Understanding Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Psychosis (CBT-P) Case Conceptualization

The first of a series of three seminars to understand how to use CBT-P case formulation to direct recovery-oriented, team-based interventions for **First Episode Psychosis (FEP) services**

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At the time of this publication, Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D, served as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

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STRENGTHS-BASED AND HOPEFUL

INCLUSIVE AND
ACCEPTING OF
DIVERSE CULTURES,
GENDERS,
PERSPECTIVES,
AND EXPERIENCES

HEALING-CENTERED AND TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

Inviting to individuals PARTICIPATING IN THEIR OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND FREE OF LABELS

NON-JUDGMENTAL AND AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

RESPECTFUL, CLEAR AND UNDERSTANDABLE

CONSISTENT WITH OUR ACTIONS, POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

Welcome to the Zoom meeting platform. We have enabled closed captions during this event. Please click on the CC box in your zoom toolbar to find the option to enable captions individually.

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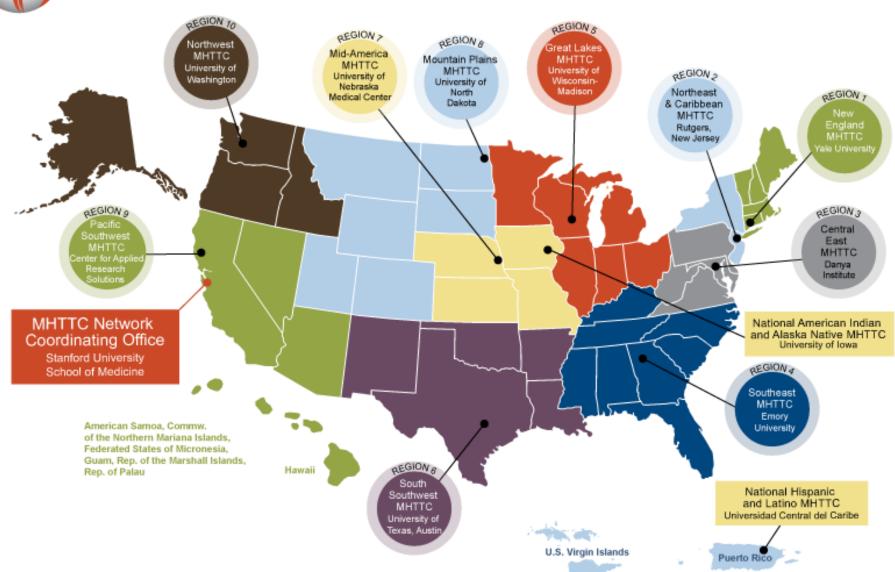
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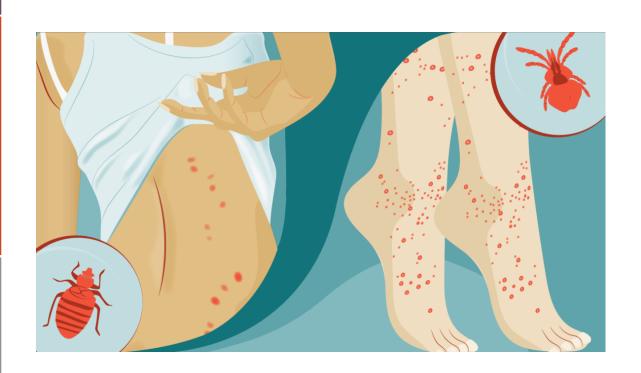
MHTTC Network



Objectives

- Day 1: Understand the key components of a Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Psychosis (CBT-P) case conceptualization
 - What is and why case conceptualization?
 - Principles and values of CBT-P
 - CBT-P conceptualization models
- Day 2: Apply a CBT-P case conceptualization framework with an individual in First Episode Psychosis (FEP) services
- Day 3: Provide multiple examples of how CBT-P case conceptualization can direct recovery-oriented team-based interventions

Imagine...



- What would you feel?
- What would you think?
- What would you DO?

