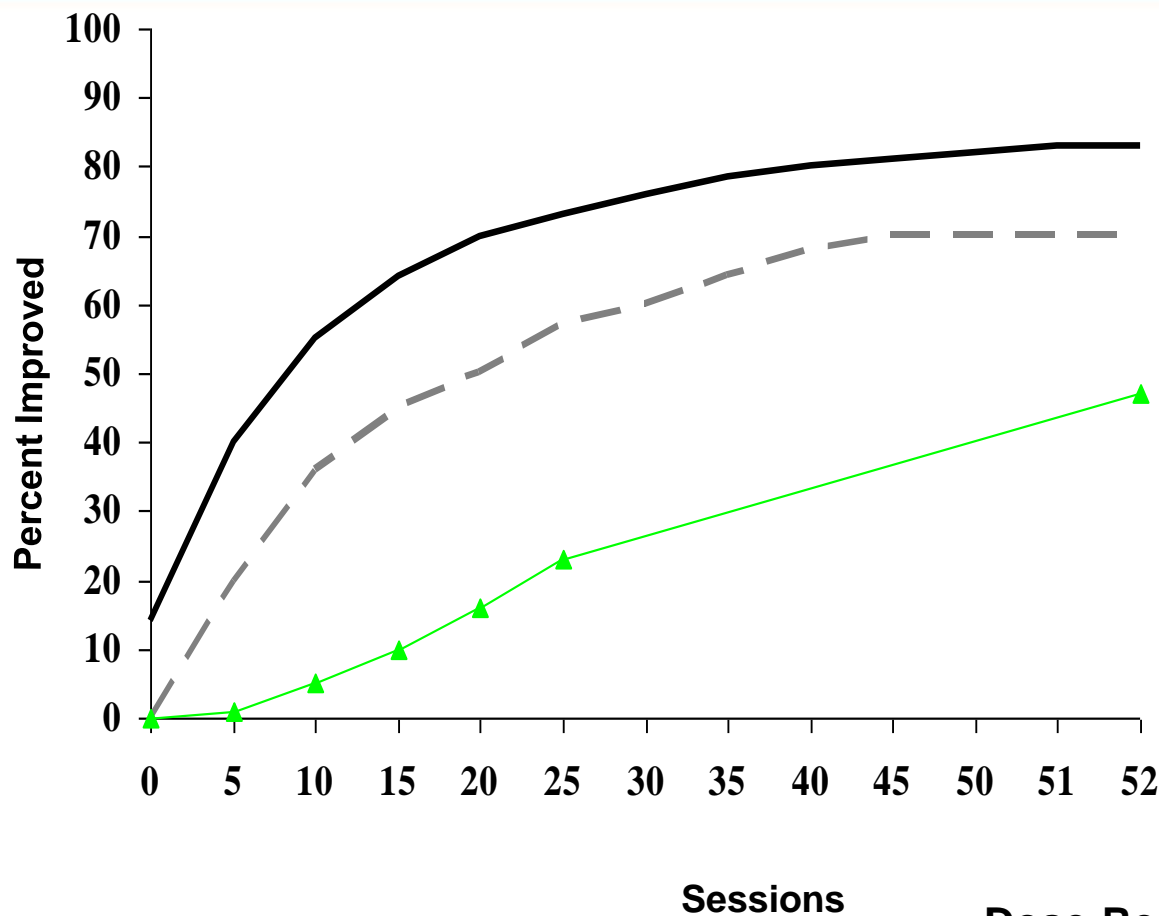


# Quantification of Dose in Psychosocial Interventions

Wolfgang Lutz,  
Department of Psychology  
University of Trier

- Number of sessions
- Time in treatment
- Time to change what? What is the outcome variable?
- Realization of process variables (e.g. therapeutic alliance, treatment techniques e.g. exposure, cognitive restructuring)

# The dosage model (Howard)



Howard, et al.

