



# **"Parent-Child Interaction Therapy: Treatment Outcomes and Implementation to Community Mental Health Settings"**

**Anthony Urquiza, Ph.D.**

**95<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
Western Psychological Association  
Red Rock Convention Center  
Las Vegas, NV**

# THE SACRAMENTO BEE

Stay Connected » **sacbee.com**

Child abuse researcher/therapist since ~1979  
Prior history of CSA research

This is how it got started...

- 10 child fatalities described in the Sacramento Bee
  - Something else was happening!
- Transition to physically abusive families
- An NIMH grant
- 1999 – PCIT Training Center

# OBJECTIVES

## Goals for presentation participants:

- Obtain a basic understanding of PCIT
  - Relationship Enhancement- CDI
  - Discipline- PDI
- Understand what makes PCIT work
  - Improving parenting skills- increasing warmth, teaching behavior management
  - Decreasing behavior problems- parent positive attention to appropriate behaviors
  - Improving the quality of the parent-child relationship
- Hear about research developments
  - PCIT and child maltreatment
  - Culture and PCIT
- PCIT for Traumatized Children Web Course
- Models of PCIT Training

# Where did PCIT come from?

**PCIT was first developed in the early 1970s at Oregon Health Sciences University by Dr. Sheila Eyberg. She was influenced by:**

- **Diana Baumrind**
  - Concept of authoritative parenting
- **Constance Hanf- Mother of Positive Parenting**
  - Maternal use of differential social attention
  - Ignoring 'uncooperative' behavior
  - Direct commands
  - Praise for compliance
  - Time-out for non-compliance
  - 'COACHING'

**Dr. Eyberg added ASSESSMENT to this model, blending it into the fabric of the protocol:**

- Eyberg Child Behavior Inventory
- DPICS coding

# What is PCIT?

PCIT PULSE Video Removed

# What is PCIT?

**PCIT is a dyadic Intervention** treating children 2 to 7 years old with disruptive behaviors and caregivers who have (at least) regular contact with children.

- Therapists coach the parents while playing with their children, using an FM receiver (2 way mirror/ video feed)
  - Adaptations in home settings
  - Adaptations in low-tech settings
- Course of treatment- 14 – 20 weeks
  - CDI – Enhance the parent-child relationship, teaching parents to attend to appropriate child behavior
  - PDI – Teach parent effective behavior management techniques
- Assessment driven
  - Assessment informs didactic, coaching strategies
- Process of treatment- from “hear” to “do”
  - Intake assessment → didactic teaching → coaching → skills mastery

# Child Directed Interaction (CDI)

## PRIDE Skills

Praise

Reflection

Imitation

Description

Enthusiasm

# Parent Directed Interaction (PDI)

## BE DIRECT

**B**e Specific with commands

**E**very command positively stated

**D**evelopmentally appropriate

**I**ndividual commands

**R**espectful and polite

**E**ssential commands only

**C**hoices when appropriate

**T**one of voice neutral



# Typical PCIT Room



# Typical Observation Room





# PCIT Treatment & Observation Room



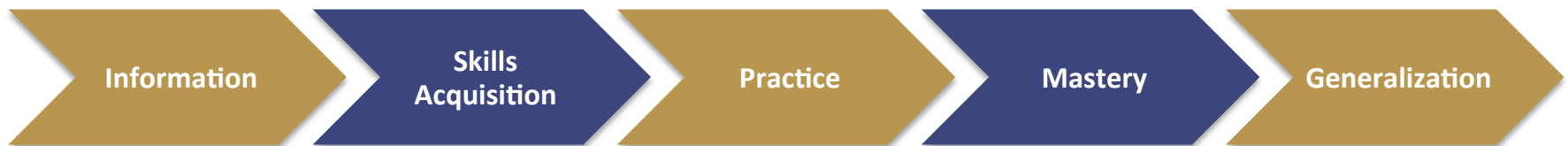
# What makes PCIT work?

## Research tells us...

In a meta-analysis of parenting programs (Kaminski et al., 2008), what works is:

- Increasing positive parent-child interactions and emotional communication skills
- Teaching parents to use time-out
- Encouraging consistency

## PCIT Process



- Emotional Availability research
- Automatic attributions and parental meta-cognition

# What does PCIT coaching look like?

PCIT PULSE Video Removed

# OVERVIEW

## PCIT FINDINGS

### IMPROVED SKILL ACQUISITION

- **More parent** reflective listening, physical proximity, and prosocial verbalizations
- Less sarcasm and criticism
- Positive attitudes

### IMPROVED PARENT FUNCTIONING

- **Less parental** stress
- Fewer psychological symptoms
- Greater sense of control
- High satisfaction with treatment

