

# Targeting Dispositions by Risk, Need, Responsivity

## *Modeling If / Then Decisions*



# **Offense vs. Offender Decisions**

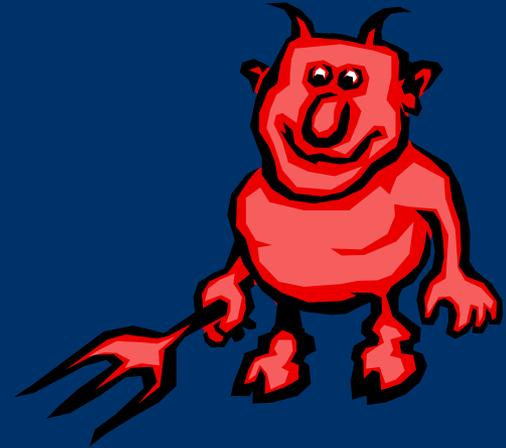
- **Risk-Needs-Responsivity (RNR)**
- **Evidence-based practices (EBPs)**
- **Graduated sanctions**
- **Positive reinforcement**
- **Negative reinforcement (e.g., diversion)**
- **Collateral consequences**

# Risk Principle

- **Not necessarily a risk for violence or dangerousness**
- **Serious prognosis or lesser amenability to treatment (“prognostic risk”)**
- **The higher the risk level, the more intensive the supervision and accountability should be; and vice versa**
  - Status reviews; drug & alcohol testing; home/work visits; sanctions & incentives
- **Mixing risk levels is wasteful and harmful**

# Prognostic Risk Factors

- Current age < 25 years
- Delinquent onset < 16 years
- Substance abuse onset < 14 years
- Prior convictions or incarceration
- Prior rehabilitation failure
- History of violence
- Antisocial Personality Disorder / Psychopathy
- Familial history of crime or addiction
- Criminal or substance abuse associations



# Need Principle

- Clinical syndromes or adaptive impairments
- Order and timing of intervention is crucial:
  1. **Responsivity needs:** interfere with rehabilitation
  2. **Criminogenic needs:** cause or exacerbate crime
  3. **Maintenance needs:** degrade rehabilitation gains
  4. **Humanitarian needs:** cause distress
- The higher the need level, the more intensive the treatment or rehabilitation services should be; and vice versa
- Mixing need levels is wasteful and harmful

# Graduated Responses

- **Don't expect too much**
  - Learned helplessness or ratio burden
- **Don't expect too little**
  - Habituation (“boiling the frog”)
- **Proximal vs. distal goals (shaping)**
- **Phase specificity**
  - What was once distal becomes proximal

# **Treat or Punish?**

**Substance Dependence or Addiction**

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## Substance Dependence or Addiction

1. Triggered binge pattern
2. Cravings or compulsions
3. Withdrawal symptoms

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## Substance Abuse

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} Abstinence is a distal goal

## Substance Abuse

} Abstinence is a proximal goal

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## Substance Dependence or Addiction

