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THE AMITY PRISON TC EVALUATION: INMATE PROFILES AND REINCARCERATION OUTCOMES

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Presented at the California Department of Corrections,
Youth and Adult Correctional Agency

Sacramento, November 5, 1996

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Grant # 5 PAO DA07700-01

AIMS

- *Profiles*: To describe the profiles of prison inmates with histories of substance abuse in terms of background, level of functioning, social & psychological adjustment, criminality and substance abuse
- *Effectiveness*: To evaluate, in terms of both process and outcome, the effectiveness of a modified prison-based TC for inmates with histories of substance abuse
- *Effectiveness*: To assess the incremental value of extending the therapeutic community experience from prison on into the community

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Amity TC At Donovan Prison

- Modified Therapeutic Community for male substance abusers
- Length of stay approximately one year, participation voluntary
- Occupies one residence unit with 200 beds
- Most programming occurs in two trailers adjacent to unit
- Sixteen full-time staff who work in both prison and community programs
- Balance of educationally-trained and personal recovery
Three-part curriculum where first phase (Months 1-3) begins the assimilation process, the second phase (Months 4-9) focuses on objectives of personal growth and psychological awareness, and the third phase (Months 10-12) begins the community re-entry process including relapse prevention, decision making and self management
- Close cooperation between Program, Prison Staff, and Parole

Amity Community Aftercare TC At Vista

- Houses 40 parolees for up to one year
- Curriculum builds upon prison program
- Therapeutic Community programming structure
- Services for significant others (e.g., wives or partners, children, parents)
- Community involvement (e.g., speaking engagements, assisting other community service agencies)

DATA COLLECTION

At intake, 6 and 12 months in treatment, and 12 months post-treatment

INSTRUMENTS

Personal History/Background
Baseline Interview Protocol

Psychological Status
Tennessee Self Concept
Beck Depression Inventory
Symptom Checklist-90 Revised
Taylor Manifest Anxiety Scale

Psychiatric Status
Diagnostic Interview Survey

Client Perceptions and Progress
Circumstance, Motivation, Readiness, Suitability
Therapeutic Community Clinical Progress Scale
The Correctional Institutional Environment Scale
The Community Oriented Program Environment Scale

Records Review of Criminal Justice Histories

STUDY GROUPS

Total Sample N=715

Controls (N=290)

Prison TC Dropouts (N=95)

Prison TC Completers (N=193)

Aftercare TC Dropouts (N=45)

Aftercare Completers (N=92)

INMATE PROFILE FINDINGS

Characteristics of Study Population

- The random selection procedure was successful since few differences were found between the Treatment and Non-treatment groups
- Average age 31, racially balanced
- Low educational attainment, mostly non-skilled, little income from legitimate work
- Psychiatric Diagnoses: 51% Anti-Social Personality; 33% Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; 17% Depression/Dysthymia
- Primarily stimulant, intravenous users
- At high risk for HIV: 58% IV users; 63% injected with dirty needles; 25% shared needles with strangers; and 97% practiced sex
- Violent: 75% committed assault, kidnapping, rape or murder

Negative Predictors of Aftercare TC Participation

- More arrests for illegal drug use,
- More willing to admit negative impact of drug use,
- Started to inject cocaine and use PCP at older ages,
- More likely to have used most drugs
- More likely to be anti-social personalities and have impulse and attention deficit disorders
- Poorer personal self-concepts and more signs of psychological disturbance
- More likely to have been treated with psycho-active medications

OUTCOME FINDINGS

Reincarceration

- The prison TC was effective in reducing reincarceration rates 12 and 24 months after release for Completers (Table 1, Figures 1 and 2)
- The cumulative effects of the prison TC and community aftercare TC were greater than the prison TC alone in reducing reincarceration rates at 12 and 24 months after release (Table 1, Figures 1 and 2)

Time Until Reincarceration

- A significant positive relationship was found between the amount of treatment and “time until reincarnation” at 12 and 24 months after release from prison (Table 2, Figure 3 and 4).

Comparison of Amity TC and Other Studies

- The Amity recidivism results are similar to evaluation studies of prison and aftercare TCs in Delaware and Texas (Figure 5).
- Participants in the Amity program had more severe criminal backgrounds than the Delaware and Texas program populations.

