

Managing High Risk Offenders: A multiagency, multidisciplinary approach

Dr. Debra Jellicoe & Det. Chris Hayduk,
Edmonton, AB



Outline

- Overview of BAU and FACS
- Demographics of clients
- Risk management approaches
- Obstacles
- Strategies
- Future direction

Behavioural Assessment Unit (BAU)

- 3 member unit of the Edmonton Police Service
- Dedicated to conducting risk assessments and monitoring high-risk violent and sexual offenders
- Offenders are typically on recognizance orders issued under Section 810 of the Criminal Code of Canada, bail recognizance orders, or probation orders

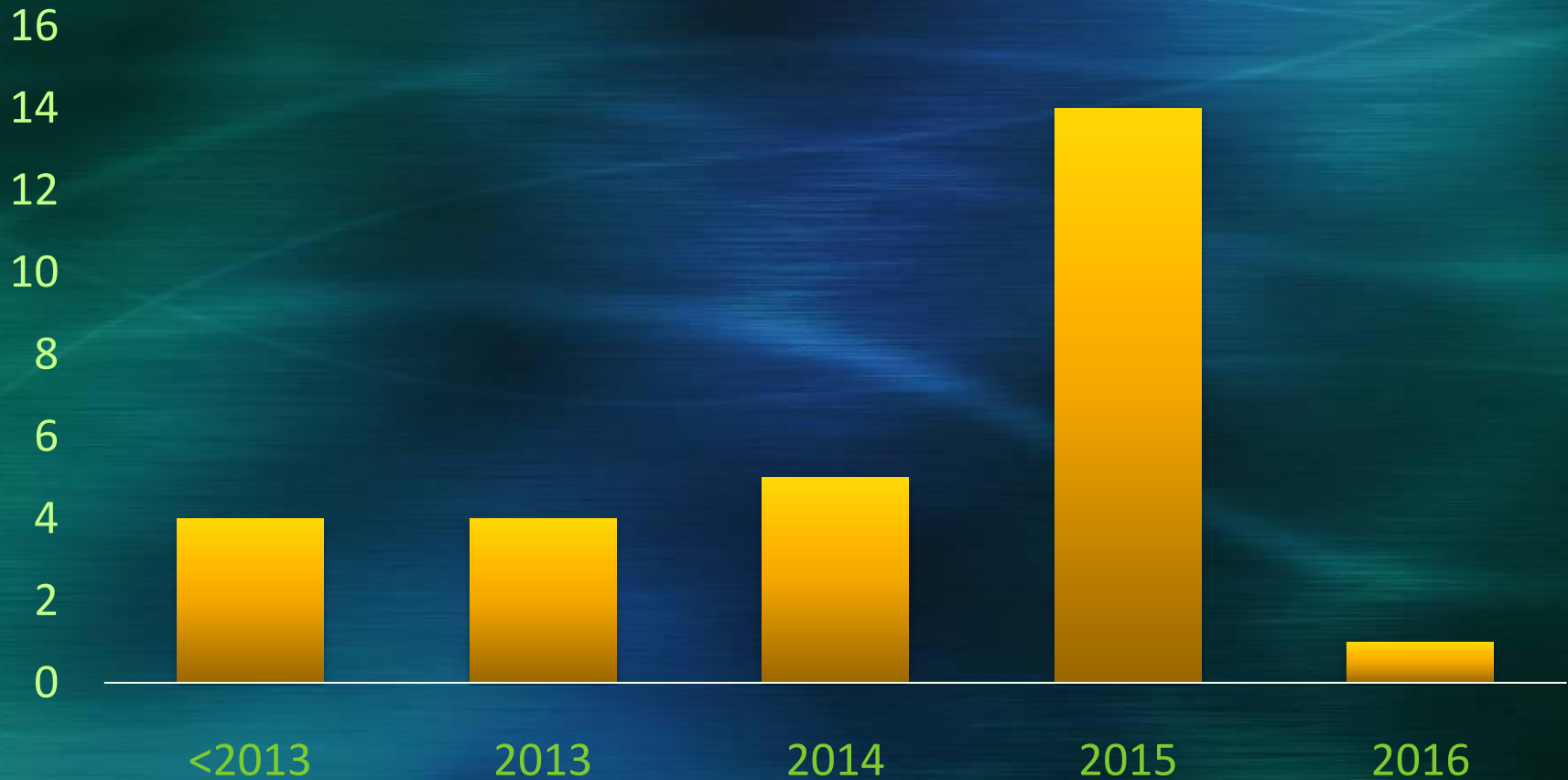
Forensic Assessment and Community Services (FACS)

