

# **ACCOUNTABILITIES & EFFICIENCIES**

**MEASURING TEAM CAPACITY: THE  
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN INTAKE RATE,  
SERVICE DELIVERY AND DISCHARGE**

**ONTARIO ACT CONFERENCE  
OCTOBER 26, 2012**

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VANCOUVER ISLAND HEALTH AUTHORITY**

# INTRODUCTION

## **Clinical Director,**

- Seven Oaks Tertiary Care Facility, Victoria, BC

## **Clinical Director,**

- ACT teams, Victoria, BC

## **Service Chief and Division Head,**

- Tertiary Care Services, Vancouver Island Health Authority
- Two Longterm care facilities and 7 ACT Teams

## **Downtown ACT Team psychiatrist**

**serving “acute care heavy users and homeless at admission” patients**

## **Seven Oaks ACT Team part/time psychiatrist**

**serving “long stay” patients leaving Seven Oaks**



# TALK OUTLINE

**Rationale and Value of Accountable Mental Health Services**

**Logic Model and Service Articulation of ACT**

**ACT Outcomes....**

**ACT Capacity :**

**Structural and Clinical Features**

**Measurements of ACT Capacity**

**Some Victoria BC ACT Team Capacity Demonstration**

**Conclusions**

**Questions/Comments**



# LOGIC MODEL UNDERSTANDING OF ACT

## Inputs

multiple stakeholders, implementation knowledge and expertise

## Who

- Target populations
- Intake rates

## How

- Model fidelity/Accreditation

## What

- Outcome measurements
- Capacity measurements

## Why



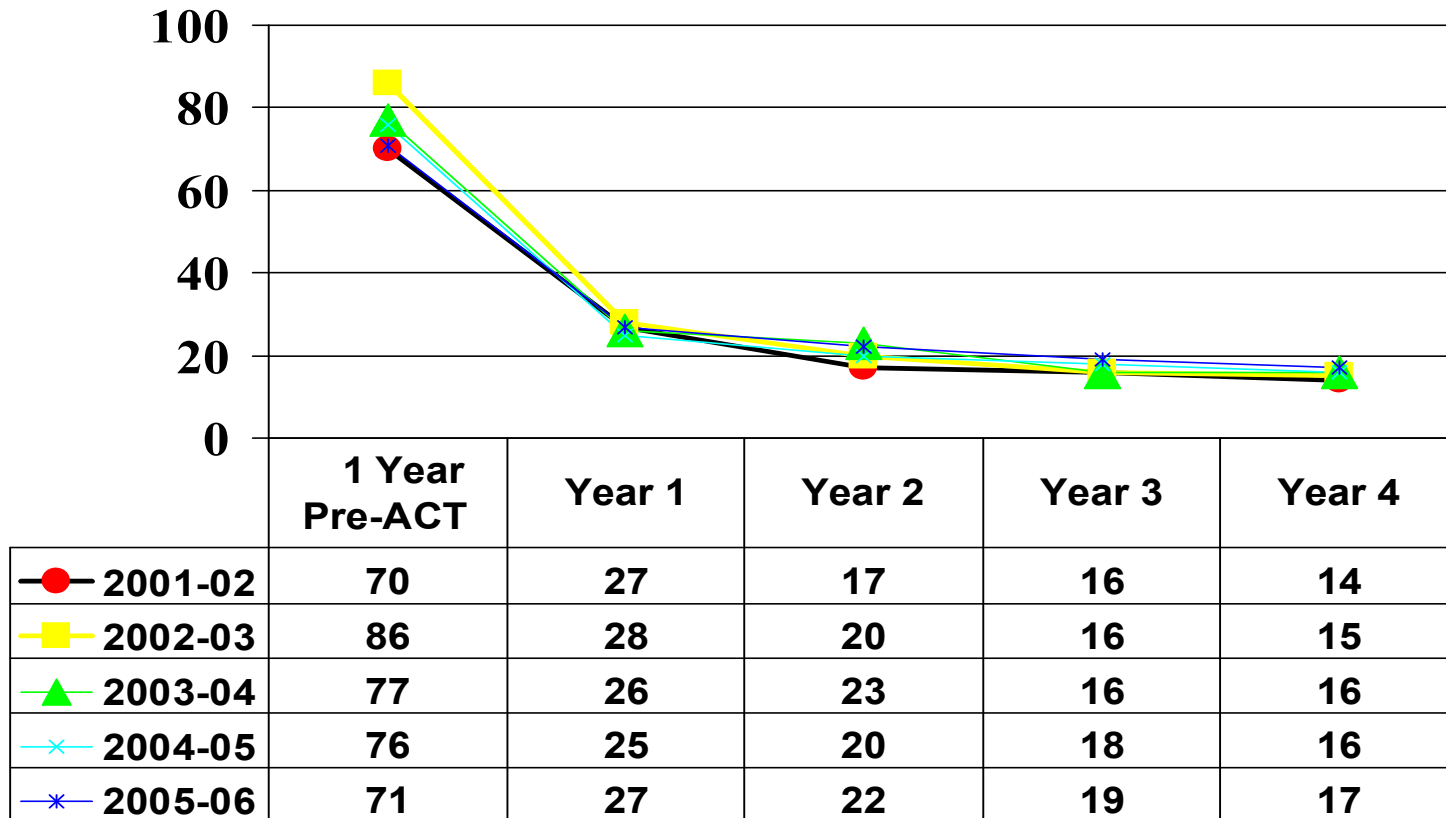
# ACT EXPECTED OUTCOMES

## Expected and “proven” RCT results across many jurisdictions (Cochrane reviews)

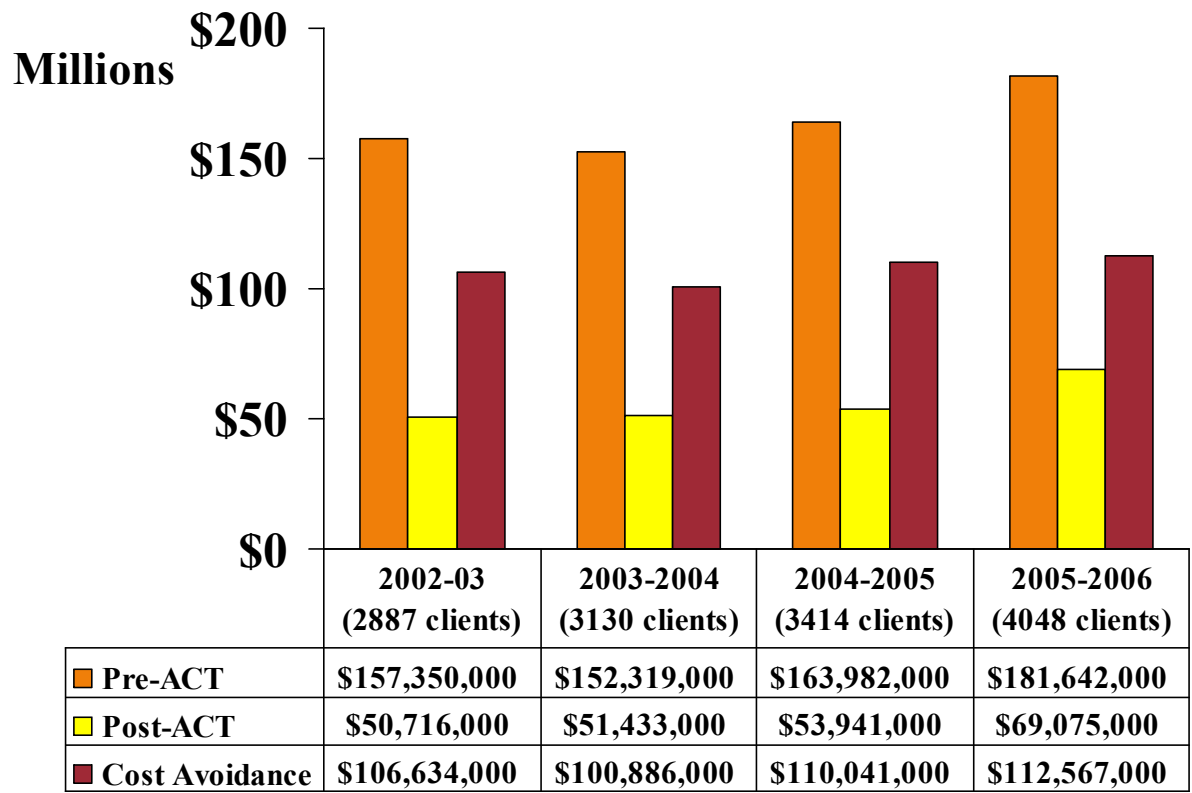
- Much reduced hospital and ER use (both long stays and acute care) recidivism...70% range bedday reduction on average, when targetting high end users of the hospital system
- Much greater housing stability and independence
- (“housing first” rent subsidies approach allows for maximizing the private market housing sector)
- Homelessness to housed
- Platform for recovery
  - psychosocial interventions, especially historical emphasis on vocational IPS approach
  - Family reconnections



