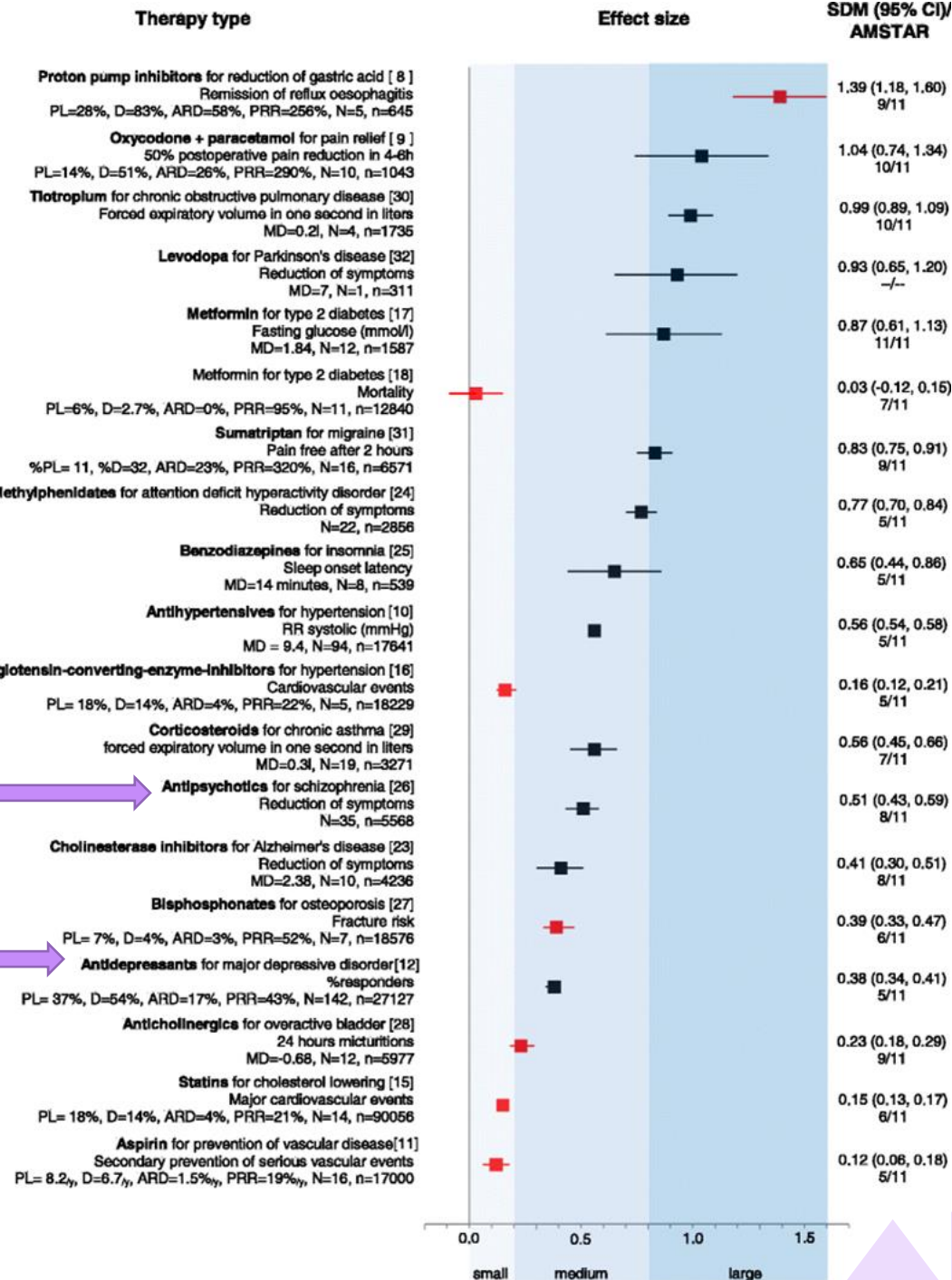
 = About **40 to 60** out of 100 people who took an antidepressant noticed an improvement of their symptoms within six to eight weeks

**That means:** Antidepressants improved symptoms in about 20 out of 100 people.

- Without preventive treatment: 50 out of 100 people taking placebo relapsed within 1-2 years.

- With preventive treatment: 23 out of 100 people taking an antidepressant relapsed within 1-2 years.