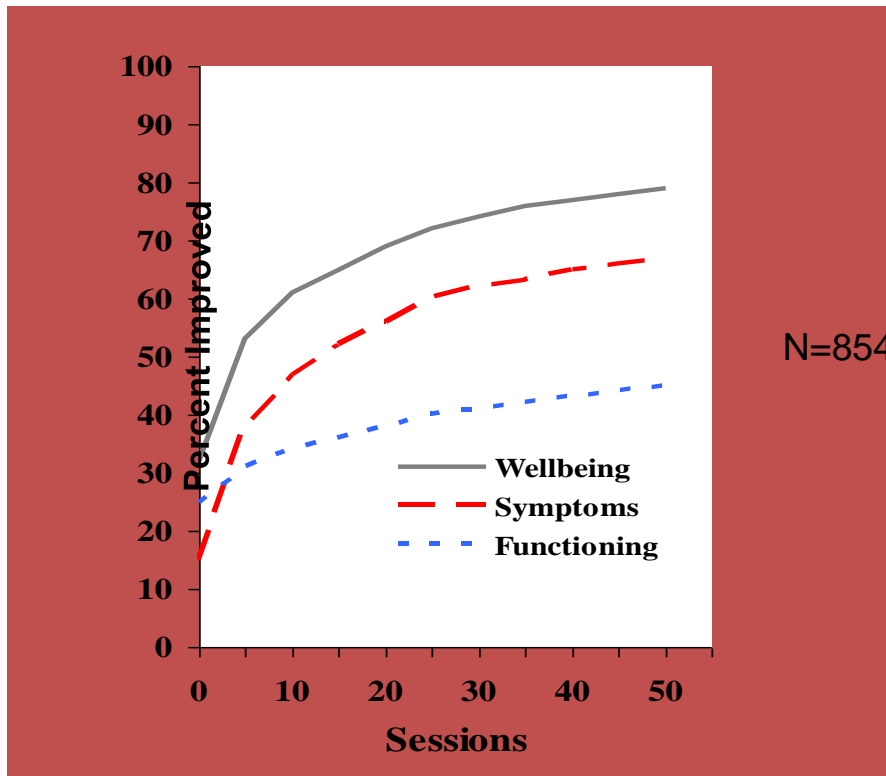
Lambert & Hanson

Eysenck following  
McNeilly & Howard

## Dose-Response Model

- Patterns/rates of improvement
- How much therapy is enough?

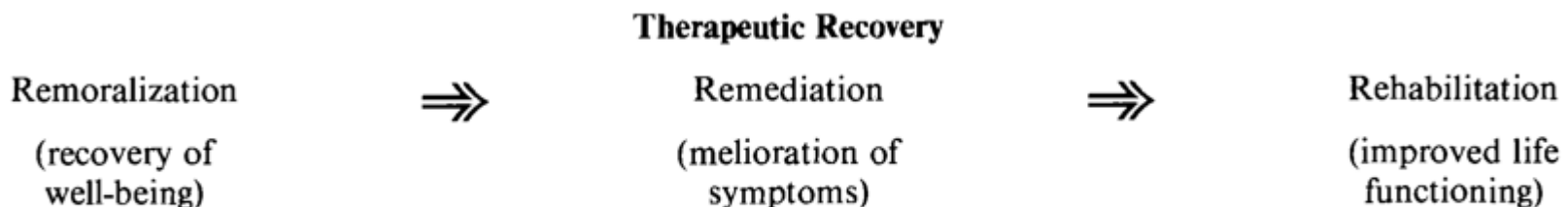
# The Phase Model of Change in Psychotherapy (Howard)



Stulz & Lutz (2007)  
Lutz, et al. (2001)

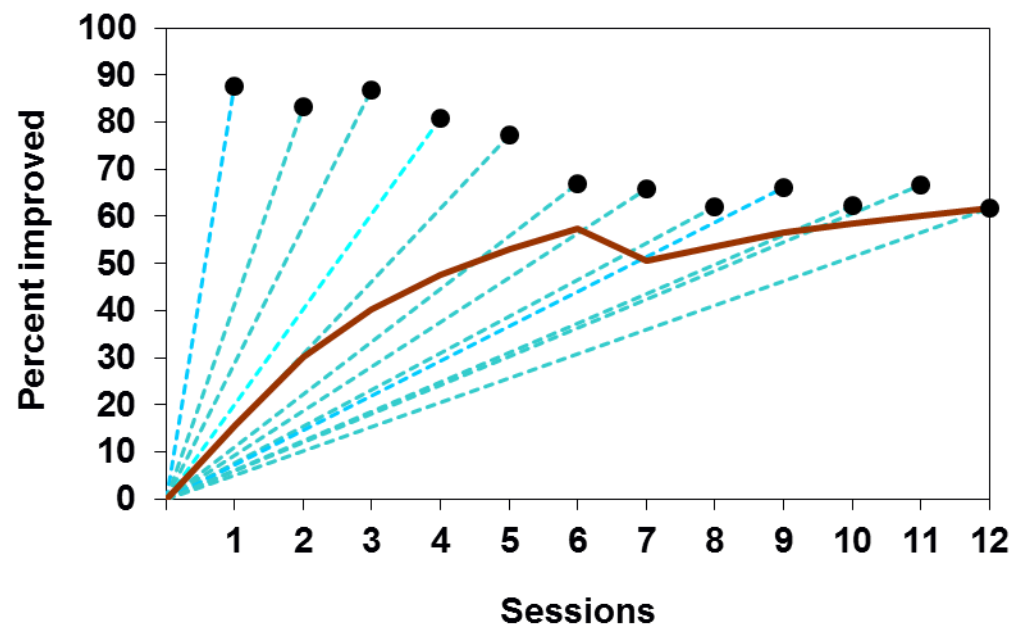
## Phase Model

- Domains of outcomes
- What changes when?



# Dose response relationship (Barkham)

- Data collected at 33 sites in NHS primary care services
- Comprised 1868 clients who attended 1-12 sessions.
- RCSI rate ranged from 88% for clients who attended 1 session down to 62% for clients who attended 12 sessions ( $r = -.91$ ).
- Clients exit therapy when they consider they have made sufficient gains. We term this the '*good enough level*' (GEL).



Barkham et al., *Journal of Consulting & Clinical Psychology*, 2006

- Dose response is a neglected area of research in psychosocial interventions
- Usually defined by treatment manuals in RCTs
- In practice often by service systems
- Country and region specific definitions dosage defined via sessions
- Psychometric feedback over the course of treatment allows a more patient specific adaptation depending on progress (longer for patients at risk, shorter for improving patients).