# ONTARIO: COMPARISON OF AVERAGE HOSPITAL BED DAY REDUCTION RESULTS



# ONTARIO: VALUE OF REDUCED ACT HOSPITAL BED DAY UTILIZATION PROJECTED TO 4048 CLIENTS



4048 clients: Pre-ACT averages 71 Bed Days; declines to 27 Avg. Bed Days after 1 year in ACT  
 N.B. - #'s rounded off to the nearest thousand  
 Using Average Bed Cost of \$632<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Source for Average Bed Day Cost:

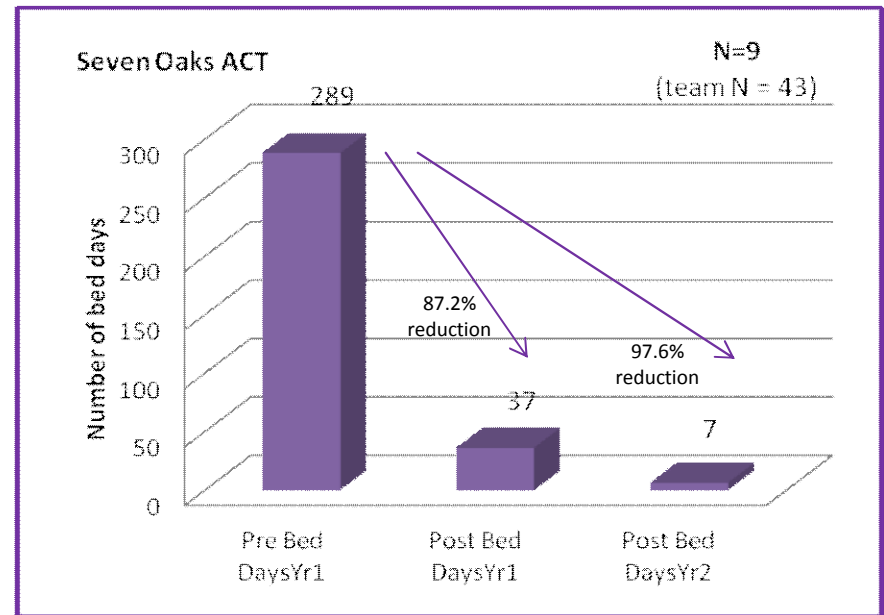
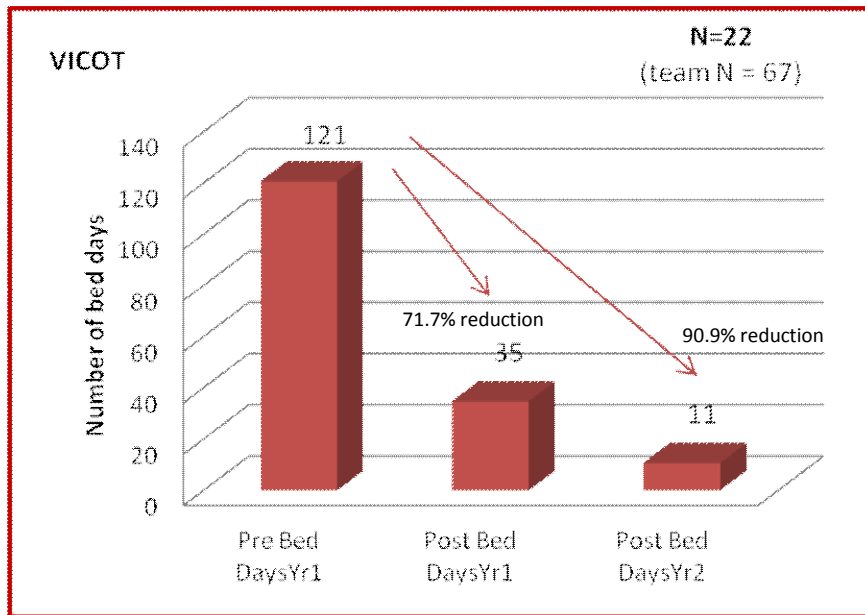
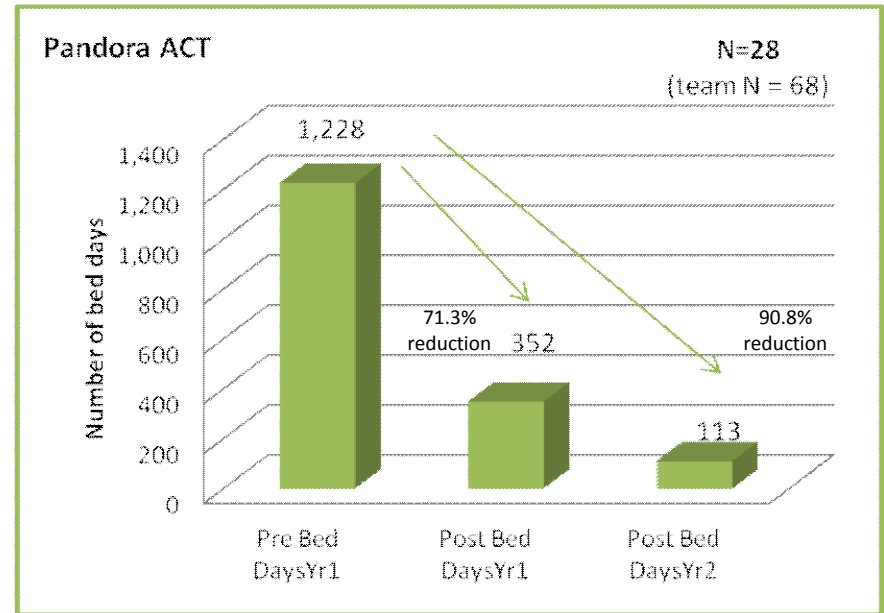
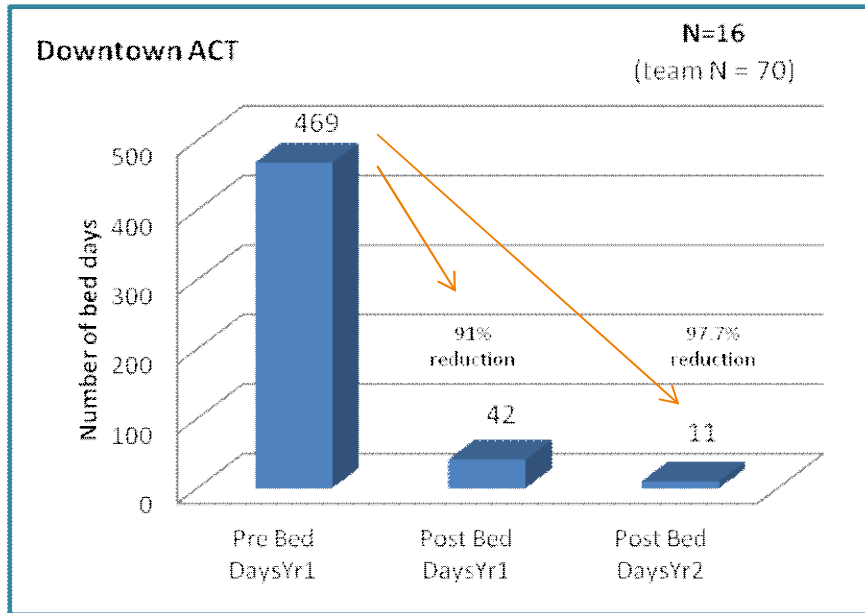
*Forchuk, Cheryl, RN, PhD., "Therapeutic Relationships: From Hospital to Community" (June 2002)*