### IMPROVED CHILD FUNCTIONING

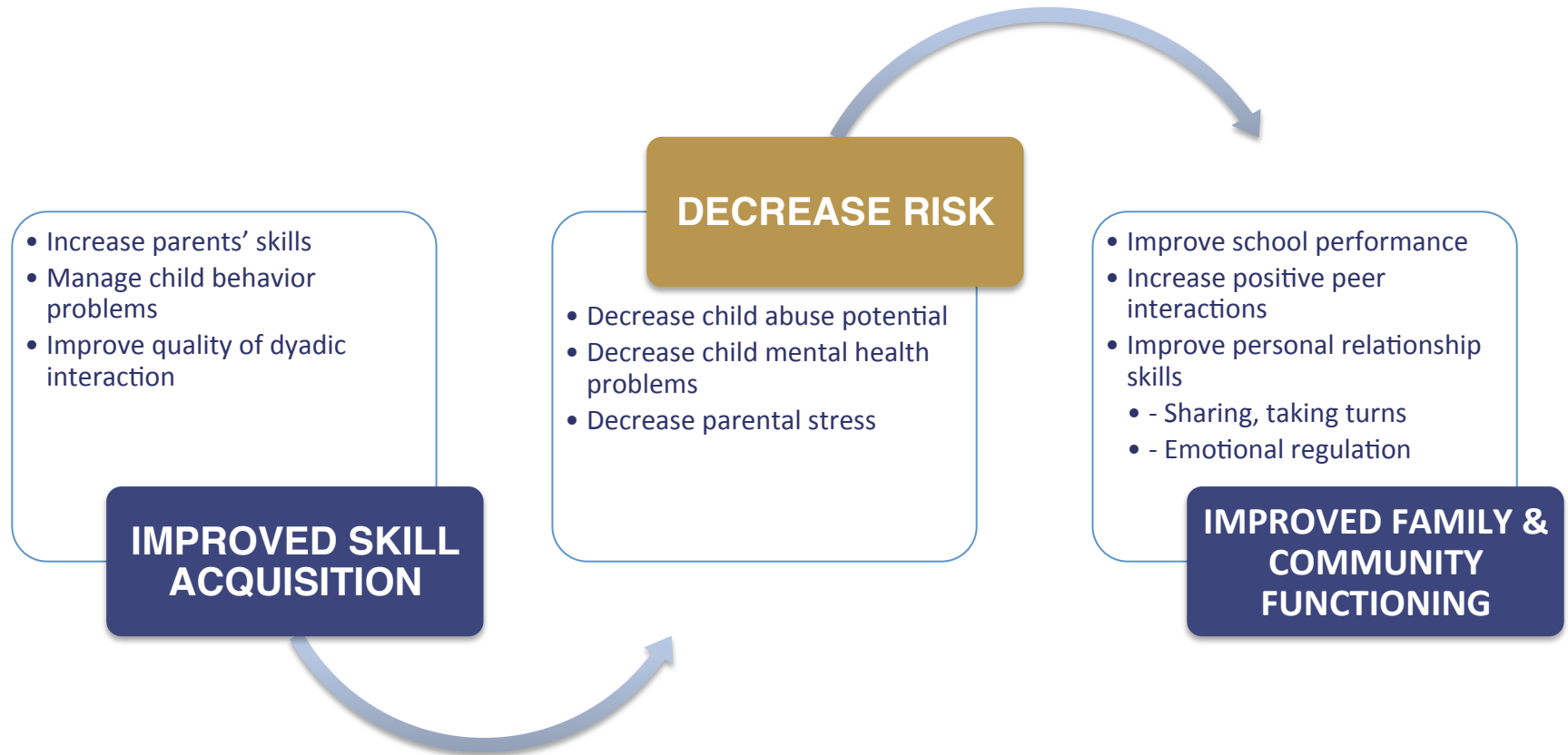
- **Fewer child** behavior problems, reduced to normal limits
- Improved child responsiveness to parent

### GENERALIZATION OF EFFECTS

- **Long-lasting** effects- demonstrated up to 6 years
- Generalized to untreated siblings, home, and school

# PCIT & Violent Families

## REDUCING CHILD MALTREATMENT



# CULTURE

**Research established the acceptability, efficacy, and effectiveness with several cultural groups**

## **Latinos**

PCIT has been found efficacious in Spanish speaking and English speaking Latinos living in the San Diego area. PCIT also has been found efficacious for Puerto Rican Latinos.

## **Chinese**

PCIT has been translated into Chinese. A randomized trial found it to be efficacious among Hong Kong Chinese.

## **African Americans**

PCIT has been found efficacious among African American families

## **Native Americans & Hmong**

PCIT has been found to be acceptable to Native American and Hmong families with few adjustments

## **Good practice emphasizes family strengths**

Natural is better and more likely to generalize. Therapists should be respectful of differences and provide parent voices and choices.