- A forensic mental health community clinic that provides services to individuals involved with the criminal justice system
- Services include assessment, individual or group therapy, psychiatric and nursing services, as well as a Day Program for individuals with severe mental illness
- Specialty teams: Not Criminally Responsible; Sex Offender Program; Spousal Violence Team

Demographic Information

- Examined FACS clients referred by BAU
- 2013 to February 2016
- Includes clients who were referred earlier and remained open during this time period
- N = 28
- 27 are male

Number of referrals per year

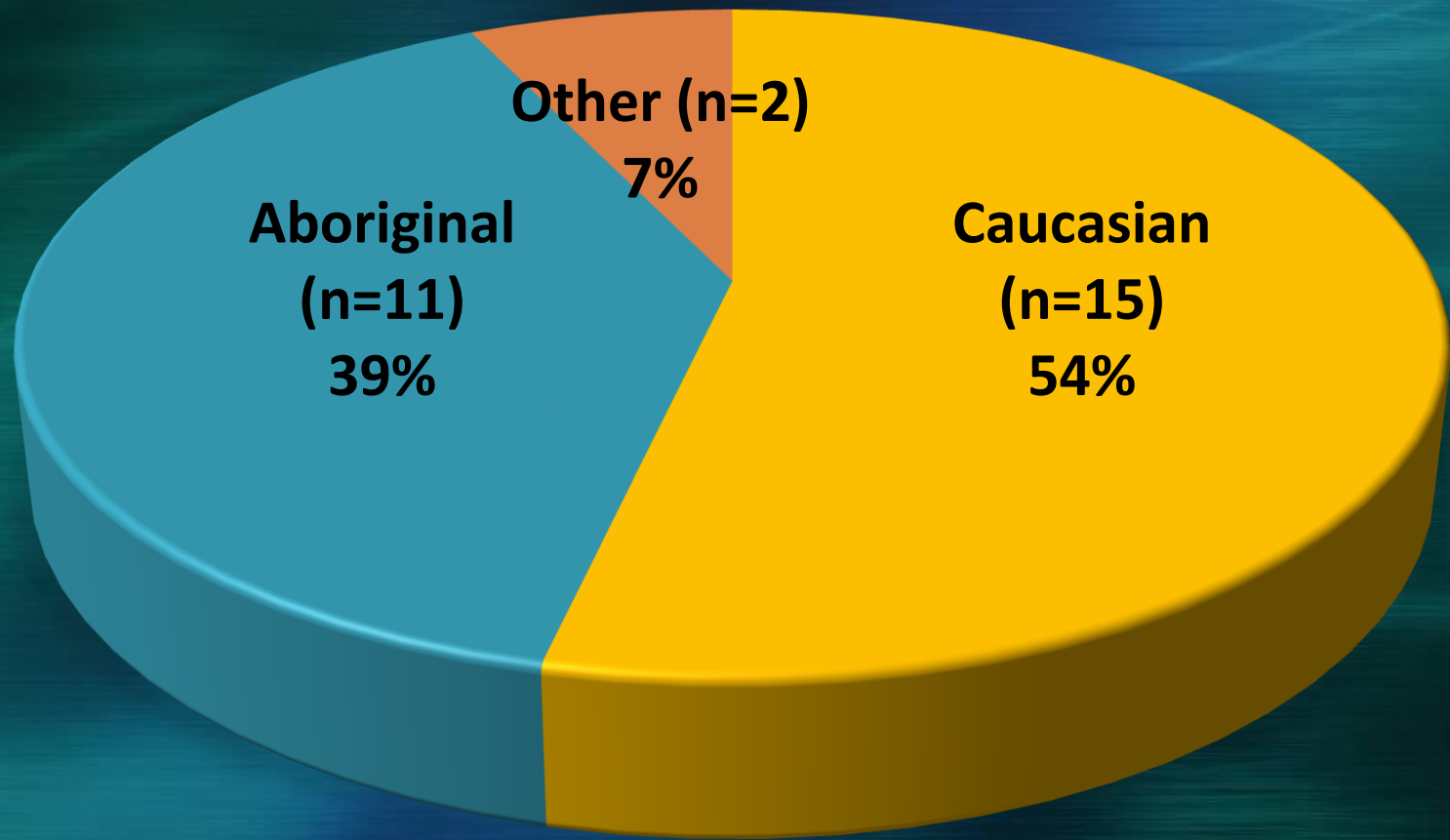


Age at referral to FACS

range of 22-63 years



Ethnicity



More info...