# TEAM

## 1 YEAR PRE AND 2 YEARS POST ACT ADMISSION

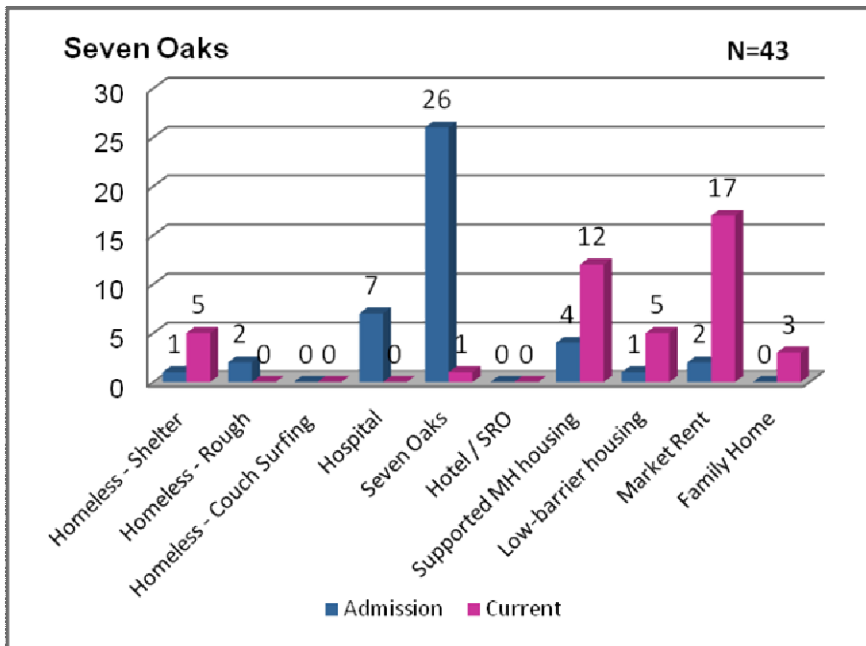
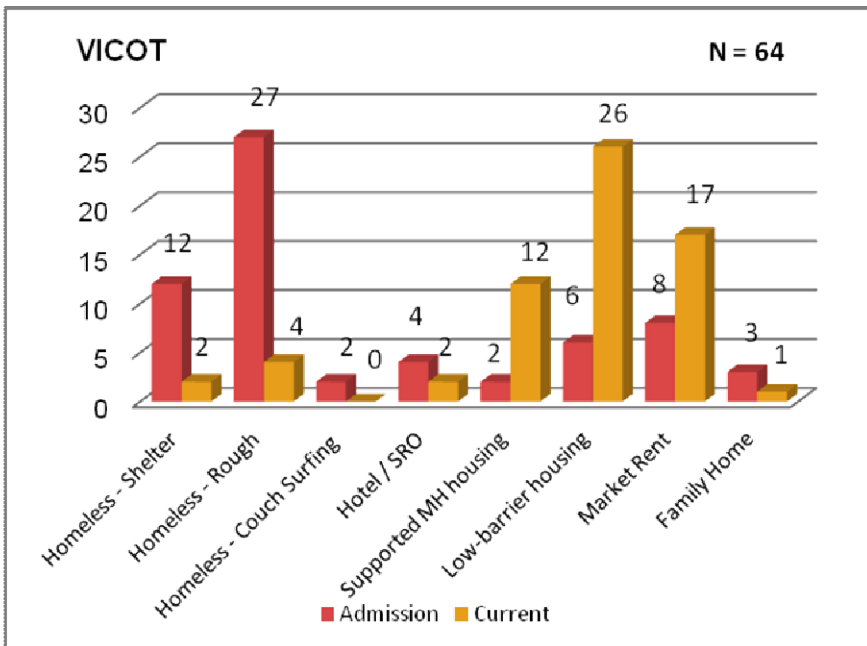
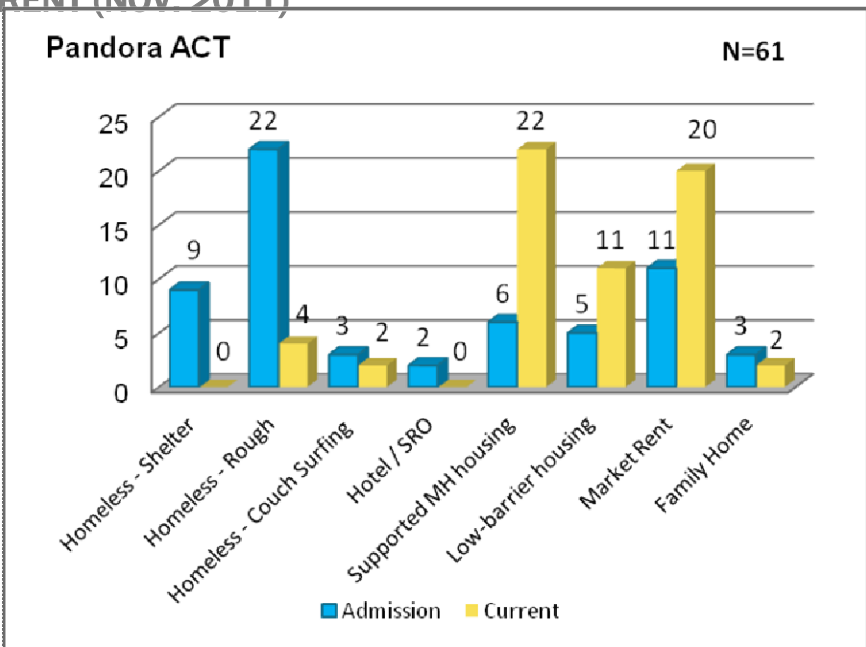
