UNLV Problem Gambling 101:
What’s *Diversion* Got To Do With It?

10/22/2015

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Objectives

- 2015 view of problem gambling
- Discovering the gambler among your clients
- Gambling assessment and tools
- Finding the right Level of Care (LOC) and placement
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Nevada Gambling Diversion

- Crimes committed in furtherance of a Gambling Problem
- No Violence
- Sanctions ordered by Court which are strict and severe
- Felony can be expunged

- Treatment works
- Addicts are treatable
- Restitution is paid
- Rehabilitation is possible
- If not taken seriously, the addict will put him/herself back in prison
Problem Gambling is about PEOPLE

... the people with the disorder

... the people who care about them

... and the people they can become when offered the opportunity and the resources to recover.

1 - 800 - 522 - 4700

Problem Gamblers HelpLine
When is gambling *really* a problem?
Gambling, Defined

**American Psychiatric Association**

“Gambling involves risking something of value in the hopes of obtaining something of greater value.”

- APA, DSM-5

**Gamblers Anonymous: 12-Step Groups**

“Any betting or wagering, for self or others, whether for money or not, no matter how slight or insignificant, where the outcome is uncertain or depends upon chance or “skill.”

- Gamblers Anonymous
Money is **Not** the Drug

- ACTION is the drug for problem gamblers
- The *action* is what alters their moods
- Money just makes the “high” sweeter
- No money = temporary quit, or criminal behavior
Can You Spot the Problem Gambler?
Gambling Disorder

DSM-5 Diagnostic Criteria:

F63.0

- Preoccupation
- Increasing $$
- Loss of control
- Restless/irritable
- Escape
- Chasing losses
- Lying
- Lost relationships
- Bailouts
Casino Crime

“Biker Bandit” Anthony Carleo

- "Local"
- $1.5 million in chips
- Heavy gambling & losses
- Bankruptcy
- Problem gambling
- Oxycodone abuse
- Staying at the Casino/Hotel on comps
- 3-11yrs Bellagio; 6-16yrs Suncoast
Risk of Violence
Illegal acts to support gambling
Joe Conforte at NSP “Bull Pen”
Legal Guidance

Judge Mark Ferrell, New York
What Works? The Five “R’s”

(Paul Ashe, Esq., Florida Council on Problem Gambling)

✓ Remorse
✓ Repentance
✓ Restitution
✓ Rehabilitation and
✓ Recovery
Smarter Questions = The Rest of the Story

“So, where did you get your DUI?”

“In the parking lot of the casino”
Who Can (BEST) Screen, Assess, Treat G.D.?

- **Screen**
  - Anyone, including You, with proper tools
  - Health technicians, Office Managers, Family

- **Assess and Evaluate**
  - Certified Problem Gambling Counselors (CPGC’s)

- **Diagnose/Treat**
  - Licensed or Certified Professional Health Care Personnel: Clinicians with Gambling Training
  - Interns Supervised by Licensed/Certified Supervisors
  - **CPGC, CPGC-I**: MD, PhD, RN, MFT, LCSW, CPC
Problem Gambling Screening

Lie-Bet Questionnaire

1. Have you ever felt the need to bet more and more money?
2. Have you ever had to lie to people important to you about how much you gambled?

Brief Biosocial Gambling Screen BBGS

1. During the past 12 months, have you become restless, irritable or anxious when trying to stop/cut down on gambling?
2. During the past 12 months, have you tried to keep your family or friends from knowing how much you gambled?
3. During the past 12 months, did you have such financial trouble as a result of your gambling that you had to get help with living expenses from family, friends or welfare?

SRAD Screening Tools

Gambling Disorder
- Lie-Bet (2q)
- BBGS (3q)
- NODS-CLiP (3q)
- DSM diagnostic criteria (9/10q)
- SOGS (16q/20) (Adol/SP)
- NODS (17qx2)
- GA 20 questions
- MAGS (31q)

ATOD
- CAGE
- FAST
- MAST
- DAST
- AUDIT
- SASSI-3
- CCSM-1& 2
Responsible Gambling:
“Do You Have FAT ABS?”

- **Frequency**
- **Amount**
- **Time**
- **Alcohol use (none)**
- **Buddy system (like scuba)**
- **Signs**
Warning Signs? (Hint: See WTFS trifold)

- Sneaking, Hiding or Lying about gambling
- Change in school or relationship performance because of gambling
- Borrowing money to gamble
- Chasing losses
- Trying to control, cut down or stop without success
- Trying to escape worry or trouble by gambling
ASSESSMENT, defined:

“Those procedures by which a clinician evaluates an individual’s strengths, resources, preferences, limitations, problems and needs, and determines priorities so that an individualized treatment plan can be developed.”

(The ASAM Criteria, 2013, p. 413)
The GPPC®:
A Modern Screening and Assessment Tool
The GPPC® Process

- DIM 1
- DIM 2
- DIM 3
- DIM 4
- DIM 5
- DIM 6

- LOC 0.5
- LOC 1
- LOC 2
- LOC 3

(c) 2010 The GPPC Initiative
The GPPC Form

- Demographics
- Dimensional Criteria with Severity Level
- Driving Dimensions
- Vulnerabilities/Strengths
- Suicidality/Threat to Self & Others
- Assessment Instruments & Results
- Reports Made / Consents Given
- Disposition/Follow-up/Appt/Reinterview
- Provisional Tx Plan & Discharge Criteria
Dimensional Criteria

1. Frequency/Intensity/Duration of the Disorder
2. Biomedical Conditions / Complications
3. Cognitive/Behavioral/Emotional Conditions
4. Readiness to Change
5. History/Potential of Relapse/Continued Problem
6. Recovery/Living Environment

Adapted from ASAM PPC-2R (2001)
Severity Scale

High – Significant Impediment to Treatment

Moderate – Moderate Symptoms

Low – No significant impairment or distress
Our Working Hypothesis

- 3 or more Dimensions rated High
  - May suggest Residential or Inpatient care
- 2 Dimensions rated High
  - May suggest Intensive Outpatient care
- Any Dimension rated High
  - May suggest Outpatient care
- Levels of care (LOC) have varying levels of intensity
# 2015 Nevada DHHS Problem Gambling Treatment Grantee Levels of Service

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Nevada Gambling Treatment Providers

- **Outpatient**: Reno Problem Gambling Center (RPGC); RENEGADE Counseling (Reno); Bristlecone Family Resources (Reno, GATE Program); New Frontier Treatment Center (Fallon); Problem Gambling Center (LV); Pathways (LV)

- **Evaluations**: RPGC; PGC (LV), Pathways (LV), RENEGADE (Reno); Aloha (Reno); Lynne Daus Evaluations (Reno); Bristlecone (Reno); New Frontier Treatment Center (Fallon); Red Hawk Counseling (Reno)

- **Intensive Outpatient**: RPGC (Reno); Bristlecone (Reno); New Frontier (Reno); Problem Gambling Center (LV); Pathways (LV)

- **Residential**: Bristlecone (Reno); New Frontier (Fallon)
Issues, Resources

- **Luck vs Skill**
  - Predominant factor test
  - Any chance test

- **Fantasy Sports**
  - $20B est. by 2020
  - 56M participants (current)

- **UIGEA – Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act (2006)**

- **Gambling and the Law® - I. Nelson Rose, J.D.**
  www.gamblingandthelaw.com
What Else Helps?

- Gamblers Anonymous
- Gam-Anon
- Counseling
- Medicine
- Faith & Alternative Therapies
- Work

www.nevadacouncil.org
Call the Experts

775.284.5335

Reno Problem Gambling Center

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Thank You UNLV!