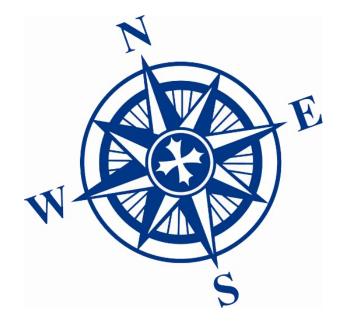
What is case conceptualization/formulation?

- Using a particular model to understand or explain an individual's experience and concerns
 - Longitudinal/Timeline
 - Maintenance
- Hypothesis based on exploring factors such as current experiences, past experiences and predisposing factors, stressors, strengths, patterns, and reinforcers^{1, 2, 3}



Why case conceptualization?

- Guide individualized assessment and treatment¹
 - Tells us where to start
 - Allows it to be targeted, focused
 - Gets us "unstuck"
- Make sense of experiences and build hope!
- Understand, interrupt, and prevent patterns and prevent from re-occurring (maintenance)
- Collaborate
 - Develop shared language, narrative, and plan
 - Shared decision-making
 - Build awareness for client and provider
- Increases provider empathy



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Case conceptualization can be teambased!



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- Team (individual, all providers) can come to a shared understanding
- Each person on the team plays a unique role to supporting recovery
- Many CBT interventions that involve families, natural supports

CBT-P case conceptualization

"Throughout their lives, individuals with schizophrenia have been subjected not only to an unusual amount of negative traumatic events, but also to many minor stressors, reflecting society's attitude that they are "maladjusted."... The key element in developing resilience is focusing on the meanings that the individual attaches to the major or minor stressors. The meaning may be unraveled ..."

– Aaron Beck, 2021

Values of CBT & CBT-P

CBT, Beck, 1995

- Collaboration
- Therapeutic alliance
- Goal/recovery-oriented
- "Here and now"
- Ever-evolving conceptualization
 - Variety of techniques

CBT-P, Brabban et. al (2016)

- Shared formulation of psychosis experiences
- Normalization of psychosis
- Acceptance of psychosis; reducing distress and not psychosis
- Therapeutic alliance and collaboration

Table 1. Consensus statements on the essential principles, and structural and functional elements of CBTp from a therapist perspective.

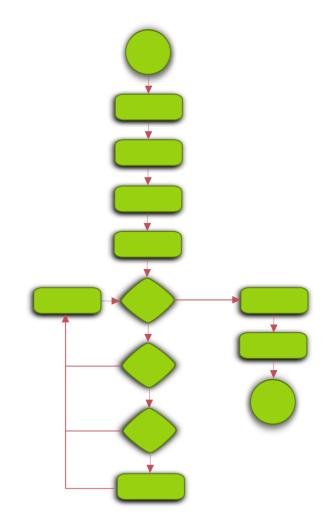
Factor	Consensus statements from the Delphi study (Morrison & Barratt, 2010)
Values that should be endorsed by the CBT practitioner	Therapists should believe that many people experience psy- chotic-like symptoms without feeling distressed by them Therapists should have a good understanding of recovery from psychosis
	Therapists ought to believe that delusions can be quite understandable
	Therapists should believe that it is not the hallucination or the delusion per se that is clinically relevant but the amount of distress or disability associated with it
	Therapists ought to believe that hallucinations or thought disorder can happen to anyone if they are very stressed
	Therapists ought to view most symptoms of psychosis as guite common in the normal population
Values that should NOT be endorsed by the CBTp practitioner	Therapists should believe that clients with psychosis are very different to clients with other mental health difficulties Therapists should believe that there is a clear boundary between being mentally unwell and mentally healthy

The importance of human relationships, ethics and recovery-orientated values in the delivery of CBT for people with psychosis

Alison Brabban, Rory Byrne, Eleanor Longden, and Anthony P. Morrison (2016)

CBT-P Case Conceptualization Models For This Series

- Linear
 - ABC Model of CBT
- Maintenance
 - Cognitive Triangle
 - Cross-Sectional
- Longitudinal/Timeline
 - Morrison model
 - 5 P's (Day 2)