- Index Offence:
 - 54% sexual
 - 46% non-sexual violent
- Criminal History:
 - 64% with a history of a sexual offence
 - 68% with a history of non-sexual violence
 - At least 62% have youth offences
 - 33% have a history of gang involvement
 - Prior convictions range from 0-70

More info...

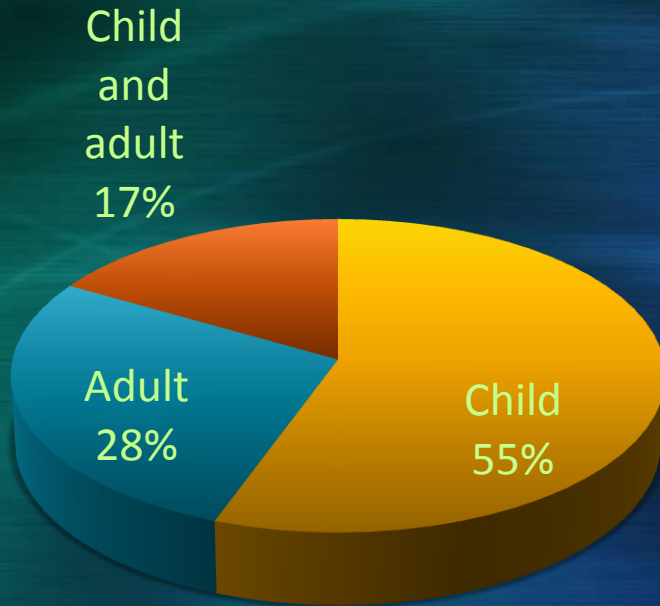
- 82% with substance abuse history
- 46% with current addictions problem

- 85% completed some form of treatment
 - (substance use, VPP, SOP)
- 64% referred to Psychiatry at FACS