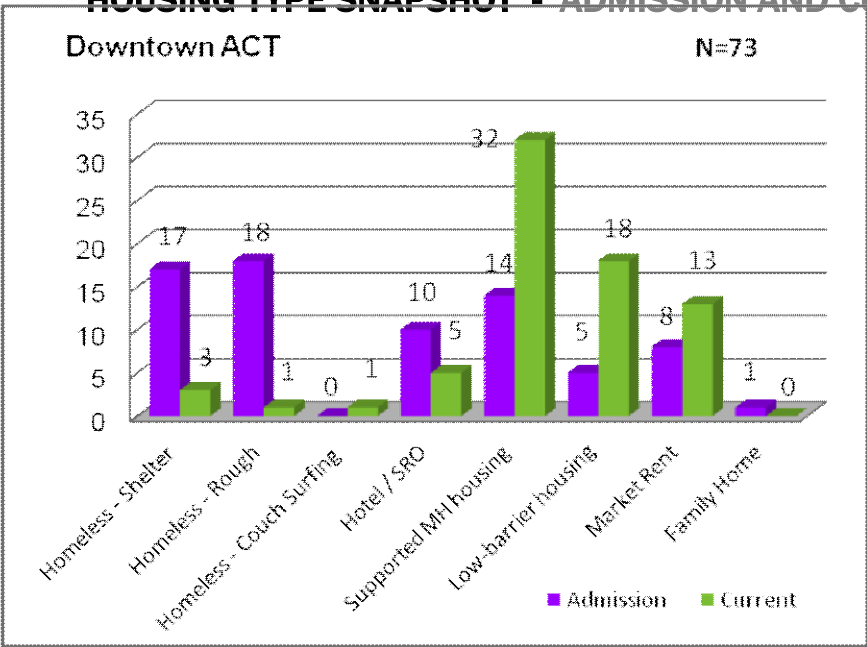
EM3A, EM3B, EM4A, EM4B, PIC, KEN2, WAT2, 4STH-CD, 2SER, 2SWR, 1NWR, 1SWR, 2NER, 2NWR, PICJ, PIPJ, PSY-N, PIC