The debate moves away from how many sessions for a group of patients with a given disorder/diagnosis to the optimal dosage/treatment for the specific patient.

## **1. Treatment Selection Tool (Prediction: PAI,NN)**

- Is the treatment which is effective for the average patient also effective for this specific patient?
- Which treatment strategy is best for this specific patient?

## **2. Treatment Adaptation Tool (ROM, Early Response)**

- Is the ongoing treatment successful for this patient?
- Is this patient at risk for treatment failure?
- Is the dosage for this patient adequate?

# 1. Personalized Predictions of Treatment Effects: Differential Predictions and Nearest Neighbors



- Individual predictions based on their nearest neighbors
- Two homogeneous subsamples of the 30 nearest patients were selected for a CBT oriented treatment group and an integrative CBT and interpersonal oriented treatment group and Growth Curve Modeling was conducted on those two groups for each patient

N=619 (Inventory of Emotional Distress (EMI))

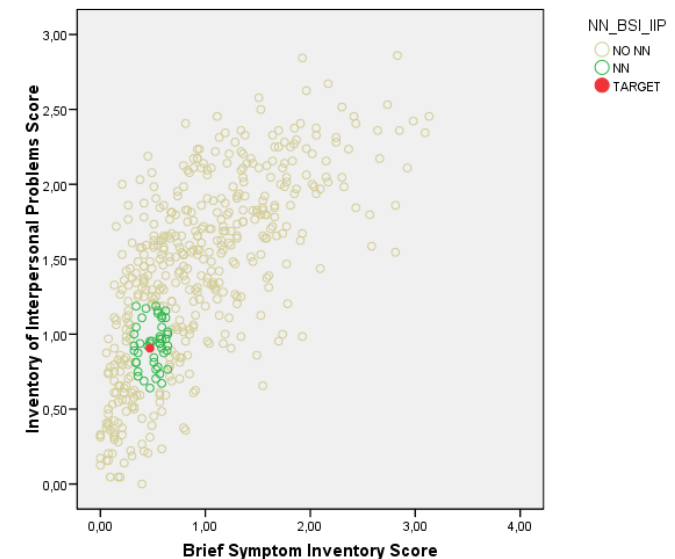
Site 1: N= 359 Outpatient Clinic at the University of Berne (Integrative Cognitive-Behavioral and Interpersonal Focus)

Site 2: N=260 Outpatient Clinic at the University of Bochum (Cognitive-Behavioral Focus)

Lutz, W., et al. (2006). *Psychological Assessment*, 18, 133-144.

Lutz, W. et al. (2005, 2009, 2013). *JCCP, PR*.

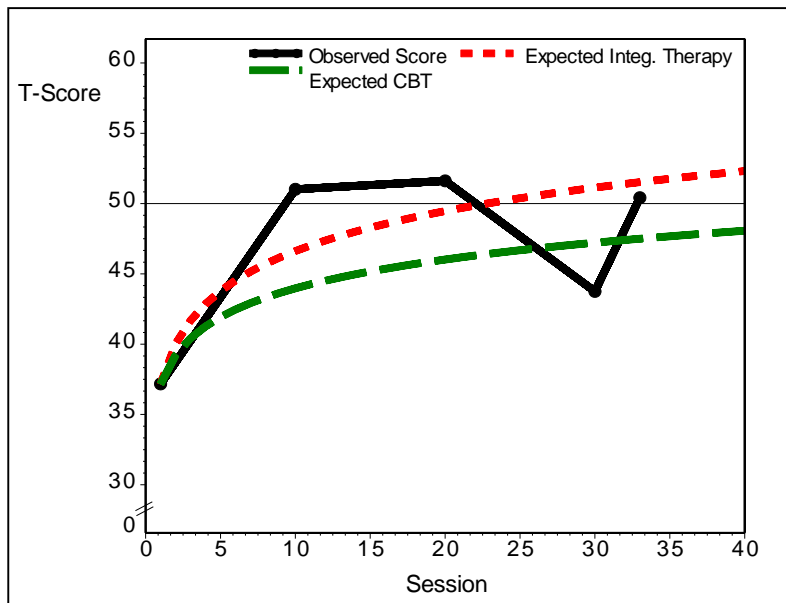
Rubel, Lutz (2014). *Psychological Assessment*.