# TRAUMA

Why would an empirically supported treatment for disruptive behaviors reduce trauma symptoms in young children?

## TRAUMA SYMPTOMS

- Nightmares
- Anxiety

## BEHAVIORAL DISTURBANCE

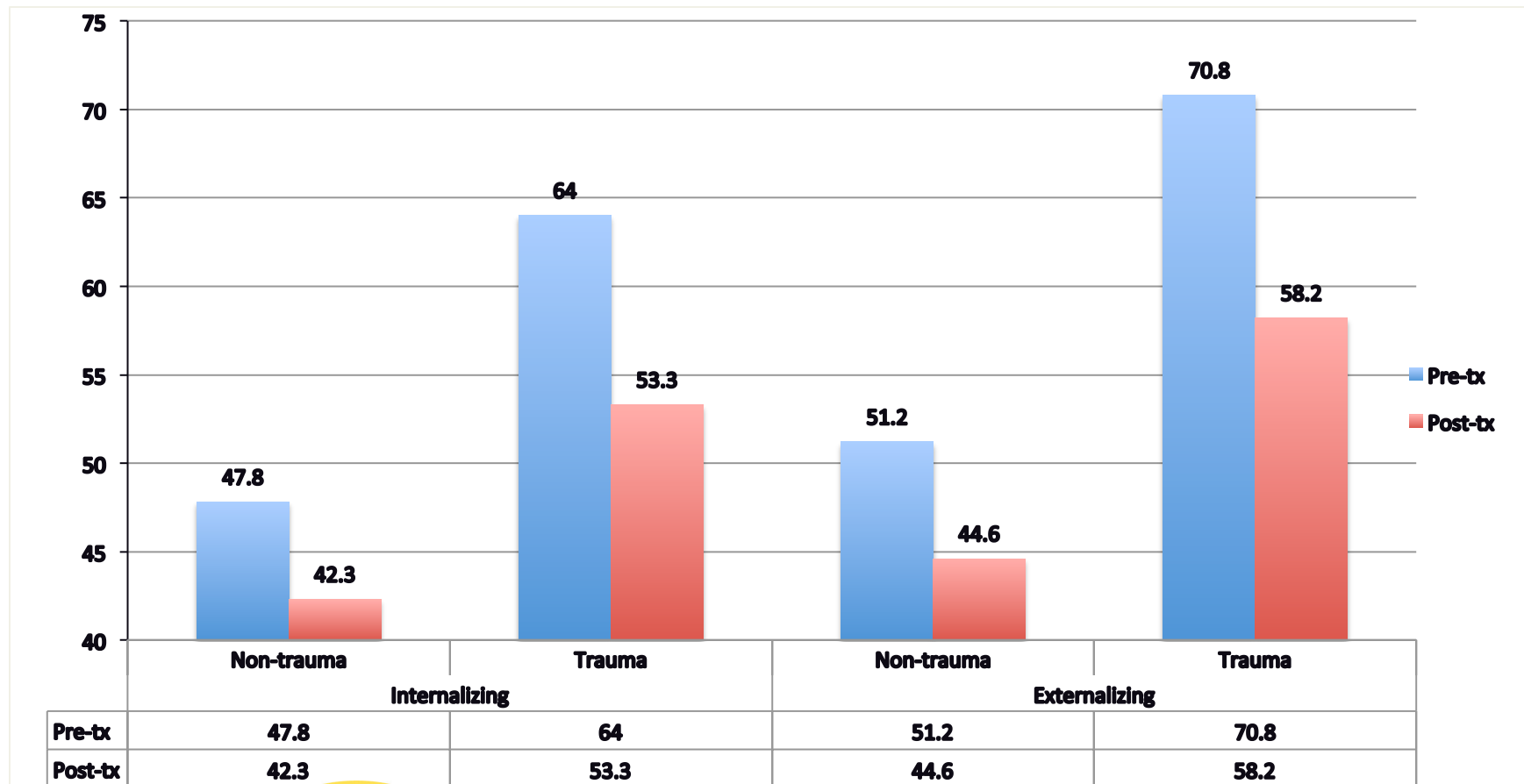
- Noncompliance
- Aggression

## AFFECTIVE DYSREGULATION

- Temper tantrums
- Crying/ whining

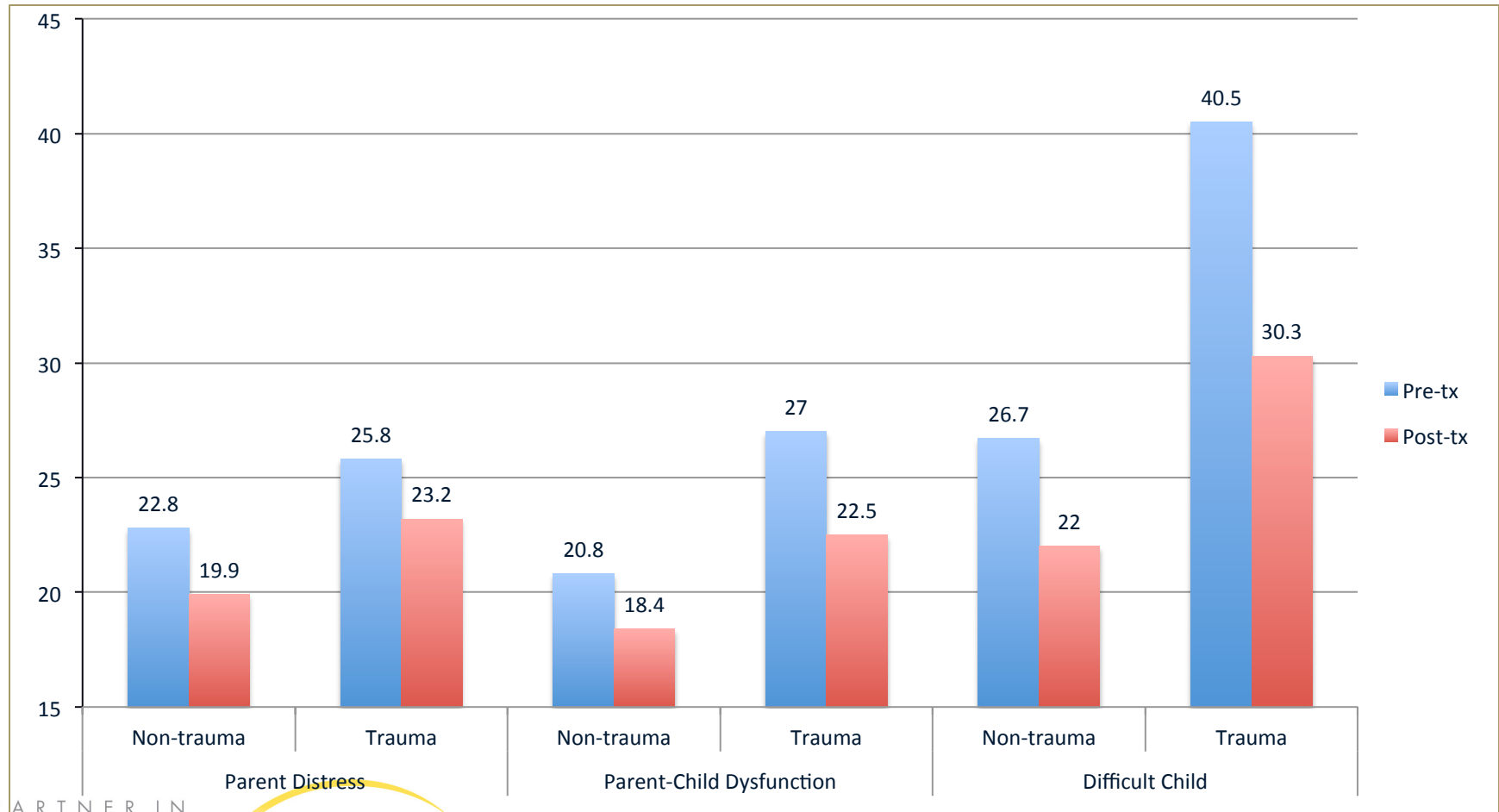
# OUTCOMES

Client outcomes: Pre- and post-PCIT mean CBCL scale scores by trauma group



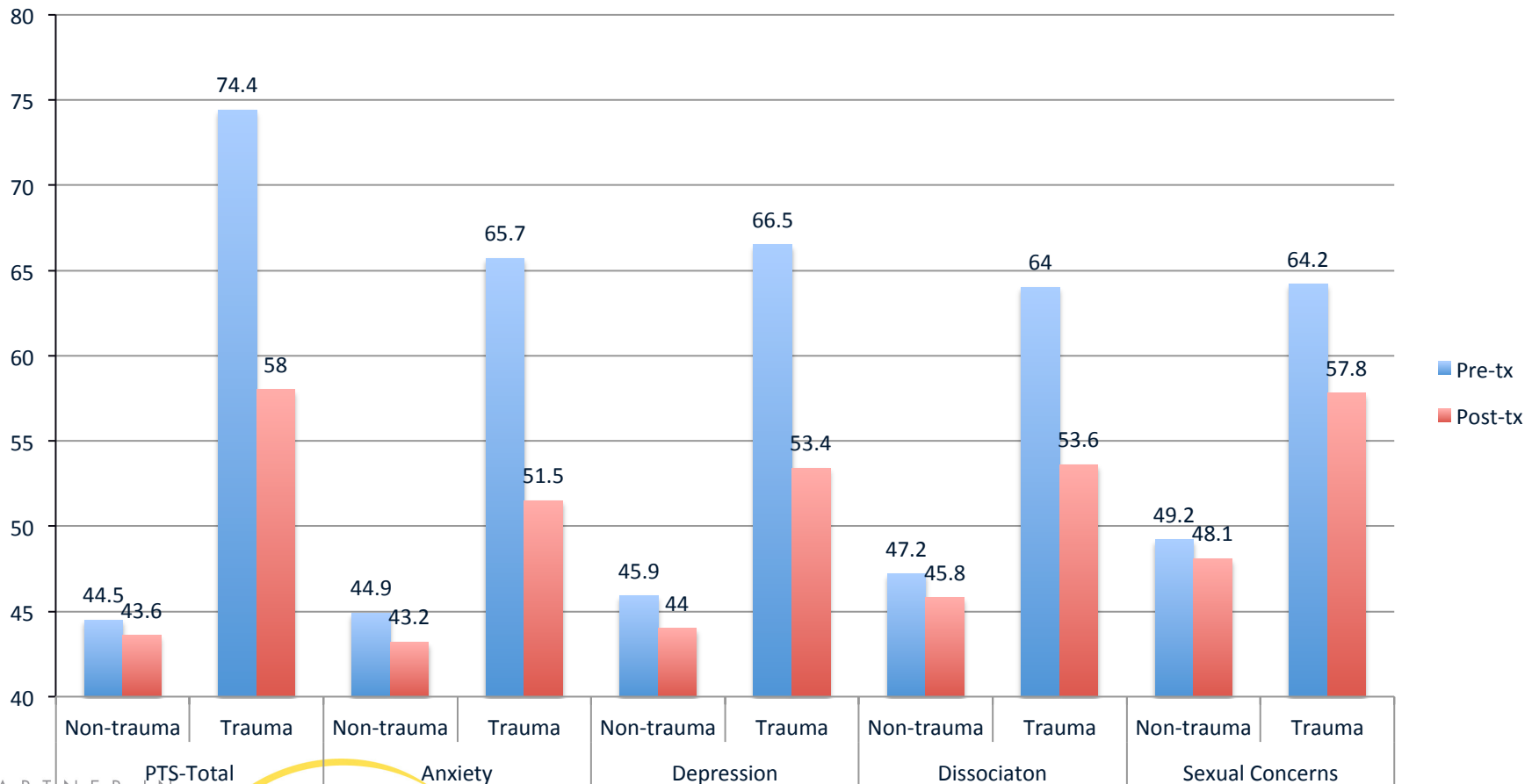
# OUTCOMES

Client outcomes: Pre- and post-PCIT mean PSI scale scores by trauma group



# OUTCOMES

Client outcomes: Pre- and post-PCIT mean TSCYC scale scores by trauma group



# TRAINING

## UC Davis PCIT Training Center history

- Established in 1999 to train 13 California agencies in PCIT.
