

Taking Prevention to the Next Stage: Linking Research to Practice – The Universal Prevention Curriculum

Zili Sloboda, Sc.D. National Prevention Network Conference Bridging Research to Practice Chicago August 27-29, 2019



Advances in the Science of Prevention over the last 10 years

- Term 'science of prevention' in literature in 1993 (Coie, J.D., Watt, N.F., West, S.G. et al.)
- Establishment of the U. S. and EU Society for Prevention Research in 1991 and 2010
- Standards for the Science of Prevention in 2011
- European Quality Standards for Prevention in 2010 (EMCDDA)
- International Standards on Drug Use Prevention in 2012 (UNODC)
- Universal Prevention Curriculum in 2013-2017 (APSI and U.S. Department of State)



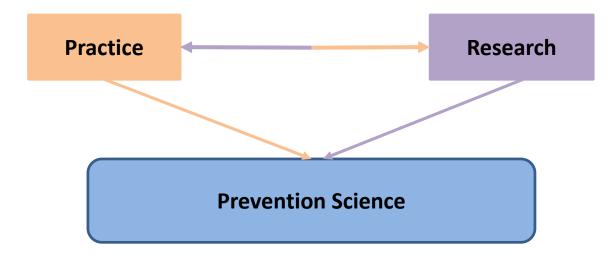
Defining Prevention Science

- Prevention science:
 - Identifies:
 - the determinants of behaviors that protect or put at risk the social, emotional, and physical health of individuals, families, communities;
 - the processes as to how these determinants operate; and,
 - the strategies that effectively intervene when trajectories are negative and reinforce those trajectories that are positive.
 - Is multi-disciplinary including the epidemiological, social, psychological, behavioral, medical, statistical, and neurobiological sciences

Sources: Standards of Knowledge for the Science of Prevention, Society for Prevention Research, 2011; APSI, 2019; National Prevention Science Coalition, 2019.



Prevention Science—**Practice and Research**





Prevention Science: Why Is It Important to Prevention Professionals?

- Prevention science provides the knowledge regarding:
 - <u>Who is affected by the behavior</u> of interest and what are their characteristics (e.g., gender, age, geographic location)
 - O Who is vulnerable and what makes them vulnerable?
 - <u>What are the consequences</u> of these behaviors over time?
 - <u>How do you intervene effectively</u> with the individual or the environment to reduce the risk of initiation or continuation of these behaviors?



Prevention Professionals



Where are Our Substance Use Prevention Professionals?





Prevention Interventions Are Often Invisible!

- They may be called something else: e.g., parenting education, school policies on substance use, laws regarding age restrictions on access to tobacco or alcohol
- They may be called prevention but are 'hidden' within an organization: e.g., schoolbased substance use prevention curriculum, substance use as part of a workplace wellness program



Substance Use Prevention Professionals

- May have other titles and other types of training such as education, social work, health education, nursing, law enforcement
- May not consider themselves prevention professionals



Four Groups of Prevention Professionals

- Prevention Professionals 'on the ground' — Coordinators/decision makers/supervisors
 - Implementers
- Professionals from various disciplines who implement prevention programming but do not identify as prevention professionals
- New prevention professionals to the field
- Students



Professionals in Any Field Share:

Knowledge Skills Competencies Integrity Ethics



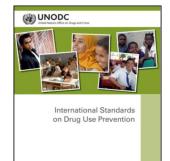
Prevention Knowledge, Skills, Competencies, Integrity, Ethics

- International Standards for Drug Use Prevention
- International Certification & Reciprocity

