



National Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment

**ATTC**

Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# What Is Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT?)

**Tracy McPherson, PhD**



National Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment

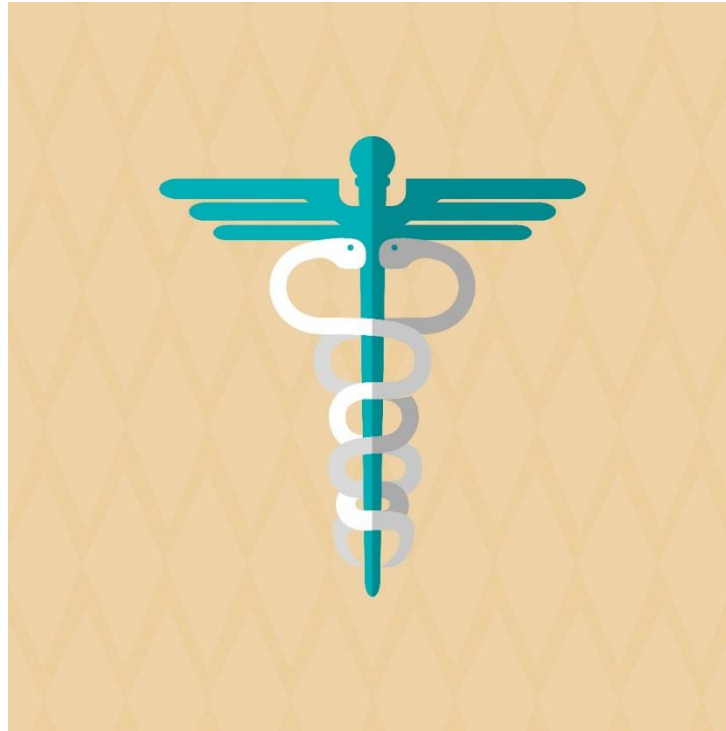
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# Produced in Partnership...





# Substance Use Is



**A Public Health Issue**

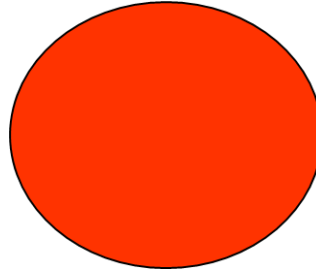


# Learning from Public Health

The public health system of care regularly screens for potential medical problems (cancer, diabetes, hypertension, tuberculosis, vitamin deficiencies, renal function), provides preventive services prior to the onset of acute symptoms, and delays or precludes the development of chronic conditions.



