


# Blending Research and Practice in Drug Courts: Challenges



- Access to Research Findings
- Judging the Quality of Research  
(No ice cream at all to 49 Flavors)
- Understanding the Intervention
- Understanding the Change Process
- Committing to an Intervention

# Implementation Challenges

- Cost Issues
  - Agency Readiness for Change
  - Implementation Requirements
  - Comparative Implementation Complexity
  - Implementation Support Tools
  - Personnel Turnover
  - Implementation Whiplash or “the next greatest thing”
  - What’s the Plan – the Big Picture
  - Design vs Training
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# Drug Court Considerations



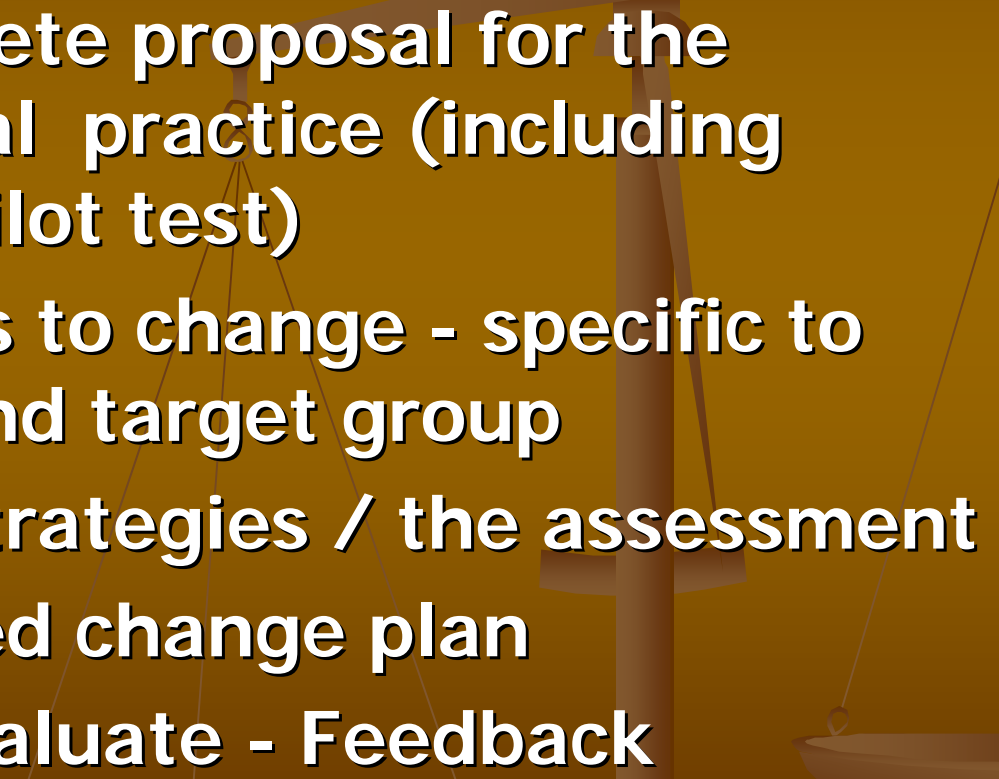
- **Multiple Research Bases – *The Amazon and the Ocean* CJ / DA/ MH**
- **Multiple Outcome Measures / Expectations**
- **Participatory Team Decision-making**
- **Target Population Considerations**
- **Integrating E-B Interventions**
- **Data Collection Challenges and QI**

# Change Approaches

- Educational
- Epidemiological
- Marketing
- Behaviorist
- Social Influence
- Organizational
- Coercive



# A Practical Five-Stage Framework

- **Develop a concrete proposal for the change in clinical practice (including results from a pilot test)**
  - **Assess obstacles to change - specific to target setting and target group**
  - **Match change strategies / the assessment**
  - **Develop a phased change plan**
  - **Implement – Evaluate - Feedback**
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# Bridging the Gap: From Research to Practice / Science to Service

Remember: It is not so much  
“bridging the gap” as “crossing  
the swamp” .

N. Jaeger