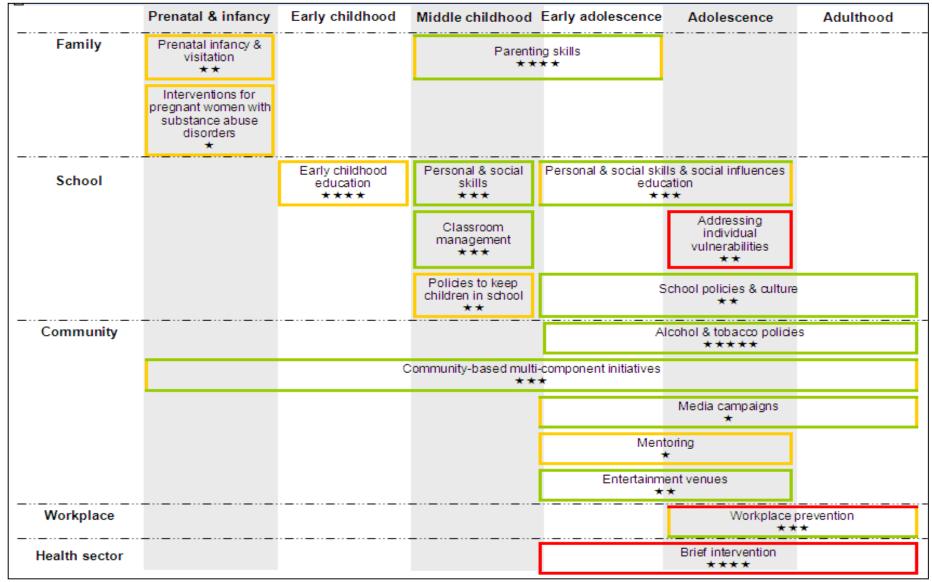








Summary Including an Indication of Efficacy Applied Prevention Science International





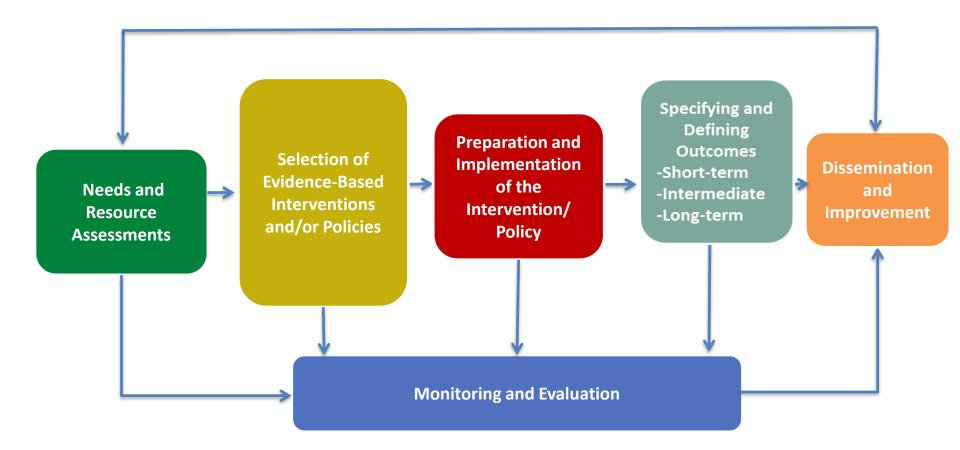
IC&RC Domains

- 1. Planning and Evaluation
- 2. Prevention Education and Service Delivery
- 3. Communication
- 4. Community Organization
- 5. Public Policy and Environmental Change
- 6. Professional Growth and Responsibility

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DOMAIN 1: PLANNING & EVALUATION			
TASK		UPC-COORDINATORS	UPC-IMPLEMENTERS
1.	Determine community readiness for change	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 9- Community	Core; 1-M&E 7-Community
2.	Identify methods for collecting data for px planning	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 9- Community	Core; 1-M&E 7-Community
3.	Identify existing resources for community needs	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 9- Community	Core; 1-M&E 7-Community
4.	Identify gaps in resources based on community conditions	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 9- Community	Core; 1-M&E 7-Community
5.	Identify the target audience	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community
6.	Identify factors that place target audience at risk.	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community
7.	Identify factors that provide protection to the target audience	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community
8. asses	Determine priorities based on comprehensive community sment	1-Introduction; 9-Community	Core; 7-Community
9. Develop a prevention plan based on research the theory that addresses needs and outcomes		1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community
10. meet	Select prevention strategies, programs, and best practices to community needs	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community