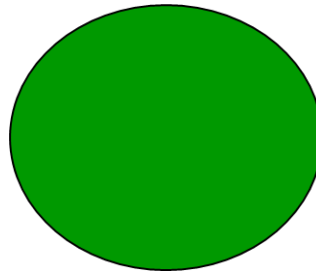
**Substance Use Disorder**



**Traditional Treatment**

**Abstinence**

**No Problem**



**Primary Prevention**

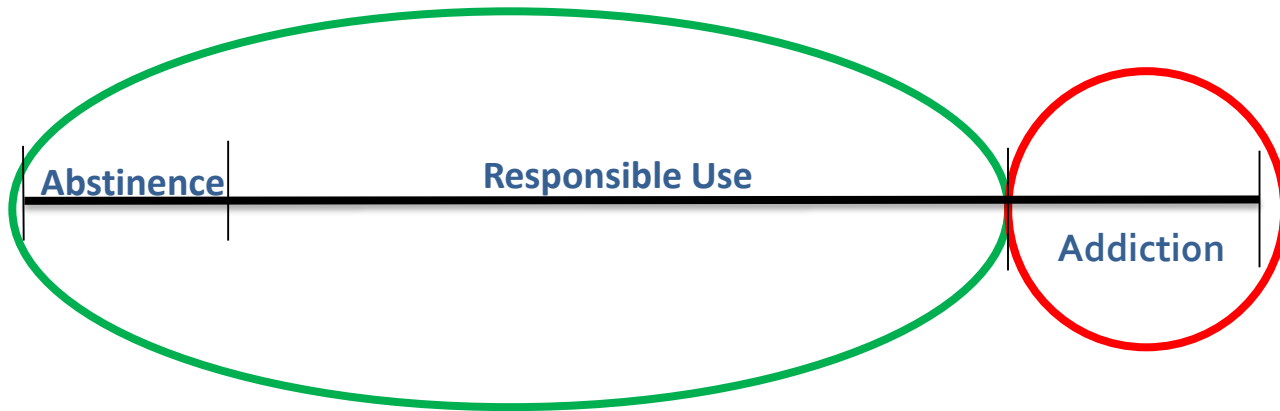
**No Intervention**

**Drink Responsibly**



# The Current Model

## A Continuum of Substance Use





# What is Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment?

Comprehensive public health approach for delivering early intervention and treatment services to people with, or at risk of developing, substance use disorders.

Sources: ONDCP, 2012; Moyers, 2013; SAMHSA, 2013

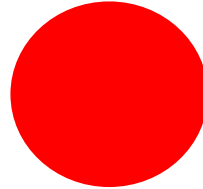


By defining the problem as excessive use the SBIRT model recognizes a full continuum of substance use behavior, a full continuum of substance use problems, and provides a full continuum of substance use interventions. As a result the SBIRT model can provide resources in the area of greatest need.