- Attain a competency level among trainees that will enable agency therapists to provide PCIT services.
- Train designated agency therapists (ToTs) to provide agency supervision of PCIT services and train future staff (2<sup>nd</sup> generation+) in PCIT service delivery.
- Children who receive PCIT services from the trainee agency will demonstrate significant behavioral improvements and symptom reduction after completion of PCIT.
- Currently we have trained 250+ community mental health agencies throughout California and other states/countries

# TRAINING

## UC Davis PCIT Training Center vision

- To improve the quality of mental health services to children and families.
- Increase the number of trained and qualified mental health providers in rural and urban areas with the expertise to comprehensively respond to the special needs of children and families through the delivery of PCIT services.
- Bridge the gap between effective research and effective practice.
- Expand the depth and breadth of scientific knowledge in mental health, child maltreatment, and PCIT.

**UC DAVIS**  
**CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

**Humboldt-2**  
**Glenn**  
**Yolo-2**  
**Placer**  
**Sacramento-5**  
**San Joaquin-4**  
**Sonoma**  
**Santa Clara**  
**Mammoth Lakes**  
**Monterey-3**

**Hong Kong-5**  
**Australia-3**

PARTNER IN

Copyright 2005 digital-topo-maps.com

Shasta  
Butte  
Yuba  
Marin-2  
Amador  
Tulare-3  
San Mateo  
Fresno  
San Benito  
Santa Barbara-3  
Los Angeles-75  
San Bernardino

**Tehama**  
**Lake-2**  
**Nevada-3**  
**Solano**  
**Merced**  
**Orange-5**  
**Alameda**  
**Merced-3**  
**Ventura-2**  
**Kern**  
**Riverside-9**  
**San Diego-7**