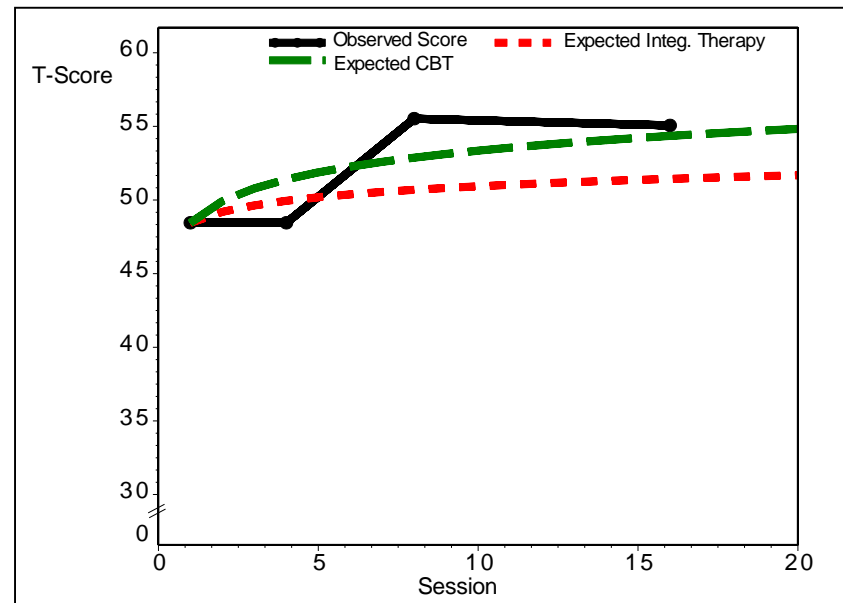
# Examples

## A Patient with a Diagnoses of Anxiety & Depression – Treated with CBT +IPT Therapy



	Age mean (std.)	Gender n	Diagnoses n	Distance mean (std.)	Goals	SE	Reliable Change n
Integrative Therapy (n=30)	35 (1.2)	24 Female	5 Anx. 10 Depr. 1 Com.	6.6 (.9)	11 P 14 I 3 W 2 O 9 S	6.2	+ 26 +/- 3 - 1
CBT (n=30)	33 (3.0)	16 Female	5 Anx. 10 Depr. 15 Com.	7.7 (1.4)	20 P 19 I 3 W 4 O 10 S	4.7	+ 17 +/- 11 - 2

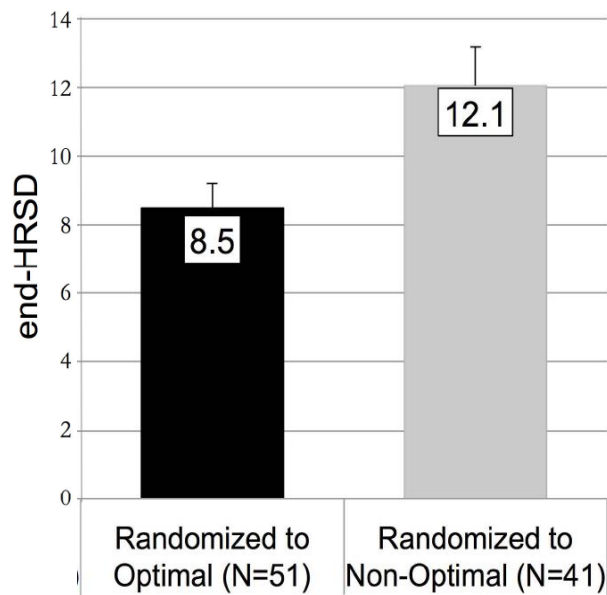
## A Patient with a Diagnoses of Anxiety – Treated with CBT



	Age mean (std.)	Gender n	Diagnoses n	Distance mean (std.)	Goals	SE	Reliable Change n
Integrative Therapy (n=30)	40.4 (2.7)	15 weibl.	8 Angst 2 Depr. 2 Kom.	8.7 (1.4)	9 P 13 I 3 W 1 O 6 S	5.7	+ 15 +/- 13 - 2
CBT (n=30)	41.1 (3.3)	19 weibl.	19 Angst 2 Depr. 9 Kom.	8.4 (1.8)	21 P 6 I 10 W 5 O	4.6	+ 19 +/- 7 - 4

# Using Prediction Models for Individual Treatment Recommendations with the Personalized Advantage Score (PAI)

- DeRubeis et al. (2014) identified four prognostic and five prescriptive variables which predicted differential treatment outcome in CBT vs. Antidepressant Medication (e.g. Marital status, Comorbid personality disorder, Number of life stressors)
- A Personalized Advantage Index (PAI) is calculated for each patient (predicted result in optimal treatment) and defined a clinically meaningful difference for one treatment compared to the other.