Linear formulation; ABC Model of CBT

A
Activating event:
Triggers, voices,
external perceptions

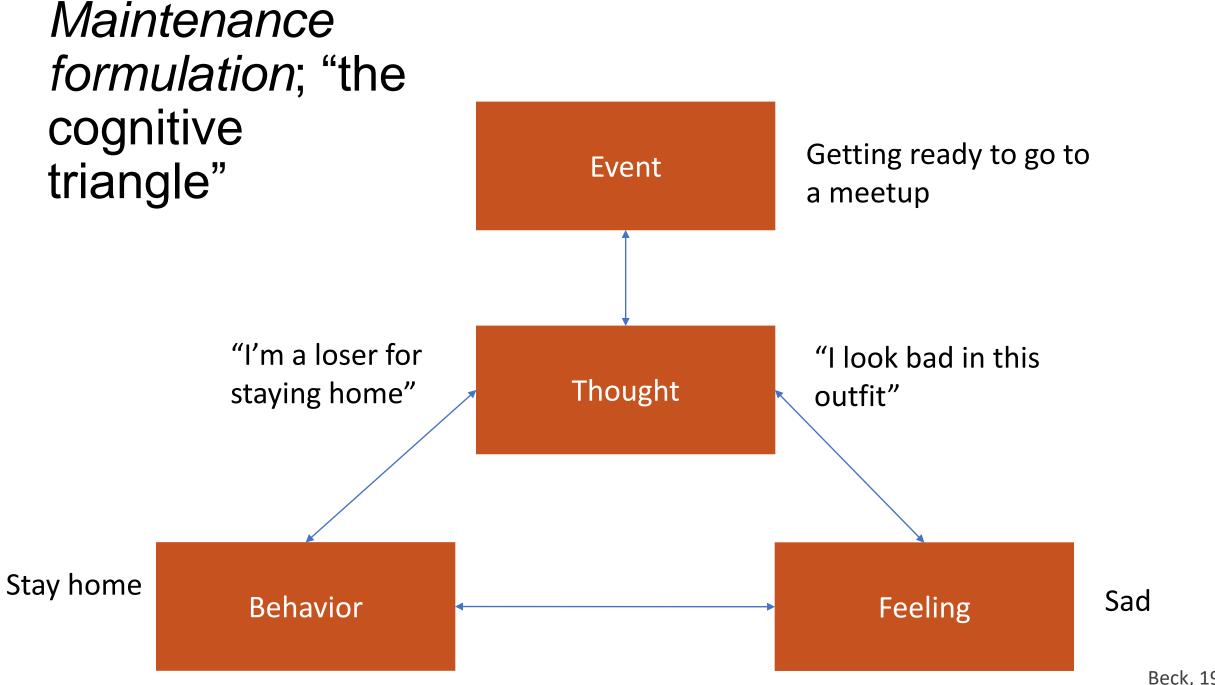
Someone cuts you off in traffic

B
Beliefs:
Explanations and thoughts

"They must be trying to harm me"

C Consequences: Emotions & behaviors

Scared & angry; stop driving



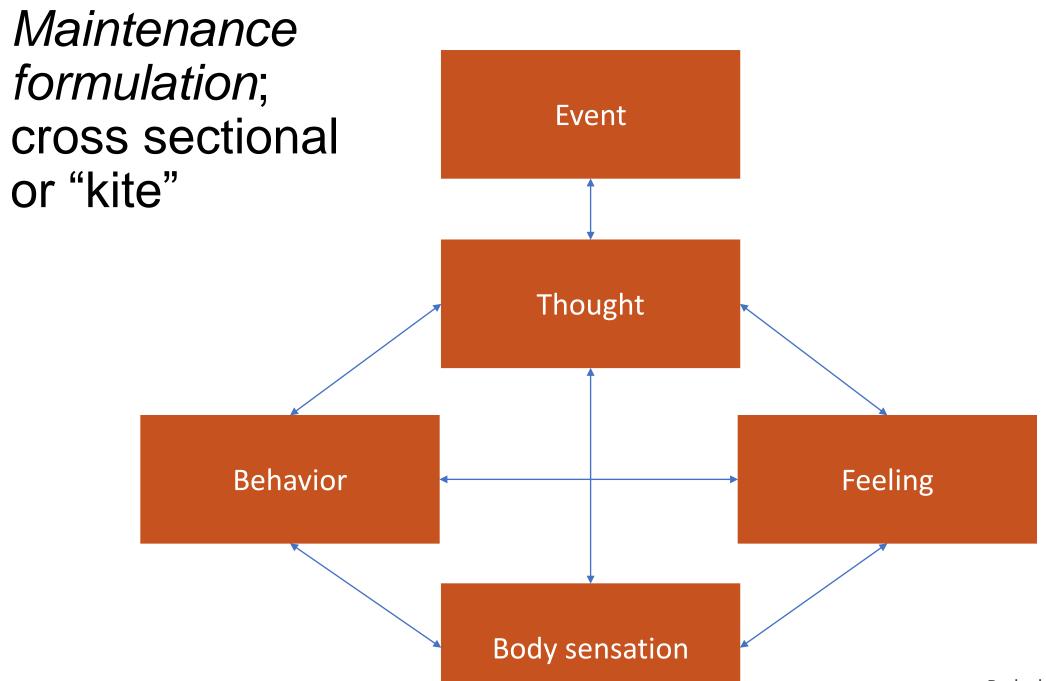
Maintenance formulation; "the cognitive triangle"

