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- Everyone on every PERU webinar is **valued**. Everyone has an expectation of **mutual**, **positive regard** for everyone else that respects the **diversity** of everyone on the webinar.
- We operate from a **strength-based**, **empathetic**, **and supportive** framework with the people we serve, and with each other on PERU webinars.
- We encourage the use of affirming language that is not discriminatory or stigmatizing.
- We treat others as **they** would like to be treated and, therefore, avoid argumentative, disruptive, and/or aggressive language.





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- We strive to: **listen** to each person, avoid interrupting others, and seek to **understand** each other through the Learning Network as we work toward the highest quality services for Centers of Excellence (COE) clients.
- Information presented in Learning Network sessions has been vetted. We recognize that people have different opinions, and those **diverse perspectives** are welcomed and valued. Questions and comments should be framed as **constructive feedback**.
- The Learning Network format is **not conducive to debate**. If something happens that concerns you, please send a chat during the session to the panelists and we will attempt to make room to address it either during the session or by scheduling time outside of the session to process and understand it. Alternatively, you can reach out offline to your PERU point of contact.





#### **Acknowledgements**

- The COE project is a partnership of the University of Pittsburgh's Program Evaluation and Research Unit and the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services; and is funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, grant number 601747.
- COE vision: The Centers of Excellence will ensure care coordination, increase access to medication-assisted treatment and integrate physical and behavioral health for individuals with opioid use disorder.









## **Motivational Interviewing Practice Session**



## **Learning Objectives**

#### By the end of this module, you will be able to do the following:

- Define motivational interviewing (MI) and explain how the MI spirit guides the way COE staff talk with clients.
- Describe each step of the POLAR\*S model and illustrate how these steps connect with using MI in practice.
- Apply the POLAR\*S model to analyze and solve everyday client scenarios.





# **Connection to the Fidelity Guidelines**





## **Guiding Principles**



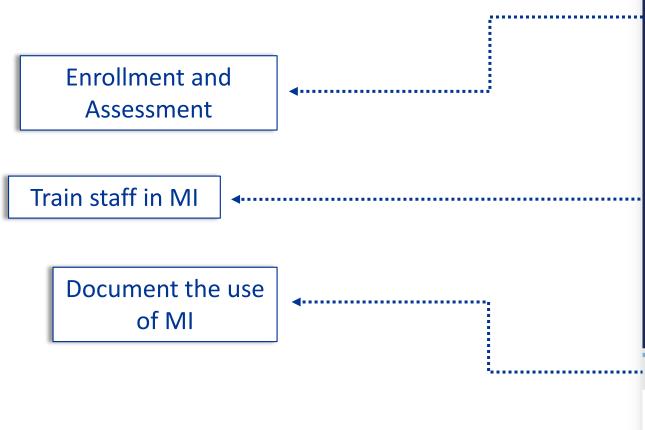
Assertively engage individuals with a history that identifies risk of disengagement, poor outcomes, or overdose

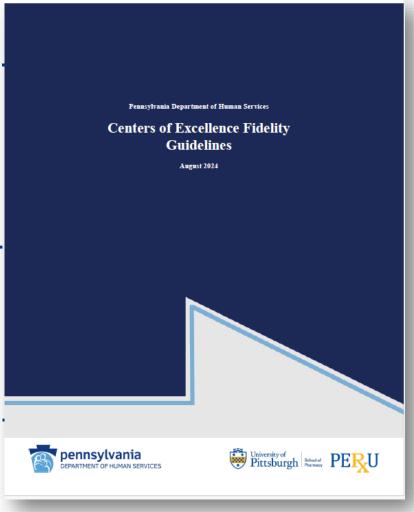


Care coordination that is assertive and community-based



## Fidelity to the COE Model









#### **Discussion Question**

How are staff at your COE currently trained in MI, and what are your thoughts on how useful this training is?





#### **Discussion Question**

Are there certain points in your work where MI feels more helpful or where you tend to use it more?





#### **MI Basics**



## **Motivational Interviewing**



A **client-centered** method for strengthening a client's own **motivation** and **commitment** to make a positive behavior change.





#### **Traditional Views on Motivation**

Motivation has traditionally been viewed as a **client characteristic**.

Many clinicians have perceived a lack of motivation within a client as:

- A personality trait
- A personal failing
- Solely the client's responsibility







#### **Modern Views on Motivation**

Motivation may be seen as the **likelihood** that a person will **implement and maintain** a process of positive change.