Reduction % is from 1 yr Pre ACT





## HOUSING TYPE SNAPSHOT - ADMISSION AND CURRENT (NOV. 2011)



# **FACTORS AFFECTING ACT INTAKE RATE, CAPACITY AND DISCHARGE RATE**

**Staffing complement and staffing turnover, especially key roles such as team leader or psychiatrist**

**“protection” of any “front line” staff member(s) from primary caseload**

**“developmental” stage and age of the team**

**Current number of patients on the team**

**Patient psychiatric and service needs acuities, “quadrant four” and homelessness numbers**

**Frequency of face to face and indirect contact per patient**

**Potential for discharge: stepdown and other case management service availabilities**

**Commitment to clinical and then personal recovery**

**Travel times/distances for patient contacts**



# STAFFING COMPLEMENT

**Front line staffing complement**

**Staffing stability/turnover**

**Experience/quality of the team members**

**Team leader turnover/stability**

**Psychiatrist turnover/stability**

**“protected” staff members from “front line work”**

**Emphasis on clinical and personal recovery**



# PROTECTED STAFF MEMBERS

**Partial protection from full individual caseload**

**Usual motivations for this reduced caseload**

- Community development of vocational venues
- Special educational/academic assignments
- Special ACT team clinical or structural assignments



# STAGE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEAM

## Staffing Capacity /Budget of the Team

numbers of front line workers

front line workers: patient ratio

often cited as capacity at 1:10

## Phases of team intake of new patients

Getting going with 10 to 15 patients

Early Intake: ~ 3 per month thereafter until approaching “equilibrium”

Later Intake: slows down to 1-2 per month as approaching full capacity and as team adds to “replace” those patients who are discharged