$d = 0.58; p < .00$

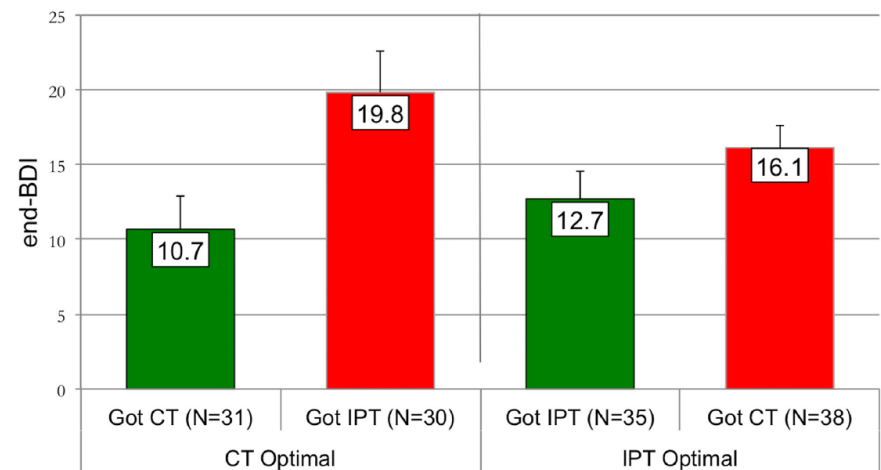
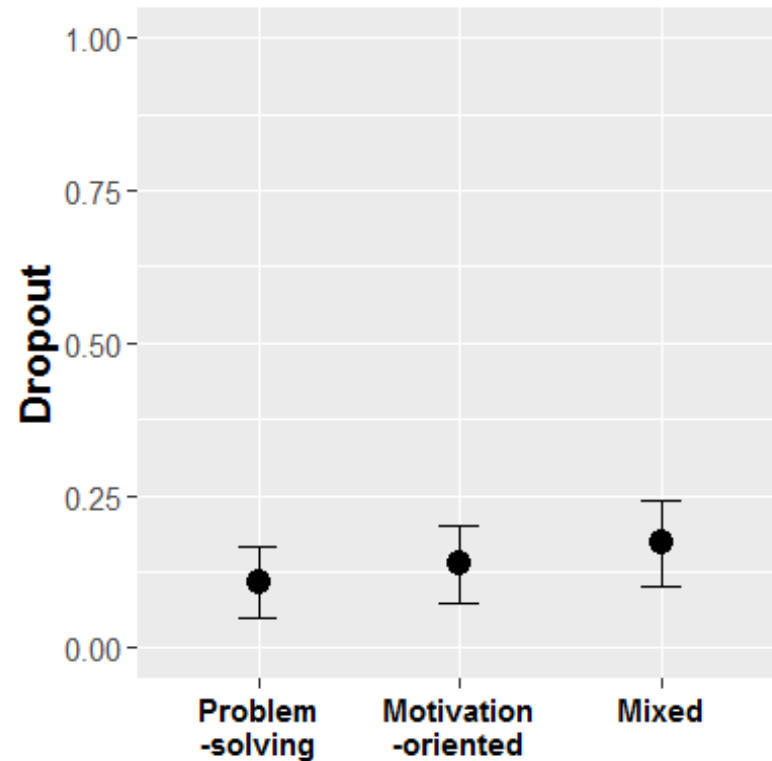
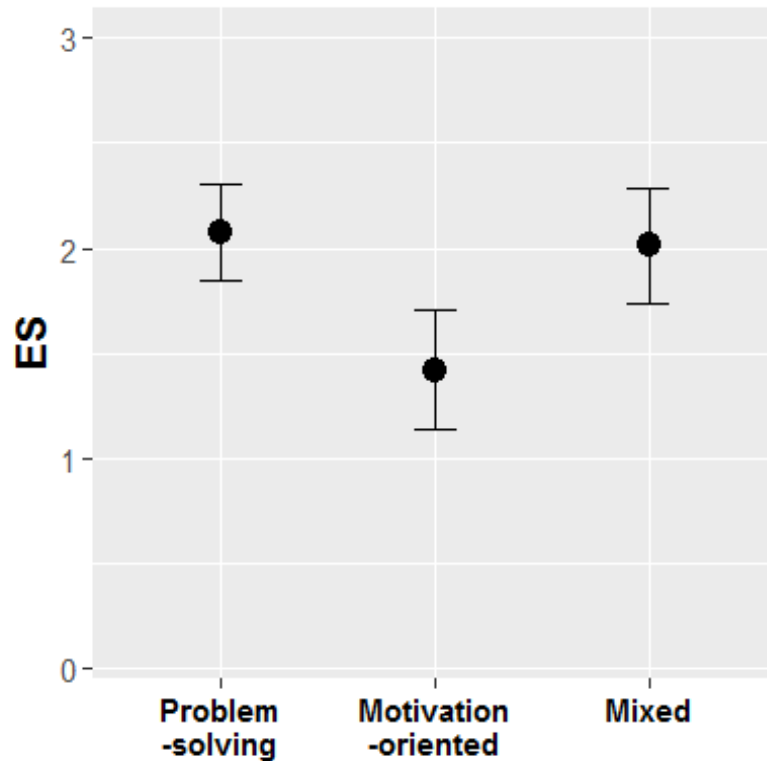


Fig 3. Comparison of observed mean end-BDI scores for patients randomly assigned to their Optimal treatment versus those assigned to their Non-Optimal treatment, by psychotherapy type.