Event: Hear voice say "You are in danger"

Thought: "My neighbors are trying to harm me"

Behavior: Stay home in bed

Feeling: Scared



Maintenance formulation; cross sectional or "kite"

Event: Hear voice say "You are in danger"

Thought: "My neighbors are trying to harm me"

Behavior: Stay home

in bed

Feeling: Scared

Body sensation: Nauseous; sweaty Maintenance formulation; cross sectional or "kite"

Event: Getting ready for work and feel itchy

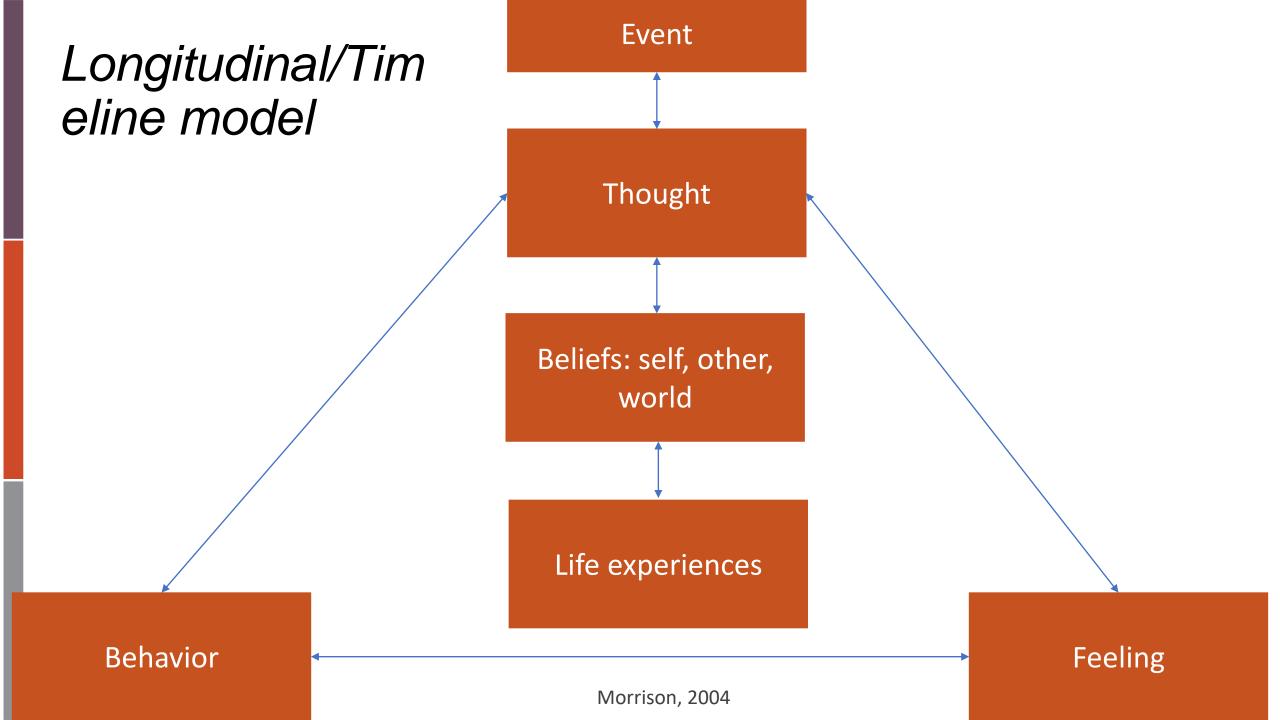
Thoughts: "I have bed bugs on my legs"
"I can give the bed bugs to other people"
"The bed bugs are ruining my life"
"I have to kill the bed bugs"