**New admissions are on average much more work intensity than discharge ready patients**



## STAFFING FOR ACT TEAMS

	VICTORIA					NANAIMO	CAMPBELL RIVER	PORT ALBERNI
TEAM	DACT	VICOT	PACT	SOAKS	STEP			
# OF CLIENTS	71	65	73	49	39			
PSYCHIATRIST	1	1	1	1	1			
TEAM LEAD (TL)	1	1	1	0.8	0.2			
TL EDUCATION	R.N.	M.A.		R.P.N.	R.P.N.			
ADMIN SUPPORT	1	1	0.9	1	0.1			
<b>FRONTLINE WORKERS</b>								
R.N.	3	2	1	1	1			
R.P.N	0	1	2	2	0			
SOCIAL PROGRAM OFFICER (SPO)	3	2	3	2	0			
SPO EDUCATION	1-M.A. 1-M.S.W. 1-B.S.W.	1-M.Ed 1-B.S.W	2-M.A. 1-B.S.W.	2- B.A.	0			
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST	0	0	0	0	0			
OUTREACH WORKER	5	4	4	5	1			
PEER SUPPORT	0	0	1	0	0			
FRONTLINE STAFF	11	9	10	10	2			
FRONTLINE STAFF TO PATIENT RATIO (1:_)	6.5	7.2	7.3	4.9	24.5			
<b>OTHER</b>								
NURSE PRACTITIONER	0.6							
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	0.1							
PROBATION OFFICER	0	1	0	0	0			
POLICE OFFICER	1							
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT WORKER	1							

# TEAM COMMITMENT AND MANDATE TO RECOVERY SERVICES

## **Clinical recovery**

- Treatment,
- ADL supports
- crisis stabilization,
- basic entitlements

## **Personal recovery**

- Autonomy and Self management
- Vocational and educational pursuit ... with staff involvement and support
- Family engagement and (re) integration



# PERSONAL RECOVERY TEAM COMMITMENT

**Individual service/treatment plans development and evolution over time**

**Shift towards time spent progressively (on average) towards personal recovery goals**

**Major impact on team capacity and case loads**

- Investment of visits, time, energy in rehabilitation

**“Pressures” on teams to increase intake and overall capacity**





# ACT TARGET POPULATIONS

## Tripartite target population

- Long stays of psychiatric hospitals, facilities
- Acute care “heavy users” of the general hospital system (bed days and ER utilization)
- Homelessness and Severely mentally ill and/or addicted

## Understanding the differential proportions on a given ACT team



# “QUADRANT IV” PATIENTS ON ACT TEAMS

**Percentage of the patient census coming from**

**Long term hospital settings, acute care recidivists, etc**

- Severely mentally ill and addicted (quadrant IV)
- Addicted to what kinds of substances?
  - THC, cocaine, metamphetamime, opioids, alcohol
- Homeless at the time of admission
- Frequency of Evictions