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## Substance Abuse

} Abstinence is a proximal goal

## Responsivity needs

- Mental illness
- Homelessness
- Deficient vocational or educational skills

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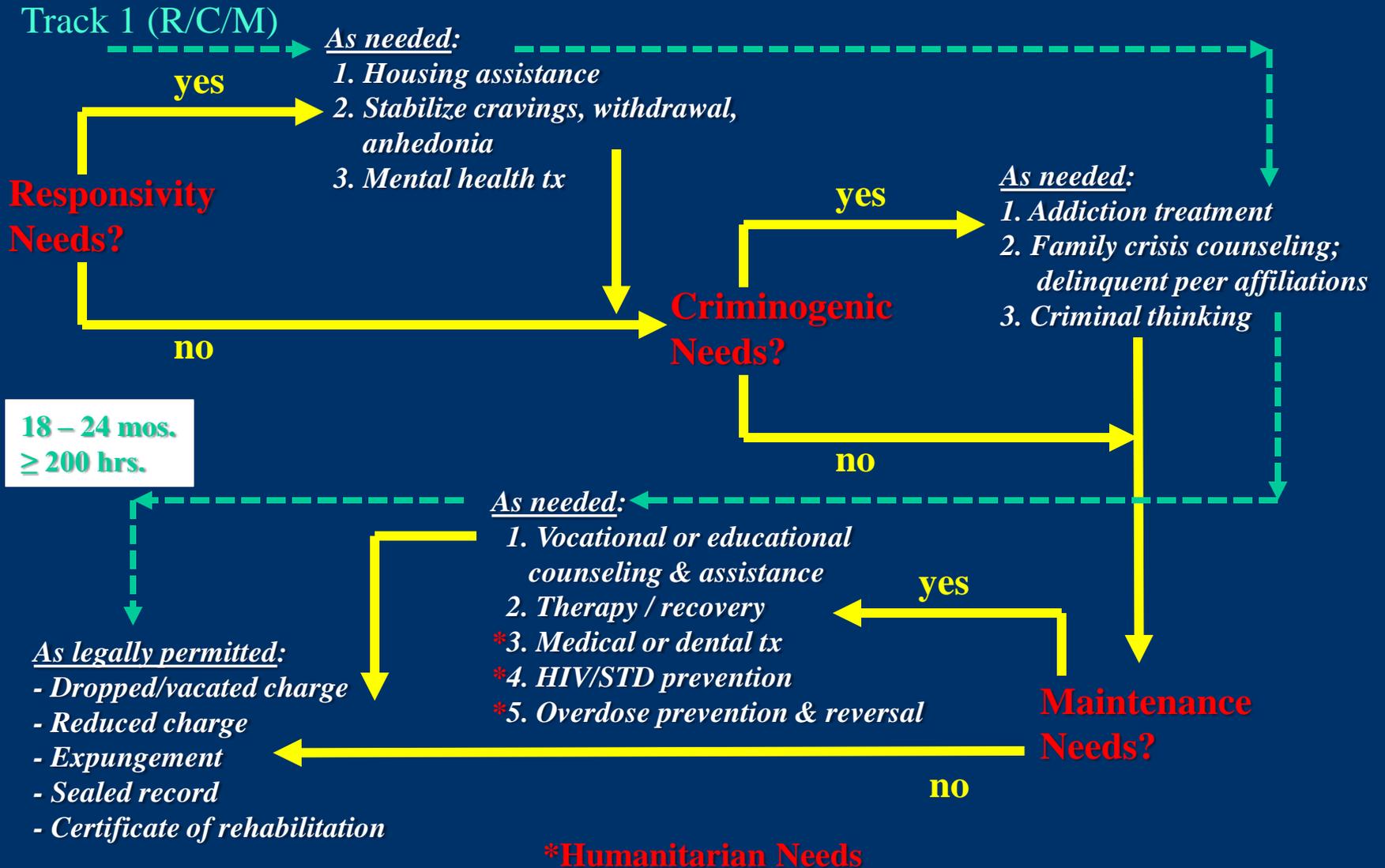
} Regimen compliance is proximal