Within this definition, motivation is:

- Modifiable and dynamic
- Influenced by social interactions
- Something to address collaboratively

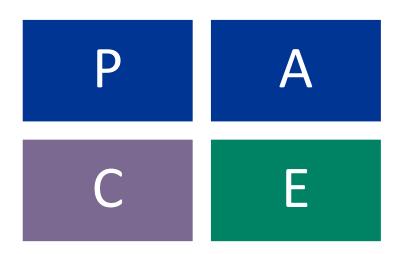






## **Spirit of Motivational Interviewing**

- MI is more than just a set of techniques and strategies.
- The spirit of MI incorporates some important values that underpin the client interaction.
- Partnership, acceptance, compassion, and evocation are the components that comprise the spirit of motivational interviewing.
- You can use the acronym PACE to remember them.







## **Partnership**

- See the individual as the **expert** in their own life.
- Ensure that their expertise and perspective are **central** to the conversation.
- Promote a **collaborative**, respectful relationship.







## **Acceptance**

- Honor the absolute worth of the individual.
- Respect **autonomy** acknowledge their right to make their own choices.
- Pursue accurate empathy work to understand their perspective.
- Use **affirmation** highlight their strengths and existing resources.







#### Compassion

- **Prioritize** the well-being of the individual.
- Demonstrate genuine care and concern.
- Understand and validate their struggle.
- Work on behalf of the individual's best interests and welfare.







#### **Evocation**

- **Draw out** the individual's internal motivation to change.
- Seek out the wisdom of the individual.
- Ask questions to elicit ideas and solutions from the individual.
- Encourage the individual to address their own challenges and concerns through supportive dialogue.







## **Focus on the Spirit**

- The spirit of MI sets the tone for building a positive relationship and rapport between the clinician and the client.
- Though the skills and strategies of MI are important, the spirit of MI is the most essential component.













## **Practice: MI Spirit**

Partnership

Acceptance

Compassion

**Evocation** 





## **The Change Process**





## **Philosophy of Change**

- Change is a process.
- You can't force anyone to change a behavior.
- Pushing might actually decrease the likelihood of change.
- Your goal is to elicit motivation for change.
- An individual should present their own reasons and options for change.







#### **Ambivalence**

- Ambivalence happens as a natural part of the change process when someone values both the old behavior and the new behavior.
- Ambivalence can make someone feel stuck.
- Individuals have many reasons to retain or change behaviors. COE staff can have conversations to help identify these.

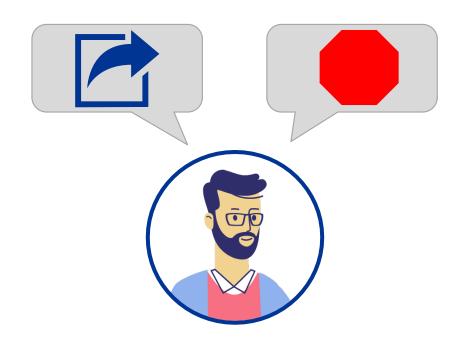






#### **Ambivalence: Conflict**

Ambivalence can create a sense of **conflict** within a person and make them feel **stuck**.

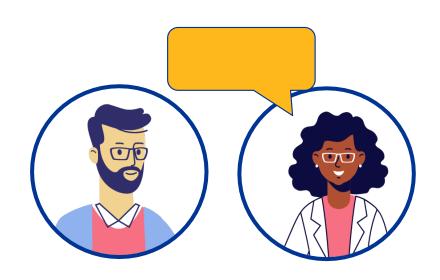






#### **Address Ambivalence**

One of the ways you can address a client's ambivalence is to help them assess where they are currently and where they want to be.

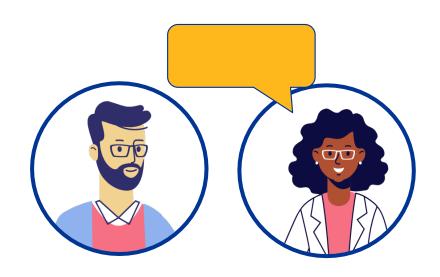






#### **Develop Discrepancy**

- Find the disconnect between a client's current behavior and future goals.
- Help them to understand this difference and how to address it.







## **Righting Reflex**

- The tendency to actively attempt to fix another person's problems in a way that reduces the likelihood of the person enacting change or discovering the "solution" themselves.
- The righting reflex is something to avoid in your conversations.







## **Practice: Practice Supporting Clients with Ambivalence**

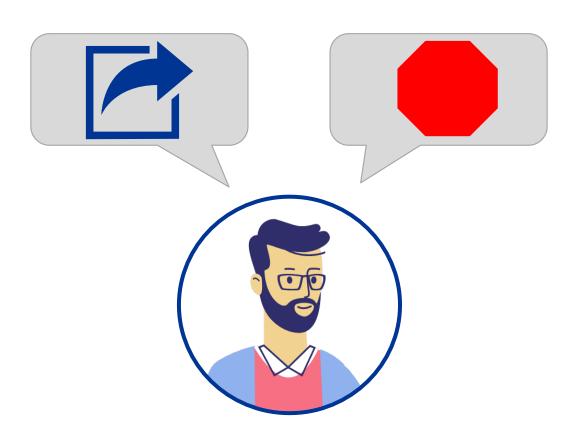






#### **Scenario 1**

A client expresses ambivalence about enrolling in your COE. They say, "I'm **not sure** if it will work for me, but I **know** I need help. I've **tried** things before, and they **didn't work**."