So, taking an antidepressant prevented relapse in 27 out of 100 people.



## Biggest effect sizes for medications:

\*PPI for reflux oesophagitis =1.39

\*Oxycodone +paracetamol for post operative pain =1.04

\*Antipsychotics for schizophrenia =0.51

\*antidepressants for MDD=0.38

## Psychotherapy

\*Psychosomatic symptoms = 2.21

\*Anxiety =1.35

\*Depression=0.98

<https://bmcmmedicine.bio.medcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12916-015-0494-1/figures/1>


2015





## N Engl J Med: Meta Analysis of Antidepressant Effect Size


- All registered FDA antidepressant studies between 1987 and 2004. 12,564 patients.
- 74 total studies: 48 published, 26 unpublished ;



	Positive	Negative	Total
Published	37	11	48
Unpublished	1	25	26
Total	38	36	74

**48% of studies were Negative Studies**

**Efficacy of antidepressants was .32**



Erick H. Turner, M.D., Annette M. Matthews, M.D., Eftihia Linardatos, B.S., Robert A. Tell, L.C.S.W., and Robert Rosenthal, Ph.D. Selective Publication of Antidepressant Trials and Its Influence on Apparent Efficacy. N Engl J Med 2008; 358:252-260 January 17, 2008



[The Case for Psychoanalysis , Version 4 - YouTube](#)

# Relapse in Major Depressive Disorder

## STAR\*D – The Down Side. . . .

	Relapse Rate over 12 months	Ave Months to Relapse
Step 1	40.1%	4.1
Step 2	55.3%	3.9
Step 3	64.6%	3.1
Step 4	71.0%	3.3

Rush AJ, Trivedi MH, Wisniewski SR, et al. Acute and longer-term outcomes in depressed outpatients requiring one or several treatment steps: a STAR\*D report. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2006;163:1905–1917.



# STAR\*D: What Have We Learned?

## Sequenced Treatment Alternatives to Relieve Depression (STAR\*D)

- Longer times than expected were needed to reach response or remission. One-third who responded did so after 6 weeks.
- 80% of 438 patients completed 6 weeks+ treatment with the switch medication, and all treatment outcomes were comparable.
- 91 (21%) remitted, 40 (9%) responded without remission and 255 (58%) had no meaningful benefit.
- Two-thirds of remissions and half of the responses occurred after 6 weeks of treatment, and 43 (33%) of responses occurred after 9 weeks or more of treatment.
- There was no difference between cognitive therapy as a switch or as augmentation strategy versus medication as a switch or augmentation strategy
- Switching to another antidepressant following SSRI failure appears largely ineffective





# Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

- Longitudinal cohort study involved 439 patients who completed CBT
- Patients provided depression and anxiety measures on a monthly basis up to 12 months post-treatment.
- 53% relapsed within 1 year.
- Patients with residual depression symptoms at the end of treatment were twice as likely to relapse.

Ali, S., Rhodes, L., Moreea, O., McMillan, D., Gilbody, S., Leach, C., ... & Delgadillo, J. (2017). How durable is the effect of low intensity CBT for depression and anxiety? Remission and relapse in a longitudinal cohort study. *Behaviour research and therapy*, 94, 1-8.

# CBT worse than TAU!

## The Swedish Experience

- Between 2008 and 2012, 3.8 billion SEK [approximately 500+ million USD] was spent on a program to reduce absenteeism and welfare programs ('sick days') due to a variety of physical and mental disorders. Each year 40-50,000 people were treated; more than 80% were psychiatric patients and 90% of these patients were treated with CBT in the program.
- Swedish government in 2011 commissioned the Karolinska Institutet, a medical university, to conduct a study. Results showed those who received CBT had slower recovery and increased sick days than comparable controls with TAU.
- Several years later a second study showed similar results; Out of those who were 'sick listed', those receiving CBT did not do any better than TAU controls.
- No economic benefit was found for doing CBT in either study compared to the treatment as usual group.

