

The WSIPP benefit-cost analysis examines, on an apples-to-apples basis, the monetary value of programs or policies to determine whether the benefits from the program exceed its costs. WSIPP's research approach to identifying evidence-based programs and policies has three main steps. First, we determine "what works" (and what does not work) to improve outcomes using a statistical technique called meta-analysis. Second, we calculate whether the benefits of a program exceed its costs. Third, we estimate the risk of investing in a program by testing the sensitivity of our results. For more detail on our methods, see our [Technical Documentation](#).

Current estimates replace old estimates. Numbers will change over time as a result of model inputs and monetization methods.

Substance Use Disorders

| Program name | Date of last literature review | Total benefits | Taxpayer benefits | Non-taxpayer benefits | Costs | Benefits minus costs (net present value) | Benefit to cost ratio | Chance benefits will exceed costs |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Early Intervention | | | | | | | | |
| Brief intervention in primary care | Sep. 2016 | \$4,832 | \$1,543 | \$3,289 | (\$273) | \$4,559 | \$17.70 | 86 % |
| Brief intervention in a medical hospital | Sep. 2016 | \$4,119 | \$1,306 | \$2,813 | (\$161) | \$3,958 | \$25.59 | 75 % |
| Teen Intervene | Jun. 2016 | \$3,756 | \$949 | \$2,807 | (\$385) | \$3,371 | \$9.76 | 94 % |
| Brief intervention in emergency department (SBIRT) | Sep. 2016 | \$3,285 | \$1,099 | \$2,186 | (\$435) | \$2,850 | \$7.56 | 62 % |
| Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention of College Students (BASICS): A Harm Reduction Approach | May. 2014 | \$1,267 | \$407 | \$860 | (\$73) | \$1,194 | \$17.34 | 69 % |
| Brief intervention for youth in medical settings | Feb. 2015 | \$406 | \$136 | \$270 | (\$333) | \$73 | \$1.22 | 49 % |
| Alcohol Literacy Challenge (for college students) | Jun. 2016 | (\$134) | (\$40) | (\$94) | (\$4) | (\$138) | (\$34.25) | 49 % |
| Treatment for Youth | | | | | | | | |
| Teen Marijuana Check-Up | Jul. 2014 | \$2,479 | \$796 | \$1,683 | (\$109) | \$2,370 | \$22.70 | 100 % |
| Adolescent Assertive Continuing Care | Jun. 2013 | (\$1,000) | \$28 | (\$1,027) | (\$2,254) | (\$3,253) | (\$0.44) | 36 % |
| Functional Family Therapy for substance abusing adolescents (FFT-SA) | Jun. 2016 | (\$577) | \$217 | (\$794) | (\$3,469) | (\$4,046) | (\$0.17) | 0 % |
| Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) | May. 2015 | \$2,234 | \$1,606 | \$628 | (\$8,061) | (\$5,827) | \$0.28 | 24 % |
| Treatment for Adults | | | | | | | | |
| Contingency management (higher cost) for substance use disorders | May. 2014 | \$19,455 | \$1,725 | \$17,730 | (\$572) | \$18,884 | \$34.03 | 77 % |
| Seeking Safety | May. 2014 | \$16,805 | \$5,367 | \$11,438 | (\$396) | \$16,409 | \$42.40 | 88 % |
| Contingency management (higher cost) for marijuana use | May. 2014 | \$9,422 | \$3,040 | \$6,381 | (\$571) | \$8,850 | \$16.49 | 78 % |
| Contingency management (lower cost) for opioid use disorder | Dec. 2016 | \$8,305 | \$955 | \$7,350 | (\$356) | \$7,949 | \$23.35 | 100 % |
| Brief marijuana dependence counseling | May. 2014 | \$8,168 | \$2,645 | \$5,523 | (\$558) | \$7,611 | \$14.65 | 90 % |
| Family Behavior Therapy (FBT) | May. 2014 | \$9,385 | \$1,987 | \$7,398 | (\$1,902) | \$7,483 | \$4.93 | 60 % |
| Brief cognitive behavioral intervention for amphetamine users | May. 2014 | \$7,172 | \$1,394 | \$5,778 | (\$210) | \$6,962 | \$34.07 | 61 % |
| Motivational interviewing to enhance treatment engagement | Dec. 2014 | \$7,053 | \$2,128 | \$4,925 | (\$267) | \$6,787 | \$26.46 | 63 % |
| Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET) (problem drinkers) | May. 2014 | \$5,976 | \$1,775 | \$4,201 | (\$342) | \$5,635 | \$17.49 | 61 % |
| Cognitive-behavioral coping-skills therapy for alcohol or drug use disorders | Sep. 2016 | \$5,837 | \$680 | \$5,157 | (\$266) | \$5,572 | \$21.95 | 60 % |
| 12-Step Facilitation Therapy | May. 2014 | \$5,069 | \$538 | \$4,531 | \$323 | \$5,392 | n/a | 60 % |
| Community Reinforcement Approach (CRA) with vouchers | May. 2014 | \$5,370 | \$1,190 | \$4,180 | (\$1,206) | \$4,165 | \$4.45 | 56 % |
| Holistic Harm Reduction Program (HHRP+) | May. 2014 | \$4,169 | \$506 | \$3,663 | (\$813) | \$3,356 | \$5.13 | 56 % |
| Relapse Prevention Therapy | May. 2014 | \$3,190 | \$942 | \$2,248 | \$0 | \$3,190 | n/a | 56 % |
| Contingency management (lower cost) for substance use disorders | May. 2014 | \$2,531 | \$295 | \$2,236 | (\$251) | \$2,280 | \$10.10 | 60 % |