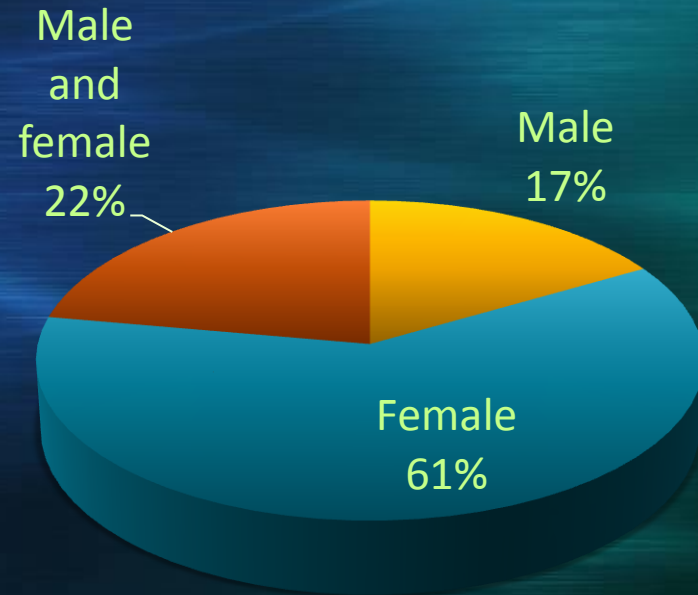
- 33% have cognitive deficits

Sexual Offenders and their Victims

Victim Type



Victim Gender



- MONSTER



Policing Approaches

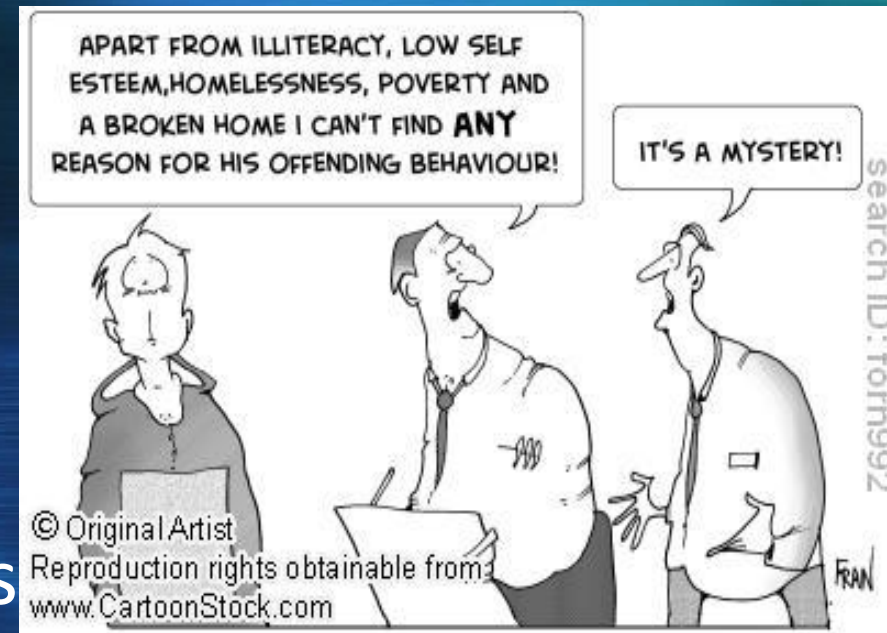
- Prevention
 - Intervention
 - Suppression
-
- Public safety
 - No more victims

Rehabilitation Approaches

- **Risk Needs Responsivity (RNR) Principles**
 - **Respect for the person**
 - Be ethical, legal, just, moral, humane, decent
 - **Human service**
 - Human Service delivery, not severity of penalty
 - **Crime prevention**
 - Use RNR widely throughout justice system & beyond (e.g., general mental health services)
 - Use effective interpersonal skills to foster supportive, collaborative relationships with the individual
 - Develop positive working alliances with service providers

Obstacles

- For offenders:
 - Housing
 - May be lacking ID
 - Employment/finances
 - Lack of personal supports
 - Limited professional supports
 - Stigma/media releases



Obstacles

- For professionals:
 - Limits to confidentiality
 - Different approaches/viewpoints
 - Staffing and lack of training
 - Offenders are difficult to engage
 - Adjustment to population
 - Egos
 - Burn out
 - Staff turnover

Risk Management Strategies

- Facilitating and/or developing release plans
- Employing principles of RNR during early meetings with clients
 - Balance between enforcement and engagement
 - Probe responsiveness to treatment
- High attention during transition from custody
- Focus on basics – safe housing, food, support
- Referrals to community agencies

Treatment Strategies



Chuck, I'm your therapist you can trust me. Now kick the hell out of this ball for the first time in your life!

Treatment Strategies

- Comprehensive discussion regarding consent and confidentiality with clients and other team members
- Devote a lot of time to therapeutic alliance
- Assess level of motivation for change
- Establish a collaborative goal
- Assess nature of skills learned in previous treatment
- Revisit consent and relationship with police

Treatment Strategies

- Individual versus Group Treatment
 - Group may be more optimal for lower functioning clients provided there is an appropriate group
 - Individual tends to be preferred by clients with strong personality disorder traits
- Treatment versus Risk Management
 - Does the person want to make changes?
- Referrals to other disciplines
 - Psychiatry
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Social Work

Treatment Strategies

- RNR – target criminogenic needs
 - Attitudes; peers; lifestyle; substance use
- CBT and generalizing skills
 - Restructuring antisocial attitudes
 - Shifting the rewards and costs of criminal behaviour
 - Reinforcing positive goals and behaviour
- When in doubt – build up!

Risk Management Strategies

- External monitoring
 - curfew checks, GPS
- Weekly meetings
- Collateral contacts
- Home/work visits
- Investigations
 - Breaches, new charges



Risk Management Strategies

- Good communication
 - Formal and informal
- Engage with other community agencies
- Develop a management team
- Community education
- Regular case conferences
- Be flexible
- Working with offenders and their pro-social goals

Dilemmas

- How do we define success?
- Who defines success?
- To breach or not to breach?
- I know something but I'm not sure if I can tell you
- Privacy versus security
- I hate him

Future Directions

- Increasing consultation and training opportunities
- Implement pre-post measures
- Research
- Develop further community partnerships



Questions?

Dr. Debra Jellicoe

780-342-6409

debra.jellicoe@ahs.ca

Det. Chris Hayduk

780-499-1721

chris.hayduk@edmontonpolice.ca