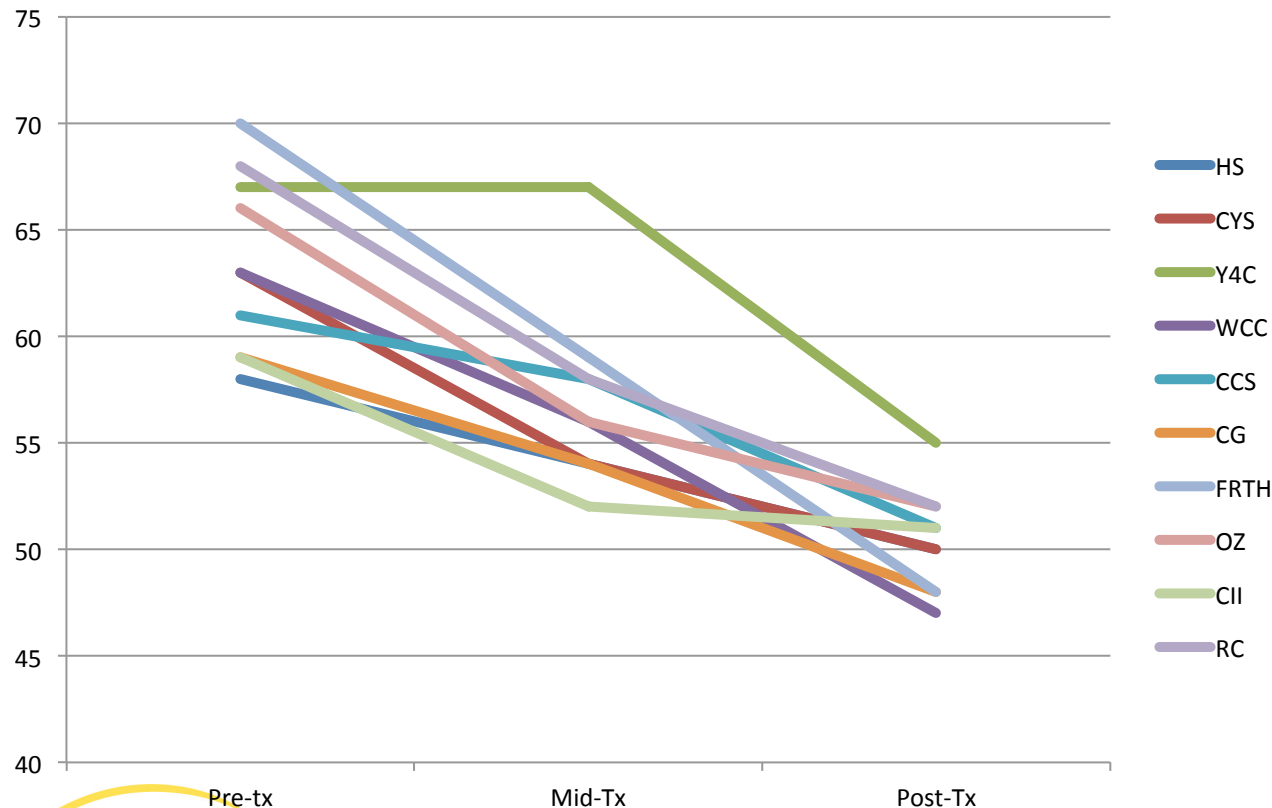
**Alaska-3**  
**Washington**  
**Missouri-2**  
**Illinois**

**Hong Kong-5**  
**Australia-3**

# OUTCOMES

## UC Davis PCIT trained agencies' client outcomes

Eyberg Child Behavior Inventory- Intensity Scale: Mean T-Scores  
from Pre-, Mid-, & Post-Tx Assessments