European Drug Prevention Quality Standards: Implementation Cycle: The Basic Components



Brotherhood, A., Sumnall, H.R., et al. (2011). European drug prevention quality standards: A manual for prevention professionals. 17 Lisbon, Portugal: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction



- The Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC) draws from:
 - Prevention Science and Prevention Research,
 - IC&RC Tasks/Activities, and,
 - European Drug Prevention Quality Standards

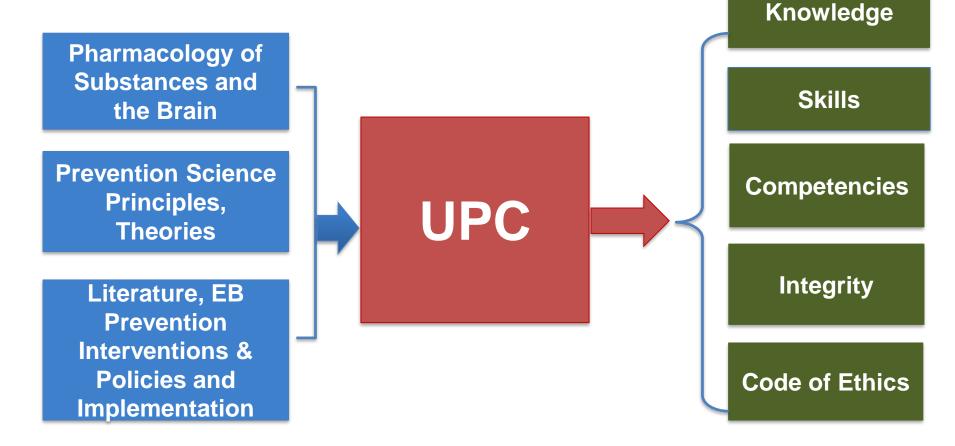


Purposes of Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC)

- Meet the current demand for an evidence-based curriculum for substance use prevention professionals-researchers, practitioners, policy makers
- Provide a curriculum for those professionals who may not 'label' themselves substance use prevention professionals but who are providing substance use prevention services
- Ensure that regionally- and nationally-based prevention professionals obtain consistent science-based-information and skills training
- Building an international prevention capacity through training, professionalizing, and expanding the substance use prevention workforce



Adapting Science to Practice: Learning EB Prevention





UPC Series for the Coordinator and Implementer

There are two UPC Series:

- UPC Coordinator Series is designed for prevention coordinators and decision-makers
- UPC Implementer Series is designed for prevention professionals who provide/deliver the evidence-based prevention interventions and policies



Key Elements of the UPC-Series

- Introduction to prevention science and application to prevention interventions
- Physiology and pharmacology of psychoactive substance use
- Uniform definition of prevention—UNODC
- Evidence-based prevention and the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention
- Prevention science as the foundation for UPC
- Critical themes (review in later slide)
- Implementation Cycle (adapted from EMCDDA EDQSP)

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UPC Coordinator and Implementer Series Courses (1/2)

- Introduction to Prevention Science
- Physiology and Pharmacology for Prevention Specialists
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Family-Based Prevention Interventions
- School-Based Prevention Intervention
- Workplace-Based Prevention Intervention
- Environmental Prevention Interventions
- Media-Based Prevention Interventions
- Community-Based Implementation Systems



UPC Coordinator and Implementer Series Courses (2/2)

- Coordinator Series-4-5 days-Knowledge-Focused
- Implementer Series-6-15 days-Translation of Knowledge into Skills with Practica



UPC Helps Prevention Professionals to:

- Speak with one voice about evidence-based prevention interventions and policies
- Support comprehensive, integrated evidencebased prevention and policies that are APPROPRIATE for their communities, and,
- Plan, implement, monitor, and sustain these evidence-based prevention interventions and policies



Thank you zili.sloboda@apsintl.org