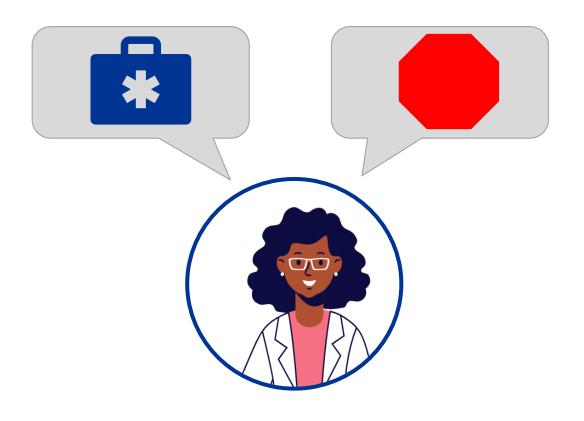






#### Scenario 2

A client expresses both the **desire** to start a MOUD and has concerns about **side effects**. "I **want** to try the medication, but I'm **worried** about how it might make me feel. I've heard bad things about side effects."

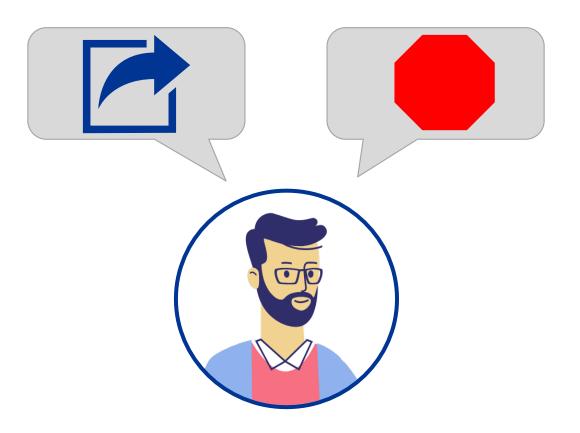






#### **Scenario 3**

A client says, "I want to change, but I'm scared I won't be able to stick with it. I keep thinking about how hard it will be".







# **Using POLAR\*S**





#### **POLAR\*S Overview**

Permission **Open-ended Questions Listening Reflectively Affirmation Roll with Ambivalence** Summary







#### **POLAR\*S Connection to MI**

- The elements of the MI spirit align with and inform the steps of POLAR\*S.
- The **combination of the spirit and the skills** is the key to collaborative, supportive communication to help someone change.

#### **MI Spirit**

- Partnership
- Acceptance
- Compassion
- Evocation

#### **POLAR\*S**

- Permission
- Open-ended Questions
- Listening Reflectively
- Affirmation
- Rolling with Ambivalence
- Summarization





#### **Ask for Permission**

Begin the conversation by asking for **permission**.

Asking for permission to discuss a health behavior:

- Respects the client's autonomy
- Keeps the focus on the client
- Minimizes discord







## **Asking for Permission Practice**

- Scenario 1: A client mentions they haven't been taking their medication regularly.
- Scenario 2: You're working with a client who has mentioned stress and isolation. You have a local peer support group that might help.
- Scenario 3: A client has missed their last two appointments and is now back in contact.
- Scenario 4: The client says they're not sure whether they want to keep going to treatment.





## **Open-Ended Questions**

Open-ended questions **elicit information** and keep the conversation moving.

They encourage the client to **share information** and invite more than singleword responses.



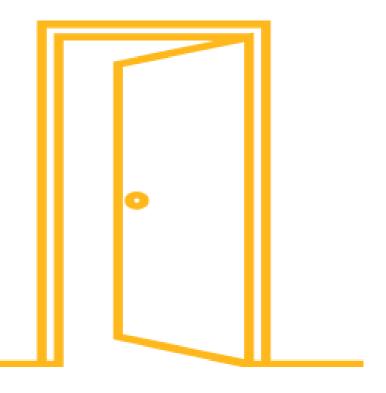




## **Open-Ended Questions: Goals**



- Do not simply gather information
- Generally elicit more than brief responses
- Invite the person to reflect and collaborate
- Help to evoke motivation







#### **Closed- and Open-Ended Examples**



"Do you use substances when you are with your friends?"