$d = 0.51; p < .00$



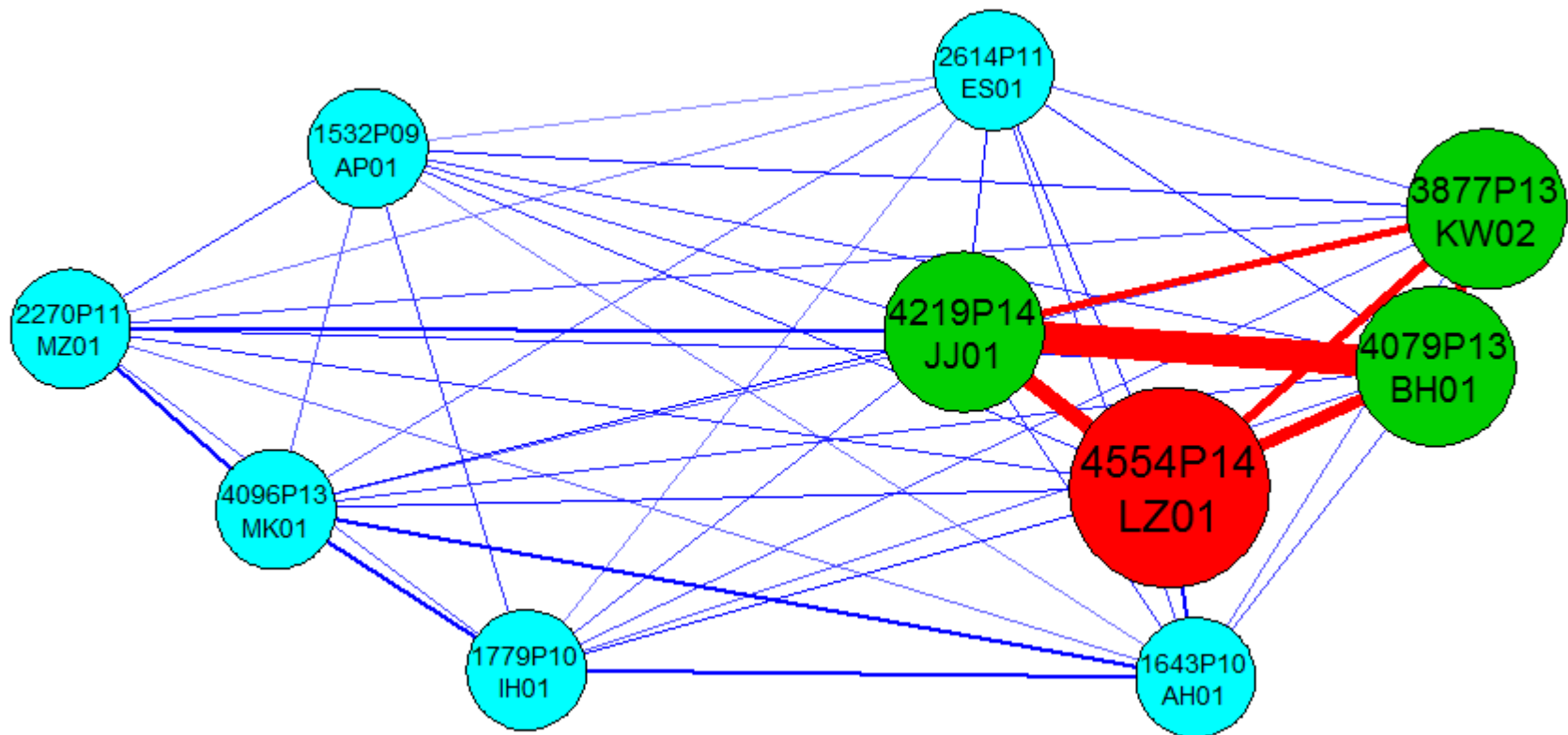
## Nearest Neighbors von 4554P14



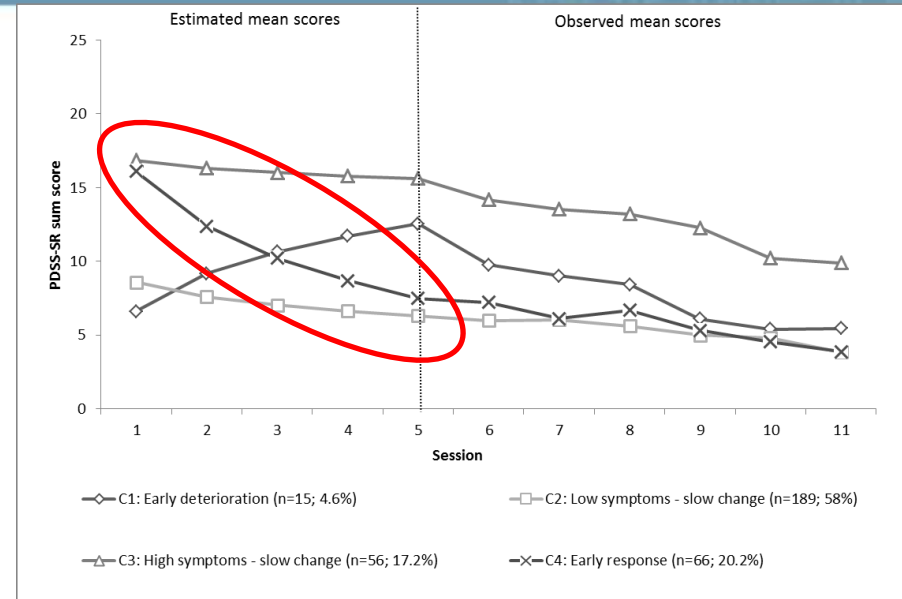
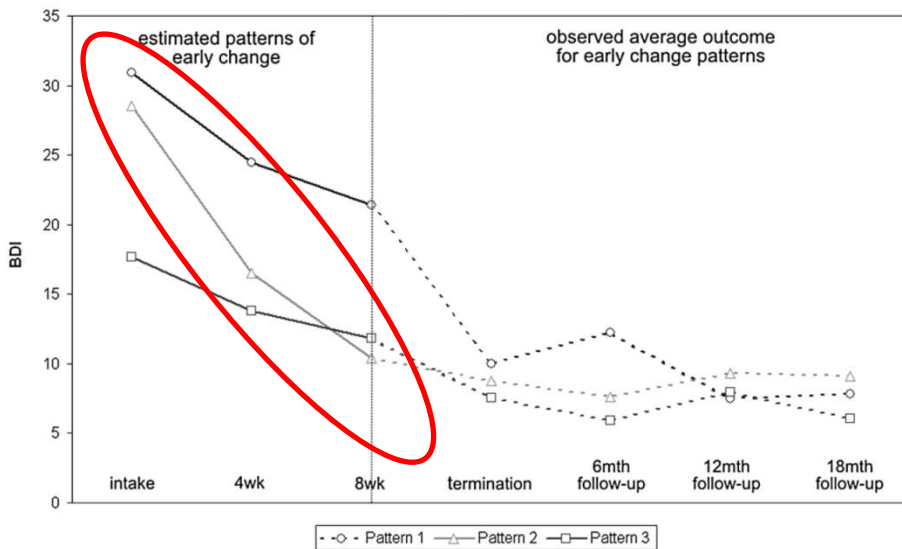


