# **Contingency Management:**

## **Basic Facts**



#### **CONTINGENCY MANAGEMENT IS...**

- An evidence-informed substance use treatment modality based on operant conditioning principles
- A treatment approach that rewards desirable behavior to motivate people to build positive habits that stick
- Effective for reducing multiple types of substance use behaviors, including alcohol, opioids and stimulants
- Helpful for encouraging treatment attendance and retention
- Helpful for encouraging medication adherence
- More effective when the reward (type and amount) is well-suited to the patient population
- More effective when the reward is dispensed immediately after participants exhibit the target behavior
- Potentially helpful for reducing polysubstance use
- More effective when drug use testing method and timing are appropriate for the type of drug used
- Telehealth-capable for rural and other hard-to-reach or vulnerable populations

#### **CONTINGENCY MANAGEMENT IS NOT...**

- An immediate solution or "quick fix" for helping people achieve their drug use behavior goals
- Gambling (but people with a history of problem gambling should not participate in prize Contingency Management)
- Paying people to recover
- Bribing people
- Only effective if delivered in person
- Illegal
- Limited to delivery by clinical or specialized staff (however, any staff involved in a Contingency Management program should receive specific, targeted training in this treatment modality)

## To learn more

- Olgac, T., Zielinska, E. K., Painter, S., Saunt, J.V., Hussey, D.L., Singer, M.I. (2024). Contingency management for the treatment of stimulant use disorders. The Begun Center, Case Western Reserve University. <a href="https://case.edu/socialwork/centerforebp/ohio-sud-coe/evidence-informed-practices-and-other-best-practices">https://case.edu/socialwork/centerforebp/ohio-sud-coe/evidence-informed-practices-and-other-best-practices</a>
- Contingency Management for Stimulant Use Literature Review Brief <a href="https://case.edu/socialwork/centerforebp/sites/default/files/2024-11/CM%20for%20OUD%20Research%20Summary%20Brief%2011.22.24.pdf">https://case.edu/socialwork/centerforebp/sites/default/files/2024-11/CM%20for%20OUD%20Research%20Summary%20Brief%2011.22.24.pdf</a>

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- 2. Brown, H. D., & DeFulio, A. (2020). Contingency management for the treatment of methamphetamine use disorder: a systematic review. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, *216*, 108307.
- 3. Chess Health. (2024). Contingency management for substance use disorders: Myths vs facts. <a href="https://www.chess.health/blog/contingency-management-for-substance-use-disorders-myths-vs-facts/">https://www.chess.health/blog/contingency-management-for-substance-use-disorders-myths-vs-facts/</a>
- 4. Coughlin, L. N., Salino, S., Jennings, C., Lacek, M., Townsend, W., Koffarnus, M. N., & Bonar, E. E. (2023). A systematic review of remotely delivered contingency management treatment for substance use. *Journal of Substance Use and Addiction Treatment*, 147, 208977.
- 5. Destoop, M., Docx, L., Morrens, M., & Dom, G. (2021). Meta-analysis on the effect of contingency management for patients with both psychotic disorders and substance use disorders. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, 10(4), 616.
- 6.OMNI Institute. (2021). Contingency management training: Virginia state opioid response II. <a href="https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5cd33914797f74080d793b95/t/60624397ca2c995f65552041/1617052667968/">https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5cd33914797f74080d793b95/t/60624397ca2c995f65552041/1617052667968/</a>
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