# Carrot and Stick

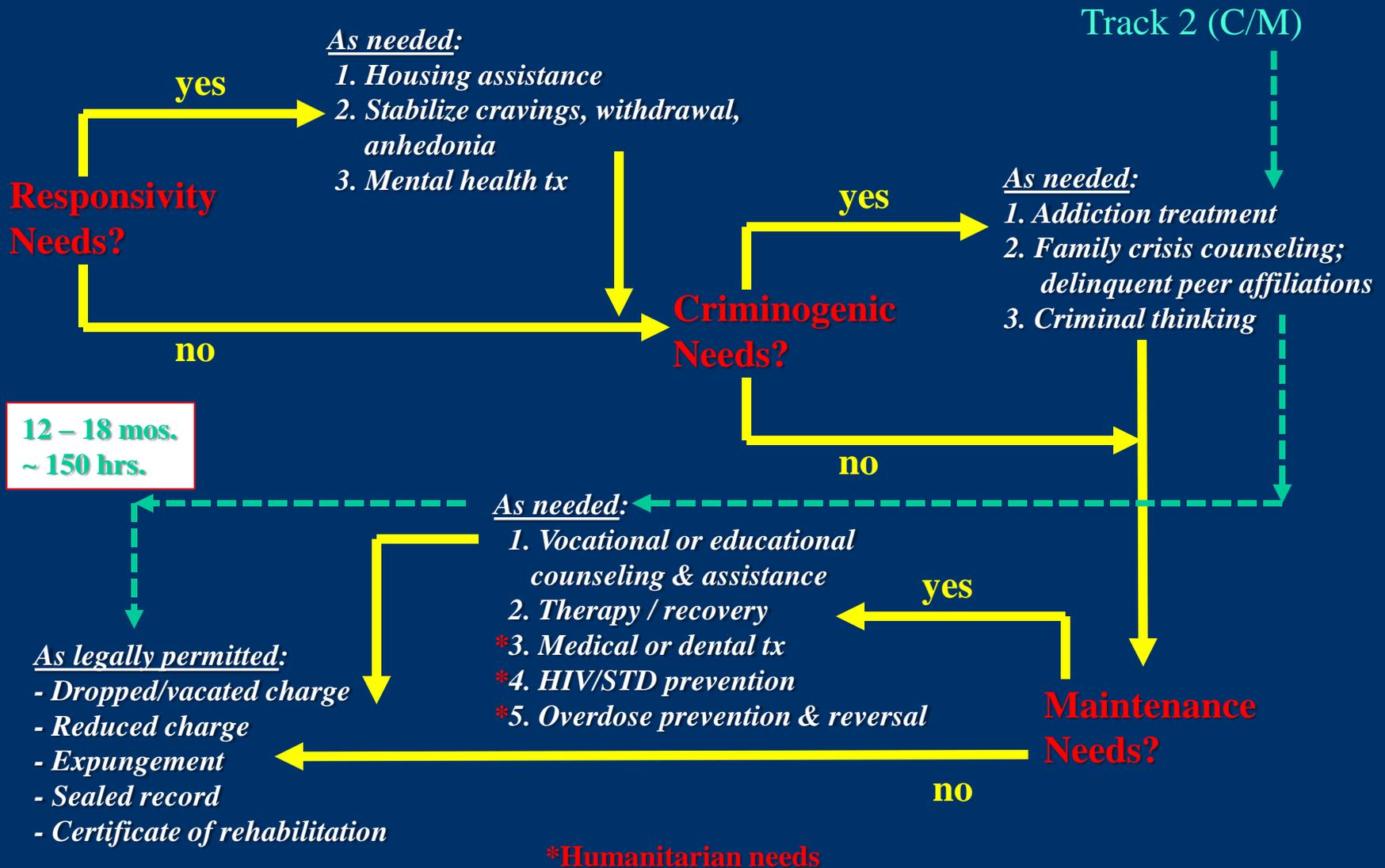
- Reduce undesirable behaviors and increase desirable behaviors
- Positive vs. negative reinforcement