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|---|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Individual drug counseling approach for the treatment of cocaine addiction | May. 2014 | \$4,218 | \$263 | \$3,955 | (\$2,380) | \$1,838 | \$1.77 | 54 % |
| Matrix Model Intensive Outpatient Treatment Program (IOP) for stimulant use disorders | May. 2014 | \$2,748 | \$435 | \$2,313 | (\$1,281) | \$1,467 | \$2.15 | 52 % |
| Sober living houses | Oct. 2016 | \$1,551 | \$193 | \$1,358 | (\$287) | \$1,264 | \$5.40 | 70 % |
| Peer support for individuals with substance use disorder | May. 2014 | \$3,788 | \$598 | \$3,190 | (\$2,815) | \$973 | \$1.35 | 51 % |
| Contingency management (lower cost) for marijuana use | May. 2014 | \$153 | \$87 | \$66 | (\$251) | (\$98) | \$0.61 | 49 % |
| Cognitive-behavioral coping-skills therapy for opioid use disorder | Dec. 2016 | (\$535) | (\$34) | (\$501) | (\$538) | (\$1,073) | (\$0.99) | 42 % |
| Supportive-expressive psychotherapy for substance use disorders | May. 2014 | \$335 | \$1,214 | (\$880) | (\$2,037) | (\$1,703) | \$0.16 | 48 % |
| Behavioral self-control training (BSCT) | May. 2014 | (\$12,643) | (\$3,419) | (\$9,225) | (\$158) | (\$12,801) | (\$80.03) | 23 % |
| Medication-assisted Treatment | | | | | | | | |
| Methadone maintenance for opioid use disorder | Dec. 2016 | \$8,257 | \$1,140 | \$7,116 | (\$3,769) | \$4,488 | \$2.19 | 88 % |
| Buprenorphine (or buprenorphine/naloxone) maintenance treatment for opioid use disorder | Dec. 2016 | \$8,092 | \$1,161 | \$6,931 | (\$4,633) | \$3,458 | \$1.75 | 86 % |
| Injectable naltrexone for opiates (for individuals in the criminal justice system) | Dec. 2016 | (\$126) | \$1,365 | (\$1,491) | (\$16,545) | (\$16,671) | (\$0.01) | 0 % |
| Injectable naltrexone for opiates | Dec. 2016 | (\$876) | \$825 | (\$1,700) | (\$16,533) | (\$17,409) | (\$0.05) | 0 % |
| Injectable naltrexone for alcohol | Dec. 2016 | (\$7,357) | \$264 | (\$7,622) | (\$16,537) | (\$23,894) | (\$0.44) | 0 % |

Other Substance Use Disorders topics reviewed:

| Program name | Date of last literature review | Notes |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach | Jun. 2013 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Bupreorphine implants | Dec. 2016 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) for engaging clients in treatment | Sep. 2016 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Day treatment with abstinence contingencies and vouchers | May. 2014 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Dialectical behavior therapy (DBT) for co-morbid substance use disorder and serious mental illness | May. 2014 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Early initiation of buprenorphine treatment for opioid use disorder (compared to referral to treatment only) | Dec. 2016 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Early initiation of methadone treatment for opioid use disorder (compared to referral to treatment only) | Dec. 2016 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Injectable bromocriptine for alcohol | Dec. 2016 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| MET/CBT-5 for youth marijuana use | Feb. 2015 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Naltrexone implants | Dec. 2016 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Node-link mapping | May. 2014 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Parent-Child Assistance Program | May. 2014 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Wraparound services for pregnant/postpartum women in treatment for substance use disorders | Sep. 2016 | Click for meta-analytic results |
| Anger management for substance abuse and mental health clients: Cognitive-behavioral therapy | May. 2014 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Buprenorphine taper for prescription opioid use disorder | Dec. 2016 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Dialectical Behavior Therapy for substance abuse: Integrated Treatment model | May. 2015 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Matrix Model substance abuse treatment for adolescents | Jun. 2013 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Medication-assisted therapies for opioid use during pregnancy—buprenorphine vs. methadone | Dec. 2016 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Preventing Addiction-Related Suicide (PARS) | May. 2014 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Recovery Support Services | Jun. 2016 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Seven Challenges | Jan. 2013 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Therapeutic community for non-offenders | May. 2014 | No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest. |
| Behavioral Couples Therapy (marital) | May. 2014 | Too few rigorous evaluations to date. |

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Washington State Institute for Public Policy

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