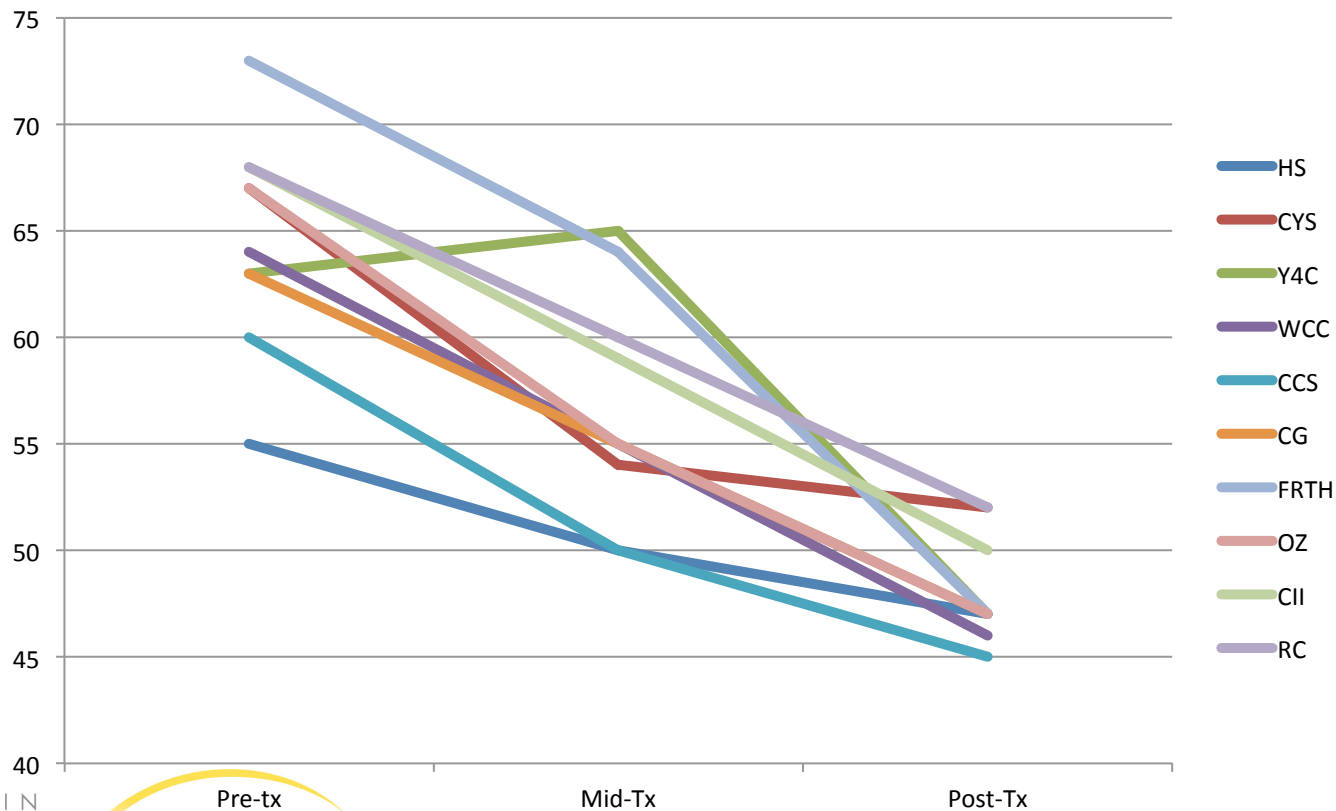




# OUTCOMES

## UC Davis PCIT trained agencies' client outcomes

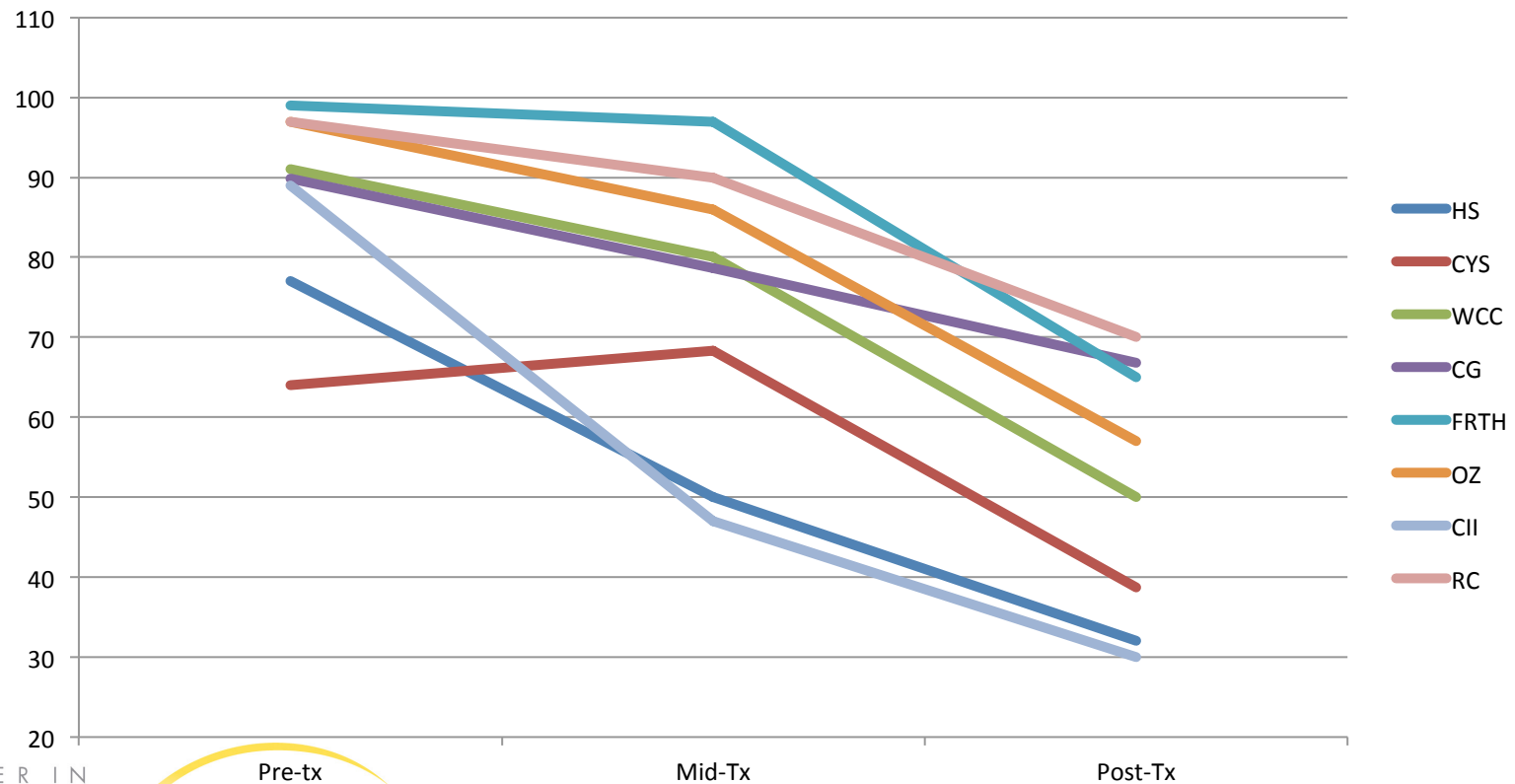
Eyberg Child Behavior Inventory- Problem Scale: Mean T-Scores  
from Pre-, Mid-, & Post-Tx Assessments