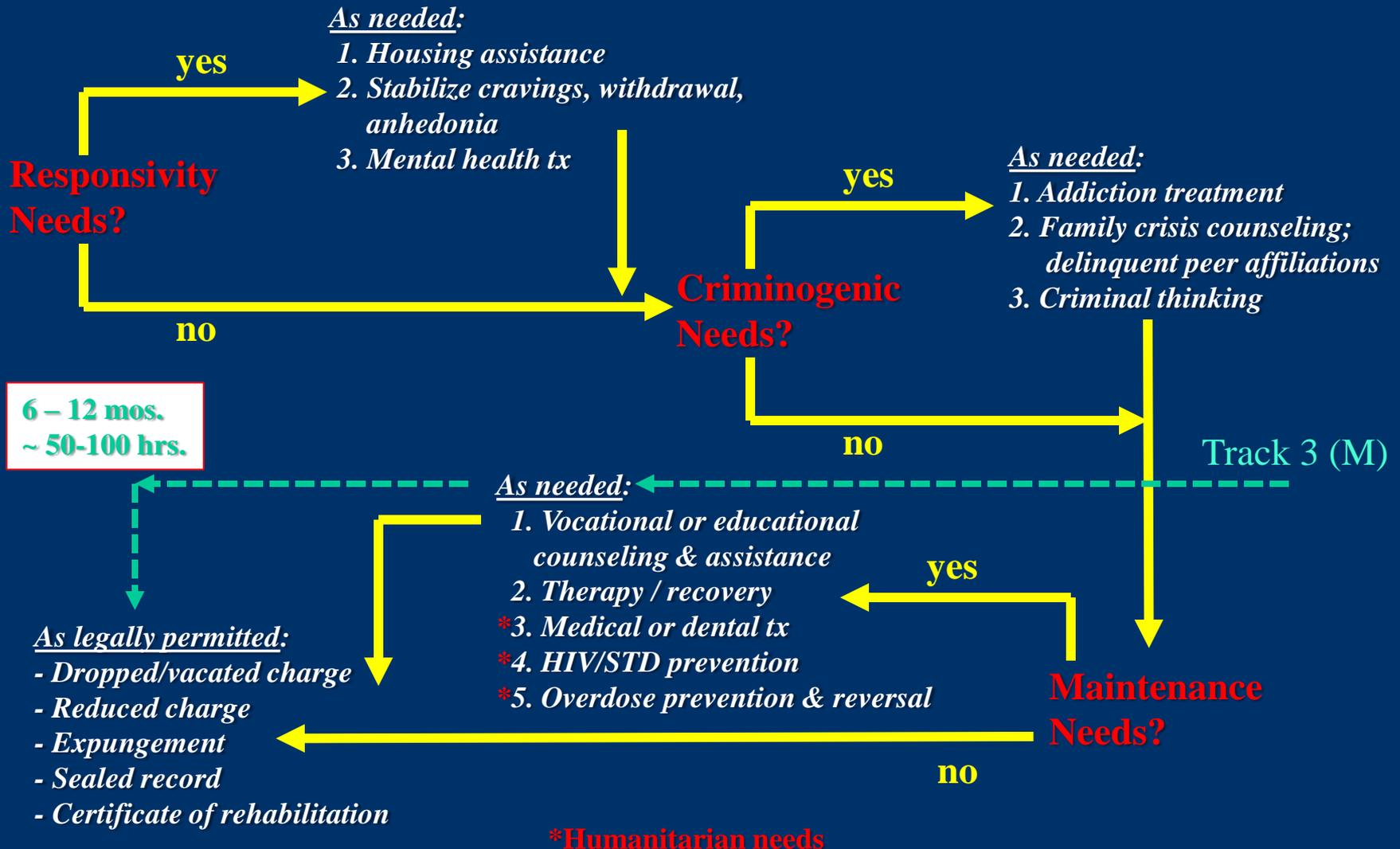
# Specific Responsivity



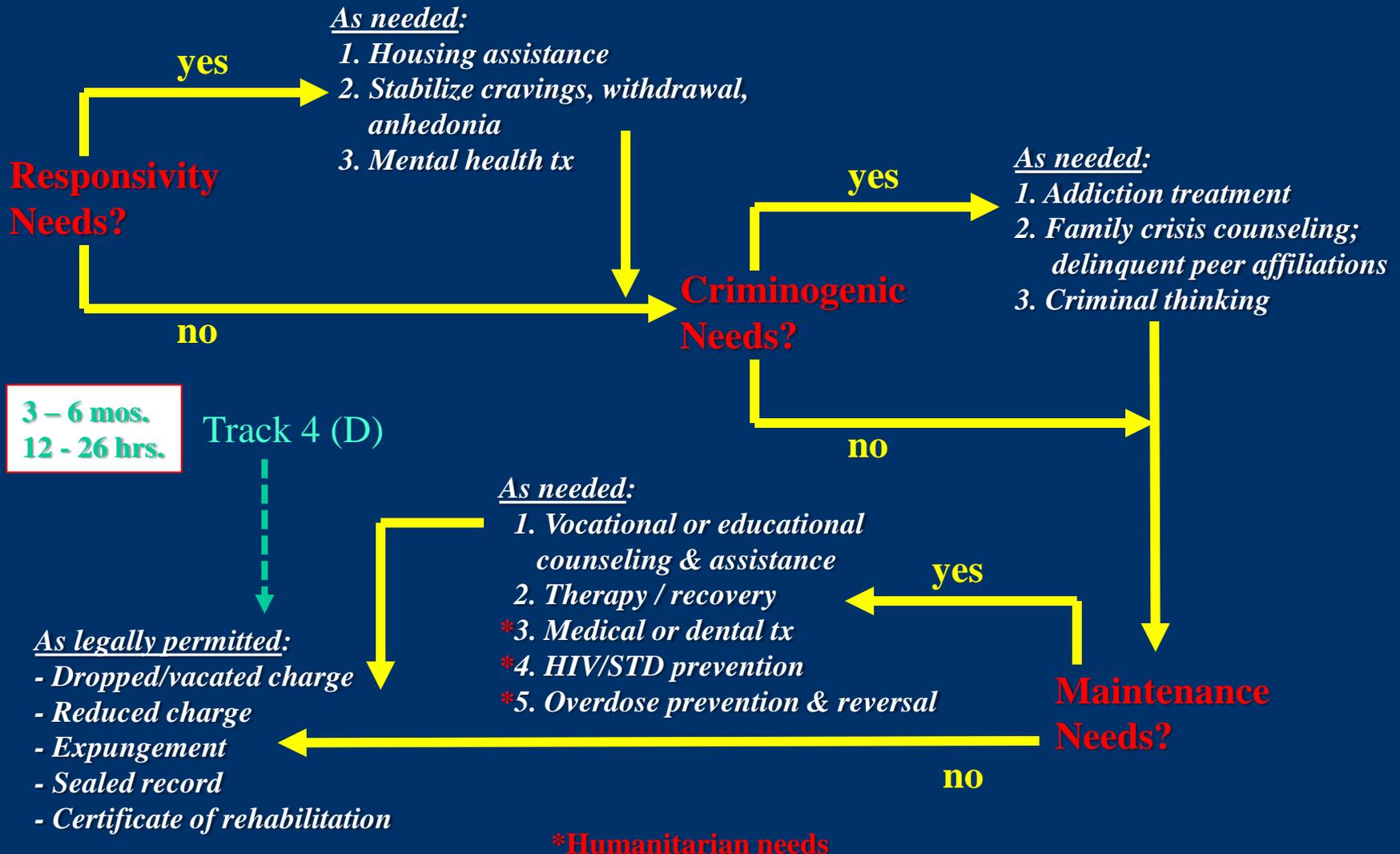
# Specific Responsivity



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# Case Plans

## High Risk

## Low Risk

High  
Needs

- ✓ Track 1 (R/C/M) or 2 (C/M)
- ✓ Bi-weekly status reviews
- ✓ Drug & alcohol testing
- ✓ Abstinence is distal
- ✓ Positive reinforcement

- ✓ Track 1 (R/C/M) or 2 (C/M)
- ✓ Noncompliance reviews
- ✓ Drug & alcohol testing
- ✓ Abstinence is distal
- ✓ Positive reinforcement