## Nearest Neighbors von 4554P14

### Network Analysis



# 2. Treatment Adaptation Tool (Early Response, ROM)



Depression: 61.1% „Early Responder“

Panic disorder: 20.2% „Early Responder“

- ER seems to exist in different settings, diagnosis, treatments and instruments
- ER groups have high treatment effects. ED seem to have a negative prognosis
- in naturalistic studies ER have shorter treatments / in RCT's ER are those which finish the manual.

# Treatment outcome and length of the different early change groups

Variable	n	Final treatment outcome		Treatment completion status (number of sessions attended)			
		Reliable improvement (%)	ES change in PDSS-SR during treatment (d) [95% CI]	3–5 (%)	6–10 (%)	11 (%)	Mean number
All patients	326	48.8	1.02 [0.85, 1.19]	10.1	13.2	76.7	9.87
Class 1	15	0*	−0.49 [−1.22, 0.26]	20	20	60	9.2
Class 2	189	37.6*	0.73 [0.51, 0.94]	6.9	14.3	78.8	10.04
Class 3	56	46.4	1.00 [0.58, 1.41]	19.6*	17.9	62.5	9.02
Class 4	66	93.3*	2.11 [1.61, 2.60]	9.1	4.5	86.4	10.29
p		<.001 <sup>a</sup>	<.001 <sup>b</sup>		<.001 <sup>a</sup>		.007 <sup>b</sup>

Class 1: Early deterioration

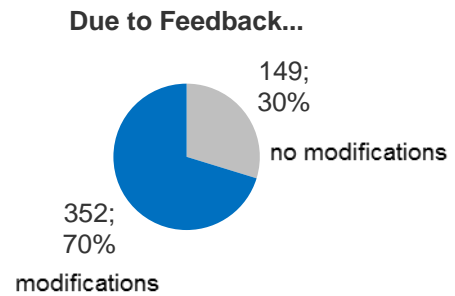
Class 2: Medium symptoms – slow change

Class 3: High symptoms – no change

Class 4: Early response

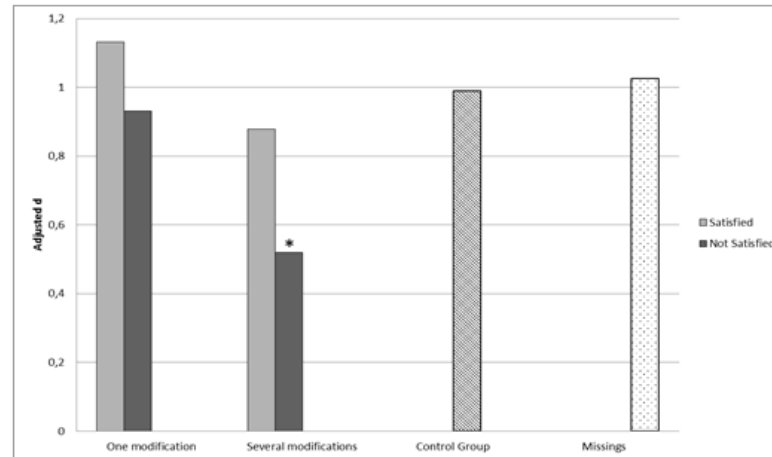
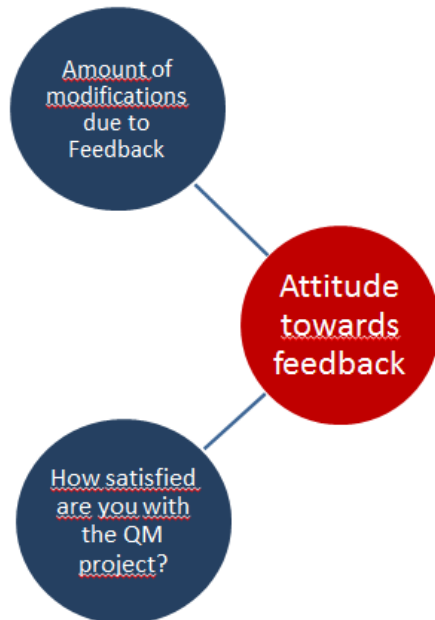
**Early responder** show the **highest pre-post effect sizes** and the **highest probability to complete the treatment**. **Nonresponder** (class 3) and **deteriorater** (class 1) show high probabilities for drop-out.