NEXT ANALYTICAL STEPS

1. Impact of treatment on other outcomes

- severity and types of crimes,
- severity and types of drug abuse,
- HIV risk behaviors,
- employment,
- social functioning,
- physical and psychological health

1. Inmate characteristics related to success and failure

2. Relationship of treatment and cost avoidance

Table 1
AMITY EVALUATION
Outcomes at 12-Months and 24-Months: Reincarceration

Variable	Control Subjects		Prison TC Dropouts		Prison TC Completers		Prison TC Completers/ Aftercare TC Dropouts		Prison TC Completers/ Aftercare TC Completers		Chi Square
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	p value [†]
<u>12 Months</u>											
Reincarcerated											
No	50.3%	146	55.8%	53	59.6%	115	60.0%	27	93.5%	86	.000
Yes	49.7%	144	44.2%	42	40.4%	78	40.0%	18	6.5%	6	
Group Size (N=715)		290		95		193		45		92	
<u>24 Months</u>											
Reincarcerated											
No	35.0%	28	42.1%	16	46.8%	37	43.8%	7	83.7%	36	.000
Yes	65.0%	52	57.9%	22	53.2%	42	56.3%	9	16.3%	7	
Group Size (N=256)		80		38		79		16		43	

[†] Pearson chi-square

Table 2
AMITY EVALUATION
Outcomes at 12-Months and 24 Months: Time Until Reincarceration

	Control Subjects	Prison TC Dropouts	Prison TC Completers	Prison TC Completers/ Aftercare TC Dropouts	Prison TC Completers/ Aftercare TC Completers	F Ratio[†]
<u>12 Months</u>						
TIME UNTIL REINCARCERATION						
Mean	171.88	174.31	188.95	213.89	284.17	3.371
Standard Deviation	(88.63)	(78.48)	(88.05)	(90.31)	(74.14)	
Group Size (N=288)	144	42	78	18	6	
<u>24 Months</u>						
TIME UNTIL REINCARCERATION						
Mean	215.10	235.46	302.78	295.33	429.00	4.496
Standard Deviation	(138.25)	(187.76)	(212.68)	(152.26)	(200.99)	
Group Size (N=166)	59	28	55	12	12	

[†] p < .001

Figure 1
Outcomes at 12 Months:
Reincarceration (N=715)