Low  
Needs

- ✓ Track 2 (C/M) or 3 (M)
- ✓ Bi-weekly status reviews
- ✓ Drug & alcohol testing
- ✓ Abstinence is proximal
- ✓ Negative reinforcement

- ✓ Track 3 (M) or 4 (D)
- ✓ Noncompliance reviews
- ✓ Psycho-education
- ✓ Abstinence is proximal
- ✓ Negative reinforcement

# Requirements

- Remove irrelevant eligibility restrictions
  - Misdemeanors vs. felonies no longer meaningful
- Break down silos
  - e.g., Sheriff vs. probation program
- Require assessment of risk and need prior to disposition
- Valid, reliable & culturally unbiased instruments
- Use immunity, especially at pre-adjudication stage
- Automate the if/then decision-making

# Validated Risk Tools

## Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R)

[https://ecom.mhs.com/\(S\(zhkd5d55qlwc3lr2gzqq5w55\)\)/product.aspx?gr=saf&prod=lsi-r&id=overview](https://ecom.mhs.com/(S(zhkd5d55qlwc3lr2gzqq5w55))/product.aspx?gr=saf&prod=lsi-r&id=overview)

## Wisconsin Risk and Need Assessment Scale (WRN)

<http://j-sat.com/Toolkit/Adult/adf6e846-f4dc-4b1e-b7b1-2ff28551ce85>

## Risk and Needs Triage (RANT)

<http://www.trirant.org/>

## Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS)

<http://www.northpointeinc.com/software-suite.aspx>

## Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS)

[http://www.uscourts.gov/uscourts/FederalCourts/PPS/Fedprob/2010-06/02\\_creation\\_validation\\_of\\_oras.html](http://www.uscourts.gov/uscourts/FederalCourts/PPS/Fedprob/2010-06/02_creation_validation_of_oras.html)

## Federal Post Conviction Risk Assessment (PCRA)

<http://www.uscourts.gov/FederalCourts/ProbationPretrialServices/Supervision/PCRA.aspx>

## Risk Prediction Index (RPI)

[http://www.fjc.gov/public/pdf.nsf/lookup/0013.pdf/\\$file/0013.pdf](http://www.fjc.gov/public/pdf.nsf/lookup/0013.pdf/$file/0013.pdf)



# Validated Needs Tools

## Addiction Severity Index (ASI)

[http://www.tresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/ASI\\_5th\\_Ed.pdf](http://www.tresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/ASI_5th_Ed.pdf)

## Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN)

<http://www.gaincc.org/products-services/instruments-reports/>

## Offender Profile Index (OPI)

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/Digitization/148829NCJRS.pdf>

## Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI)

[https://ecom.mhs.com/\(S\(0aqkan55ovozwq55w2ox445\)\)/saf\\_om.aspx?id=Training](https://ecom.mhs.com/(S(0aqkan55ovozwq55w2ox445))/saf_om.aspx?id=Training)

## Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS)

<http://www.northpointeinc.com/software-suite.aspx>

## Offender Screening Tool (OST)

<http://www.azcourts.gov/apsd/EvidenceBasedPractice/RiskNeedsAssessment/OffenderScreeningTool%28OST%29.aspx>

## Inventory of Offender Risk, Needs, and Strengths (IORNS)

<http://www4.parinc.com/Products/Product.aspx?ProductID=IORNS>

just  
another  
example

# Validated Diagnostic Tools

## Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN)

<http://www.chestnut.org/LI/gain/index.html#Instruments>

## Structured Clinical Interview for the DSM-IV (SCID)

<http://www.scid4.org/>

## Psychiatric Research Interview for Substance and Mental Disorders (PRISM)

<http://www.columbia.edu/~dsh2/prism/>

## Diagnostic Interview Schedule (DIS)

<http://www.enotes.com/drugs-alcohol-encyclopedia/diagnostic-interview-schedule-dis>

## Texas Christian University (TCU) Drug Dependence Screen-II

<http://www.ibr.tcu.edu/pubs/datacoll/Forms/ddscreen-95.pdf>

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