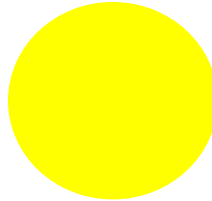
Substance Use Disorder



**Traditional Treatment**

**Abstinence**

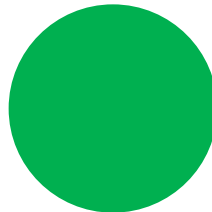
Excessive Use



**Brief Intervention**

**Brief Treatment**

No Problem



**Primary Prevention**

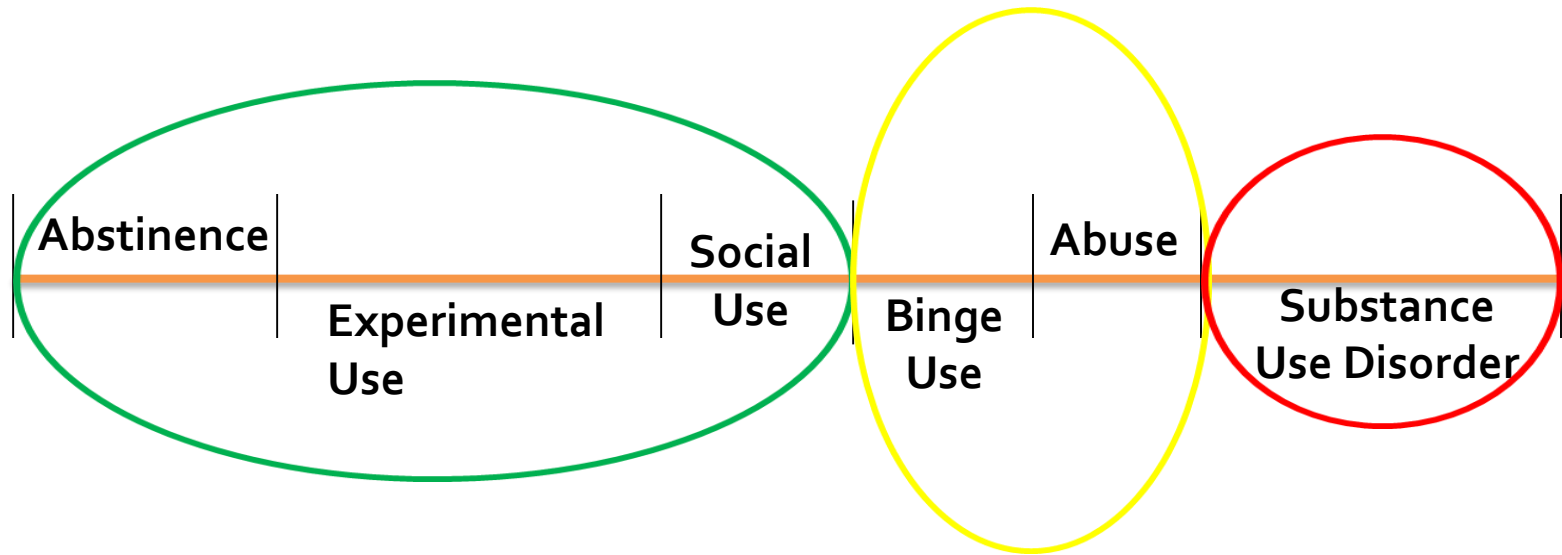
**Screening and Feedback**

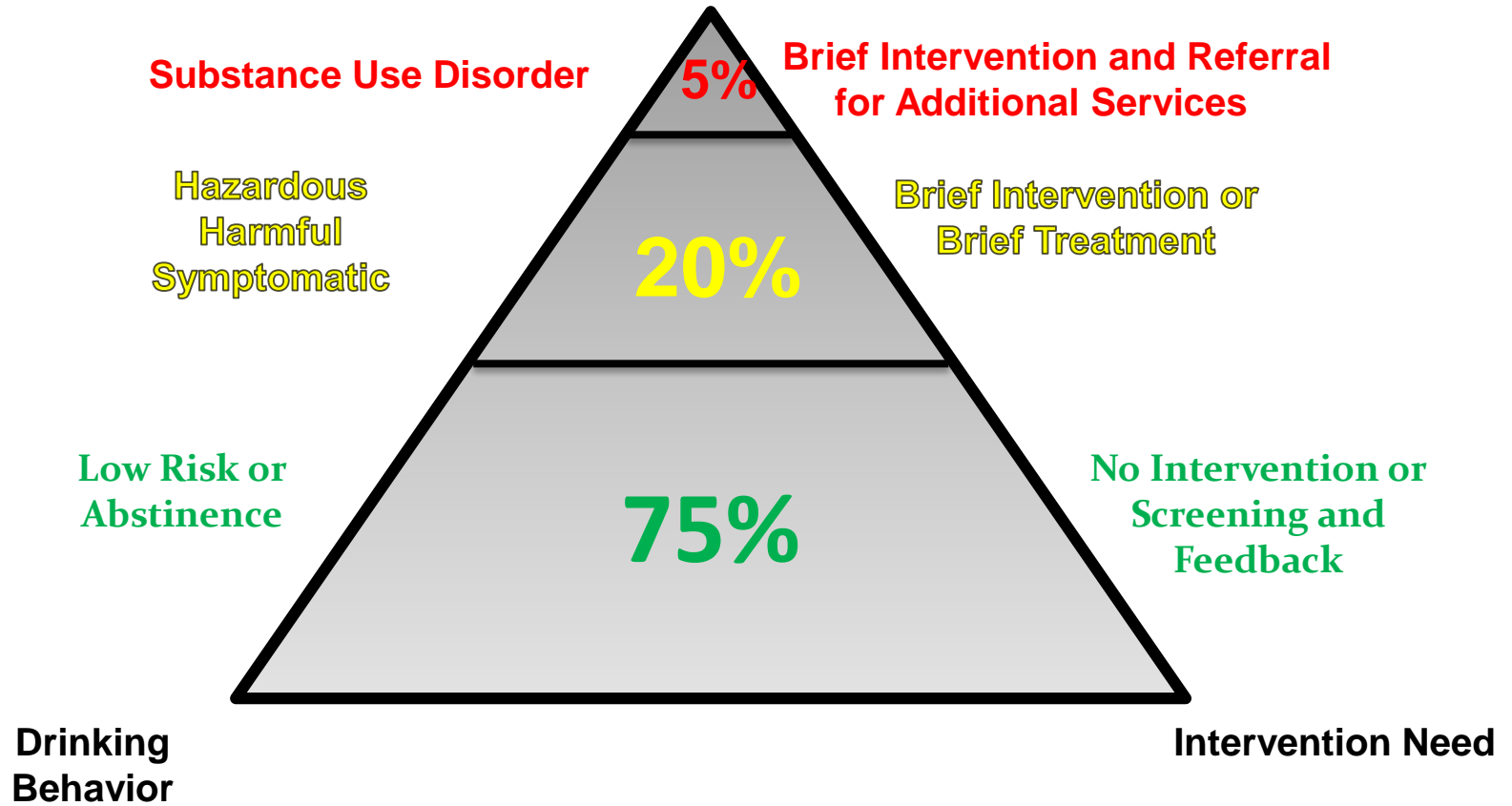
**Drink Responsibly**



# The SBIRT Model

## A Continuum of Substance Use





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