**Does the frequency of contact significantly change for this subpopulation of patients?**



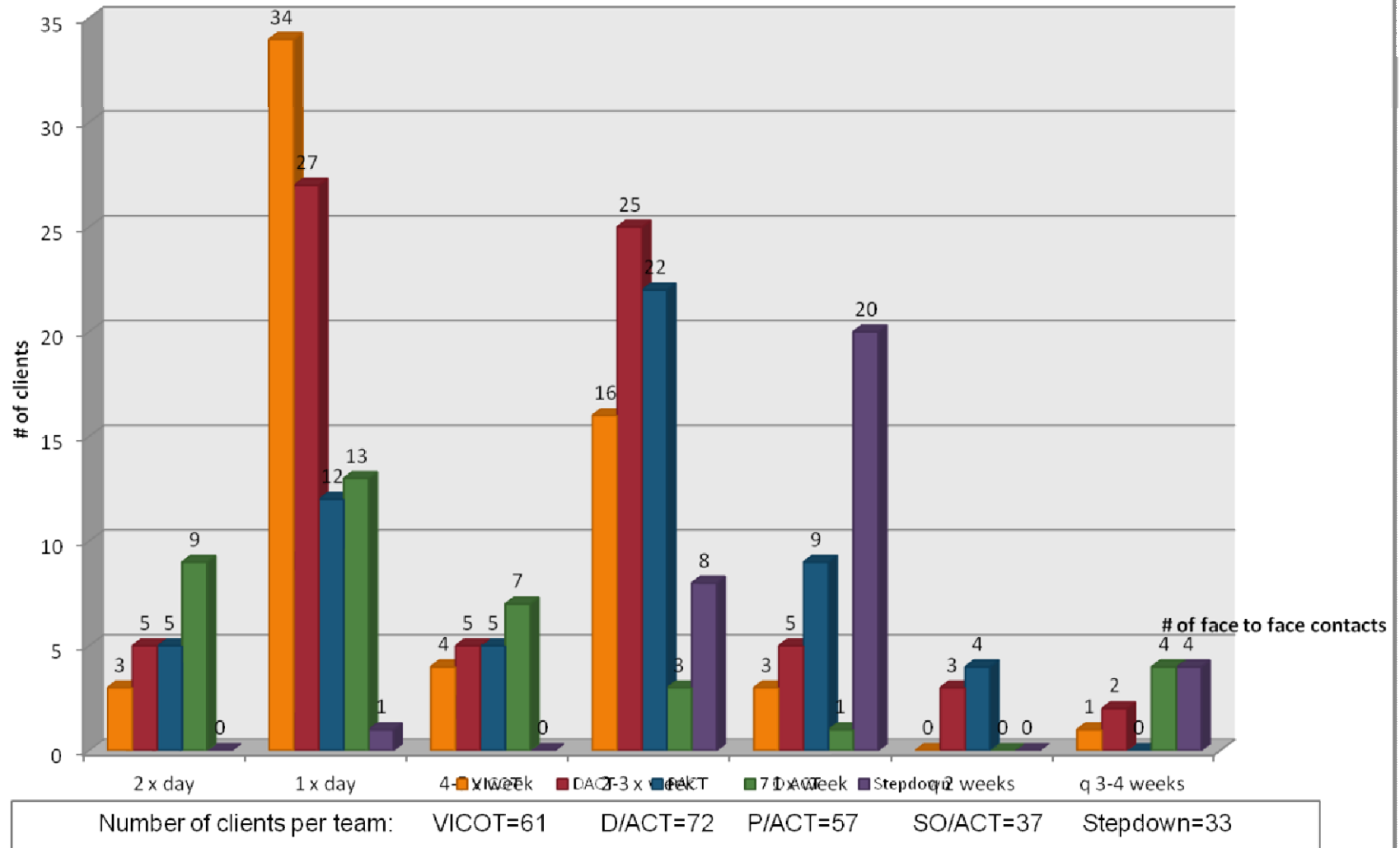
# QUADRANT IV PATIENTS AND ACT CAPACITY

## Hypothesis

- ACT teams give lots more attention, on average to quadrant IV individuals...on the basis of more day to day service needs, including more crises visits
- The day to day visits are necessary to effect positive outcomes such as sustained housing, reduced substance abuse, increased opportunity to be engaged in progressive recovery beyond clinical stability



## Face-to-face frequency of contact – Victoria ACT Teams



# FREQUENCY OF CONTACT SUMMARY

**Victoria ACT teams seeing patients much more frequently each week than the provincial average by standards**

- 4,5,6 x per week as opposed to 2,3 x per week

**Victoria ACT teams seeing higher acuity patients by virtue of clinical comorbidities of Quadrant IV patients and mandates to significantly target homeless patients**



# DISCHARGE RATES AND FACTORS

## Standards for Discharge Rates

- ~10% per annum (Ontario, BC standards)

## Discharge Criteria

- To what kind of service and when?
- Local/Generic Case management
- Specific Stepdown ACT team service

## Victoria Stepdown Service



# VICTORIA ACT STEPDOWN SERVICE

**Same team leader as one of our ACT teams**

**Same psychiatrist as one of our ACT teams**

**Same ACT clinical service chief for all 5 teams**

**4 ACT teams feeding into 1 Stepdown Service**

**2 very experienced clinicians, serving ~ 50 pts**

**1:25 service ratio**

## **Criteria of admission to stepdown**

- Transfers only from the existing ACT teams
- No more than once per week face to face contact on average
- No crises/hospitalizations in last year prior to transfer
- “step across/ step up” to more personal recovery opportunity



# CONCLUSIONS

Capacity of ACT Teams probably not best conceptualized against a 1:10 ratio but rather formulated against target population mandates, recovery emphases, many other staffing and service delivery factors...much more likely 1:8 in capacity capping

Teams do well to measure and understand the factors affecting capacity:

staffing endowment, team stage and development

population served, geographic and catchment area context

intake rate,

proportions of Quadrant IV patients,

frequency of contact data

Stepdown team and overall discharge considerations





# CONCLUSIONS

**Mental Health Services do well to honour the mentally ill and addicted by taking seriously the logic model and accountabilities and efficiencies of their services**

**ACT Teams are well known for robust service articulation and outcome measurement**

**ACT teams do well to have proper attention to**

- 1) thorough target population understanding and measurement**
- 2) thorough service delivery model fidelity and measurement**
- 3) thorough outcome measurements of key determinants**
- 4) thorough understanding of capacity and factors affecting intake, census, and discharge rates**