"What kind of environment are you typically in when you use substances?"





## **Crafting an Open-Ended Question**



Helpful **starting words** include the following:

- How...?
- What...?
- Tell me...

Note: Asking "why" may lead someone to **feel defensive** and like they are being asked to explain themselves. **Avoid it** when possible.







## **Practice: Open-Ended Questions**

- Do you have stable housing?
- Do you have enough food?
- Do you have a way to get to appointments?
- Are you employed?
- What is your education level?
- Do you have legal issues?





## **Listen Reflectively**

**Reflect** back a short summary of how you understand what the client said.

- Demonstrate that you are engaged.
- Show that you **understand** what the client is saying.
- Put the client at ease.







### **Reflection** ≠ **Question**

#### **Reflections are statements** – not questions

- **Reflections** are more likely to encourage continued **exploration**.
- Questions require a response and can interrupt the flow of discussion.
- Questions may feel accusatory or like an interrogation.
- Mind your inflection the tone of voice should not sound like a question.







### **Formulating a Reflection**

#### Reflection isn't about repetition.

- Use different words as a "hypothesis" about what someone means.
- Sometimes repetition can be appropriate –
  but use sparingly.
- Ideally, reflection can move the conversation beyond what has been stated already.



Note: Avoid "parroting" or repeating without reflecting on meaning.





## **Simple Reflections**

- Add little or nothing to what the person said
  - Repeat
  - Slightly rephrase
- Can be useful, but do not give the conversation much momentum

I'm having a bad day today.

It's been a rough day.







## **Complex Reflections**

- Add some meaning or emphasis to what the person said
  - Guess the unspoken content
  - Guess what might come next
- If simple reflections are the tip of the iceberg, complex reflections guess what lies beneath the surface

I'm having a bad day today.







## **Practice: Listening Reflectively**







## **Simple or Complex Reflections**

- I'm not sure about taking my medication again. It feels like it just doesn't work for me, and I don't want to be stuck on pills my whole life.
- You're not sure if the medication will work for you, and you don't want to feel stuck on it.
- Yeah. And my mom is always on me about it, but she doesn't understand how hard it is.
- It sounds like it's tough when your mom pushes you, and she doesn't really see how hard it's been for you.
- Exactly. I mean, I know I need to do something, but I just don't know if I can handle going through all that again.
- So part of you knows you need to do something, but there's also this fear that it's going to be too much for you to handle.
- Yeah. I just feel stuck. Like it's a losing battle.
- You're feeling really stuck right now, like no matter what you do, you're already defeated.





#### **Affirmation**

Use affirmation to support **self-efficacy** or someone's belief in their ability to change.

- Remind client of specific strengths or past achievements.
- Support positive behavior change.
- Build trust and confidence with the client.







#### **How to Craft an Affirmation**

- "Accentuate the positive."
- Seek out strengths, positive steps, and good intentions.
- Acknowledge and highlight:
  - Current efforts
  - Past achievements
  - Strengths/values







## **Evoking Affirmation**

- Sometimes you may evoke affirmation from your client or client.
- You can ask them to describe their own strengths and the positive steps they've taken.
- This may **not always** be the right approach but is an available option.







## **Searching for Affirmations**

- Help to find the "glass half full."
- If someone is discouraged, remind them of their accomplishments so far.

"You had a few drinks over the weekend, but you stuck to your plan the rest of the week."

If someone hasn't taken many steps,
 affirm their values.

"Supporting your kids is very important to you."







## **Avoid Cheerleading**



- Affirmation is not praise.
- Praise implies that you are in a position to judge and provide approval.
- Avoid statements that focus on you rather than the client.

"I'm proud of you."





#### **Practice: Affirmations**







### **Summary**

Assemble the **main themes** from the conversation and **reflect** these back.

- **Transition** from exploring options to committing to a plan.
- Refocus the conversation and confirm mutual understanding.
- Bring closure to the discussion.







## **Crafting a Summary**

Summary can be seen as **extended reflection**.

- Reflect highlights from the conversation and demonstrate understanding.
- Emphasize change talk, including motivations and goals.
- Elicit feasible options for next steps.







# **Practice: Summarizing**







### **Summarizing a Care Plan Goal**

#### **Goal:** Secure stable housing to support his recovery.

#### • Objectives:

- Meet with the care manager weekly to identify housing resources and programs.
- By next week, check with his family to see if they have his identification.
- Call care manager immediately if his housing situation changes.

#### • Challenges:

- He currently lives with a friend, but it's temporary and stressful.
- Feels unsure if he can quit opiates long-term while housing is so uncertain.

#### • Strengths:

- Supportive family he can call on.
- Motivated to work with care management to stabilize his housing situation.





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# **Questions?**





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