# Routine Outcome Monitoring and Personalized Treatment Adaptation



## Psychometric feedback

- Reduces the number of non-responding patients
- Patients that go „off-track“ have a higher chance to profit
- Effects can be further enhanced with clinical support or problem solving tools





# Feedbackportal –Identification of Signal Clients (ASC)

Feedbacksystem Sessions Feedback for Therapists Rooms Willkommen te01.

Europäisches Zentrum für Psychotherapie und Psychotherapieforschung  
Universität Trier

**Patientendetails**

Meine Patientenübersicht Patientenliste Patientendetails

CODE: 2310P11 Fragebögen Hausaufgaben Therapeuten mit ähnlichen Fällen

### STATUSREPORT

Erhebung	Datum
Z05	2012-03-14
PR	2011-11-13
WZ	2011-05-30

### VERLAUFSREPORT

Letzte Erhebung	Z05 (oq30)
Datum	2012-03-14

Verlauf

### FEEDBACK (TEST)

- Feedback OQ
- Therapeutic Relationship
- Motivation / Treatment Goals
- Emotional Regulation
- Social Support
- Life Events

### HSCL 11

Point	Prozentrang
1	85
2	45
3	95
4	75
5	90



# Feedback – Clinical Interventions/Support Tools

## Motivation Enhancement /Goals

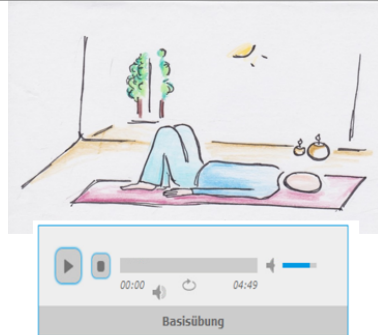
## Alliance Ruptures

### Goal Attainment Scaling (GAS)

- Therapeutic goals should be formulated at the beginning of every psychotherapy in mutual agreement between client and therapist. They are the starting point for therapy planning and indication and provide the basis to evaluate the therapeutic success.
- GAS (Goal Attainment Scaling) is filled in at the start of the therapy together with the client, to determine and articulate the goals. This is helpful as it provides structure and reliability and allows transparency throughout the therapy. It also supports the client's responsibility and intrinsic motivation.
- Some criteria for good goal determination and formulation should be taken into account (SMART criteria): Goals should be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time determined. This will help to reduce exaggerated expectations and strengthen the client's motivation.
- According to the selection of the goals, the therapist should mind that the client determines and expresses goals of approximation (not goals of avoidance) which are fixed on the GAS.
- Determining goals can be assisted by imagination exercises such as time progression ("How do you see your situation in one/two/ten years?")
- GAS will be revisited at every 5th meeting (and at the end of the therapy) by the client to assess his own progress. It serves as a valuable feedback for both therapist and client and is an important element in maintaining motivation throughout the therapy.
  - Reasons for not (yet) achieving certain aims can be discussed and need for action can be considered in the process.

### Interventions for Emotional Regulation

The process of emotional regulation is dependent on features of personality, temperament and evidence of mental illness. Three different styles can be distinguished: suppression of emotions as a way of avoidance and hiding the handling of emotions; adjustment of emotions in order to re-evaluate, moderate or influence them; and acceptance to develop a healthy attitude towards one's own emotions. Besides, adjustment and acceptance of emotions appear to be more effective ways of regulation. Subsequently intervention strategies will be shown which deal with problematic emotional regulation, originating from Training of Emotional Competence, Mindfulness (Kabatt-Zinn, 2011) as well as Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (Hayes, 2001).



### Interventions for Therapeutic Relationship

A successful psychotherapy requires a good relationship between therapist and client as one of its most important mechanisms of change. Therefore it is necessary for both therapist and client to recognize and repair ruptures and strains as they occur within the therapeutic alliance. Various interventions and strategies to shape a relationship (for re-establishing a stable therapeutic relationship) investigated and used by Muran, Safran and other colleagues may prove to be helpful. These techniques are demonstrated in the videos and will also be followed up in writing.

Both therapy samples demonstrate the method used by the therapist Muran. In both videos the therapist is focusing on the clients' negative feelings and their significance in the therapeutic relationship.

He tries to actualize and mirror the clients' feelings, for example, by feeding back his own perception of these feelings or the perception of facial expressions and physical gestures. Afterwards he enquires whether his feedback feels relevant for the client.

#### Situation example

Muran and client Dave:



2:01 – 4:00: "What's going on for you right now?" "Can you say more about that?" "Let's focus on being uncomfortable and... give me a sense of what you are uncomfortable about."

Muran and a female client:



- A framework for empirically supported personalized treatments including a prognostic and an adaptive tool
- Is available online and on-time. Supports a blended treatment approach and the use of tools from eMental Health.
- Goal is the optimal dose of psychosocial interventions with respect to the needs of patients.