*Sandell, R. (personal communication June 2, 2014) Professor at Lund University in Sweden*

# Comparison of treatments

CBT		Psychoanalytic	
Syndrome	Effect Size	Harvard Review Psychoanalysis	End of Study Effect Size
MDD	.82	Mild/Mod Symptoms	.78
MDD	.23	Severe Personality	.94
GAD	.82		
Panic Disorder:	.91		
Social Phobia:	.93		
OCD	1.3	Cochrane Library Psychoanalysis	End Of Study Effect Size
PTSD	1.36	General	.97
Chronic Pain	.40	Somatic	.81
		Depression	.59
		Anxiety	1.08
Antidepressants			
Effect Size	0.32		

At the end of therapy, results are comparable but NOT longer term – LTPP is superior to all other treatments





# Summary

## ■ CBT/TAU

- Cost effective
- Short duration
- Can treat large numbers
- Social acceptability
- Good end of Tx effects BUT significant relapse rates

## ■ Medication

- Lowest effect sizes
- Many negative studies
- Not better than placebo
- Side effects

## ■ LTPP

- More expensive
- Less understood, less socially accepted
- Can treat fewer people
- Better outcomes for severe personality disorders and severe depression
- Equal end of Tx effects BUT lower relapse rates and better outcomes long term



# The debate is clearly not over

Looking at recent Cochrane registrations



# The future: Trial registrations

- **Duloxetine** versus 'active' placebo, placebo or no intervention for major depressive disorder; a protocol for a systematic review of randomised clinical trials with meta-analysis and trial sequential analysis. [Syst Rev](#). 2021 06 09; 10(1):171.
- **Tricyclic antidepressants** versus 'active placebo', placebo or no intervention for adults with major depressive disorder: a protocol for a systematic review with meta-analysis and Trial Sequential Analysis. [Syst Rev](#). 2021 08 13; 10(1):227.
- Beneficial and harmful effects of **antidepressants** versus placebo, 'active placebo', or no intervention for adults with major depressive disorder: a protocol for a systematic review of published and unpublished data with meta-analyses and trial sequential analyses. [Syst Rev](#). 2021 05 25; 10(1):154.





# The future: Trial registrations

- **Short-term versus long-term psychotherapy for adult psychiatric disorders: a protocol for a systematic review with meta-analysis and trial sequential analysis** [Sophie](#)

[Juul](#), [Stig Poulsen](#), [Susanne Lunn](#), [Per Sørensen](#), [Janus Christian Jakobsen](#) & [Sebastian Simonsen](#),

[Systematic Reviews](#) **volume 8**, Article number: 169 (2019)

- Psychiatric disorders are highly prevalent and associated with great symptomatic, functional, and health economic burdens. Psychotherapy is among the recommended and used interventions for most psychiatric disorders and is becoming widely accessible in mental health systems. The effects of specific forms of psychotherapy (e.g., psychodynamic therapies, cognitive and behavioral therapies, humanistic therapies, and systemic therapies) have been assessed previously in systematic reviews, but the appropriate psychotherapy duration for psychiatric disorders has not been reviewed. The aim of this systematic review will be to synthesize the evidence of the effects of short-term compared with long-term psychotherapy for all adult psychiatric disorders.



# The future: Trial registrations

- Adverse effects of psychotherapy: protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis

Rahel Klatte, Bernhard Strauss, Christoph Flückiger and Jenny Rosendahl

- *Systematic Reviews* 2018 7:135

While it is well known that psychotherapy is efficacious in the treatment of mental disorders, much less is known about the adverse effects of psychotherapeutic interventions. The aim of this systematic review is to examine the definition, frequency, nature, and severity of adverse effects occurring parallel to or following psychotherapeutic treatment and to compare it against control groups.

- Predictors and moderators of outcome of psychotherapeutic interventions for mental disorders in adolescents and young adults: protocol for systematic reviews

Eleni Vousoura, Vera Gergov, Bogdan Tudor Tulbure, Nigel Camilleri, Andrea Saliba, LuisJoaquin Garcia-Lopez, Ioana R. Podina, Tamara Prevendar, Henriette Löffler-Stastka, Giuseppe Augusto Chiarenza, Martin Debbané, Silvana Markovska-Simoska, Branka Milic, Sandra Torres, Randi Ulberg and Stig Poulsen

- *Systematic Reviews* 2021 10:239

Adolescence and young adulthood is a risk period for the emergence of mental disorders. There is strong evidence that psychotherapeutic interventions are effective for most mental disorders. However, very little is known about which of the different psychotherapeutic treatment modalities are effective for whom. This large systematic review aims to address this critical gap within the literature on non-specific predictors and moderators of the outcomes of psychotherapeutic interventions among adolescents and young adults with mental disorders.



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