# OUTCOMES

## UC Davis PCIT trained agencies' client outcomes

Parenting Stress Index- Total Stress: Mean Percentile Scores  
from Pre-, Mid-, & Post-Tx Assessments



# TRAINING MODEL

## UC Davis PCIT Training Center

### PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

- **Consultation** to give training overview, discuss equipment
- Help select trainees
- Evaluate agency referral process to support PCIT

### FUNDAMENTAL SKILL ACQUISITION

- **Completion of Web Course**, passing quiz with 80% correct
- 11 Modules, 10 hours of on-line training, with video examples
- Practice coding using web course

### SKILL BUILDING

- **Day long visit from** trainer at your agency to review and practice basic skills necessary to begin providing PCIT

### COACHING

- **Trainer will** guide trainees through the course of treatment, coaching them either on site or via videoconferencing.
- 11 day long coaching sessions (88-102 hrs) plus 6 consultation sessions (1 hr each) via telemedicine.

# “Implementation is Personal”

*Training: Knowledge, Skills, and Culture*



**Cars – driver ed & driver training**

**Airplanes – aeronautics and flight simulators**



**PCIT – in vivo training and immediate feedback**

# REMOTE TRAINING

## PCIT Training through videoconference technology



**Challenge:**  
Putting telemedicine  
equipment into  
existing audio-  
visual system.

# REMOTE TRAINING

What does this look like?

PCIT PULSE Video Removed

# “Implementation is Personal”

Getting them trained is not that hard; getting them to ‘stay trained’ is hard.

Getting clinicians to understand, adopt, and sustain new cognitions, beliefs, behaviors is hard.

Using the personal (listening, competence, trust) to develop culture consistent with new practices is key.



# “Implementation is Personal”

## *Why PCIT in public mental health?*

Other parenting interventions are also very good – e.g., Incredible years, Triple P...

- Children with more severe problems
- Parents with more challenging behaviors

Benefit from: In vivo treatment

Simple and concrete skills

Practice to mastery

Intensity of the intervention



# Making implementation work

## The Everlasting Story (Fly Falcor Fly!)

- Powerpoint presentations
- PULSE video
- Web course 'Introduction' module
- Rack Cards
- Resource and information
- Develop training videos
- Develop program handout
- Program marketing



# CONTACT US

**Website:** [pcit.ucdavis.edu](http://pcit.ucdavis.edu)

**Web Course:** [pcit.ucdavis.edu/pcit-web-course](http://pcit.ucdavis.edu/pcit-web-course)



[www.facebook.com/UCDPCIT](http://www.facebook.com/UCDPCIT)



[PCIT LinkedIn Group](#)

# THANK YOU!

**Anthony Urquiza**

916-734-7608

[anthony.urquiza@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu](mailto:anthony.urquiza@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu)



**Website:** [pcit.ucdavis.edu](http://pcit.ucdavis.edu)

**Web Course:** [pcit.ucdavis.edu/pcit-web-course](http://pcit.ucdavis.edu/pcit-web-course)

**Powerpoint Presentation:** [pcit.ucdavis.edu/resources/  
powerpoint-presentations/](http://pcit.ucdavis.edu/resources/powerpoint-presentations/)