Behavior: Try to kill bugs by burning legs

Feelings: Worried, scared, and angry

Body Sensations: Itchy; can't sit still

Practice!! Event Thought Behavior Feeling Body sensation





Event: Getting ready for work

Thought: "I have bed bugs"

Beliefs: "I am dangerous." "I am gross." "The world is dangerous." "Other people are judging me and may harm me if I don't act right."

Life experiences: sexual abuse by sibling, police called at college

Behavior: Stay home

from work

Feeling: Scared

Considerations for case conceptualization for FEP

- "Making sense" includes normalization and acceptance
- New to diagnosis and stigmatization
- Longitudinal/timeline formulation of FEP
- Developmentally appropriate and youth-friendly
- Team-based approach
 - How can use with individual
 - How can bring this to a team meeting

For next time!

- Read "Making Sense of Psychosis" from Back to Life, Back to Normality by Turkington & Spencer (2018)
 - Optional: CBT-P in FEP teams Issue Brief
- Test out the triangle/kite with individual or during team meeting
 - be ready to expand on this conceptualization next meeting!

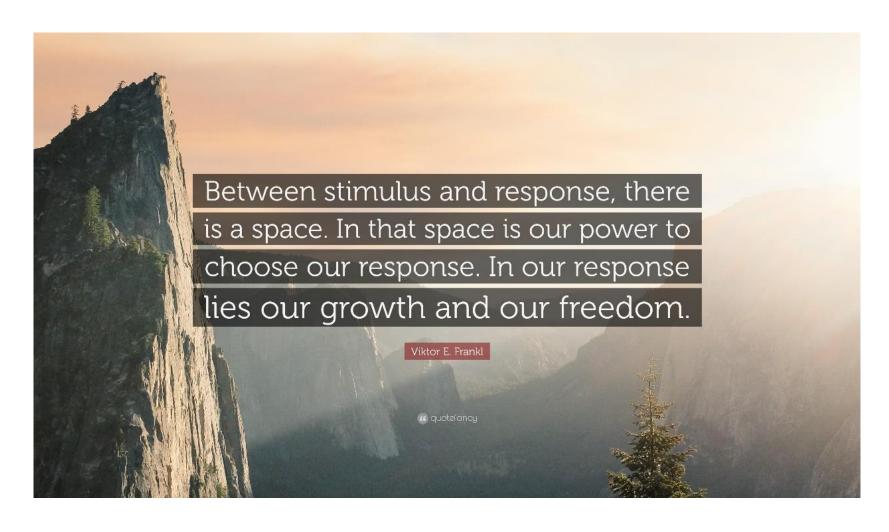
Logistics Overview

October 13th 10:00-11:00 AM: Understanding Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT-P) Case Conceptualization will cover the basics of case formulation from a CBT-P perspective, including the interactions between thoughts or voices, feelings, behaviors, and body sensations. Attendees will also learn about how past experiences, core beliefs, and recovery goals can be incorporated into CBT-P conceptualizations. Considerations for an FEP population will be discussed.

November 10th 10:00-11:00 AM: *Putting CBT-P Case Conceptualization Into Practice* will review one CBT-P case conceptualization worksheet. Attendees will have the opportunity to experientially apply this worksheet to one of the individuals that they are currently working with an FEP program. Emphasis will be placed on collaborative nature of CBT-P conceptualization.

December 8th 10:00-11:00 AM: Where Do We Go From Here? Using CBT-P Case Conceptualization in Service of Recovery will focus on helping trainees to identify team-based interventions that can be used on an FEP team in line with a CBT-P case conceptualization. Principles from Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Therapy (CT-R) will be introduced.

Thank you!



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