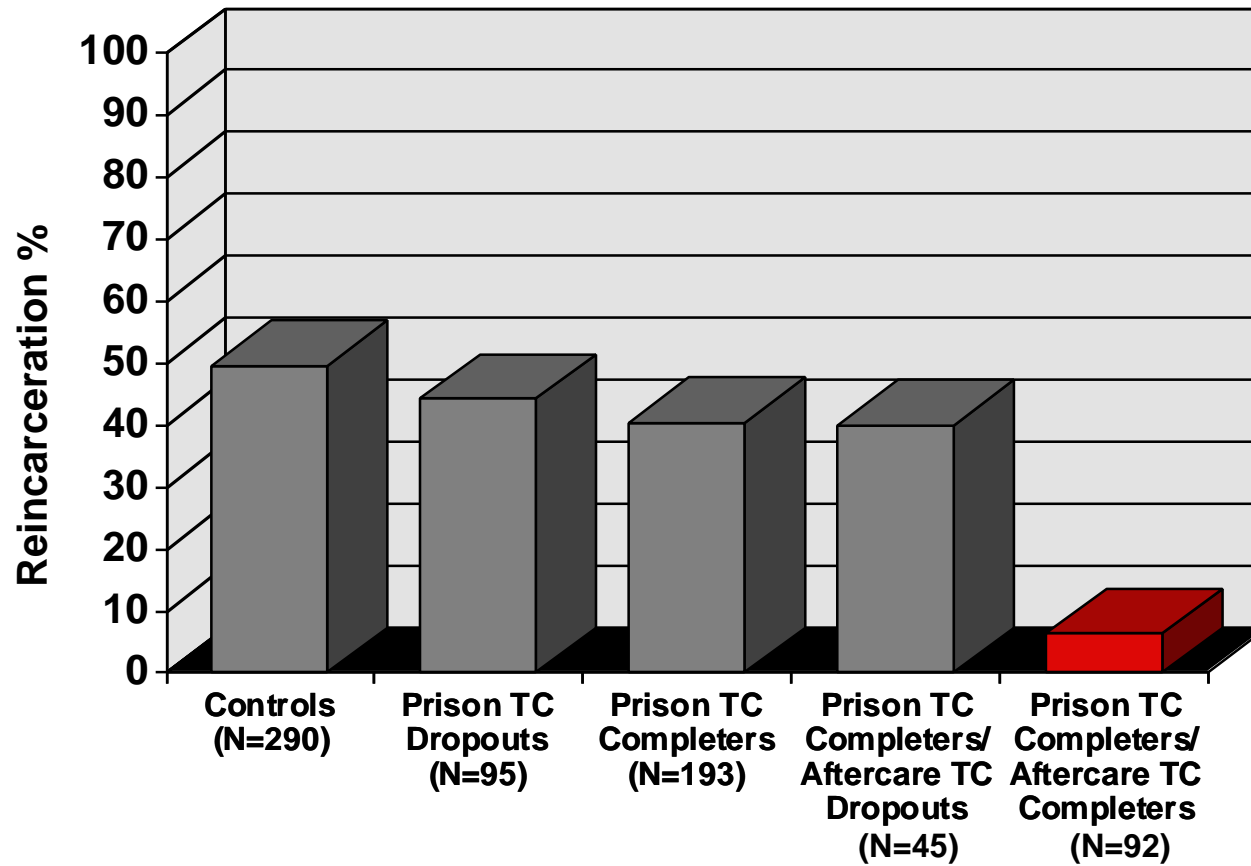


Figure 2
Outcomes at 24 Months:
Reincarceration (N=256)

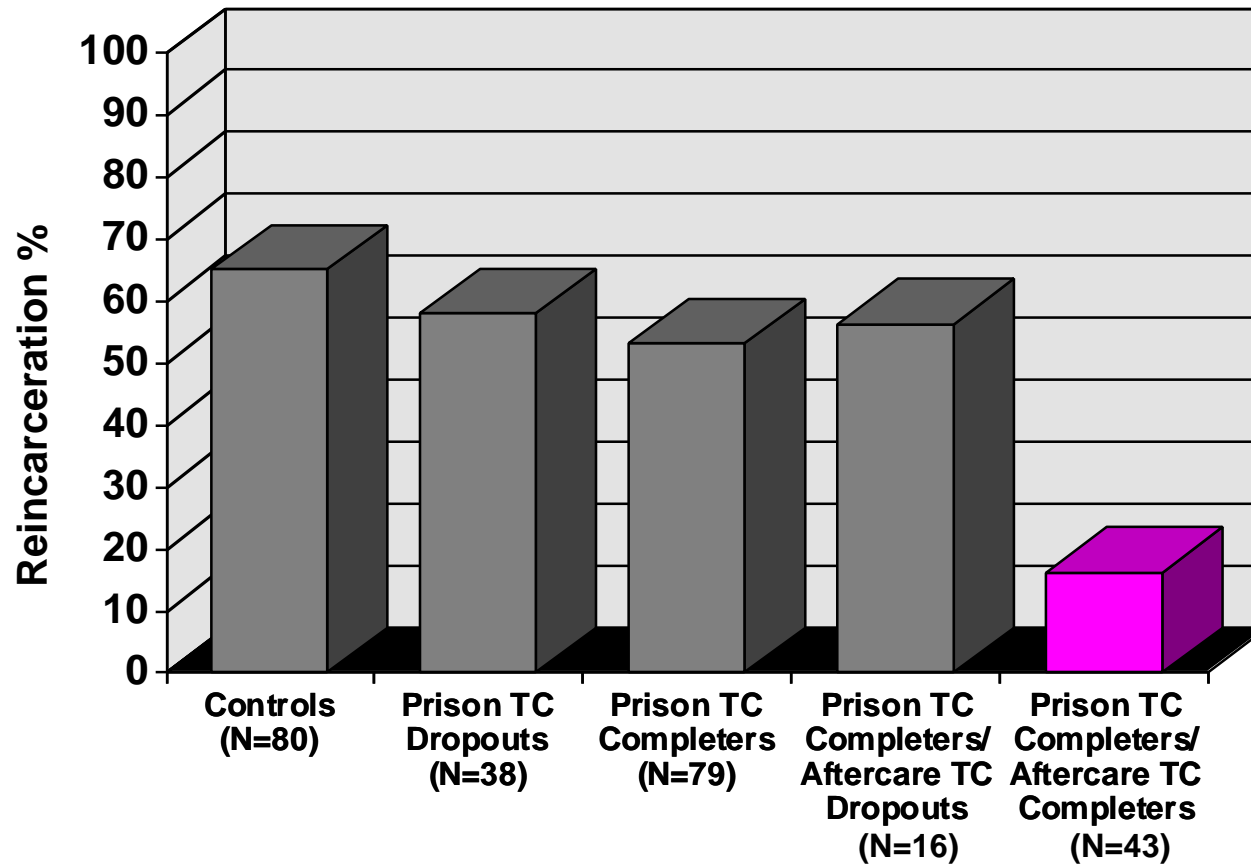


Figure 3
Outcomes at 12 Months:
Time Until Reincarcerated (N=288)

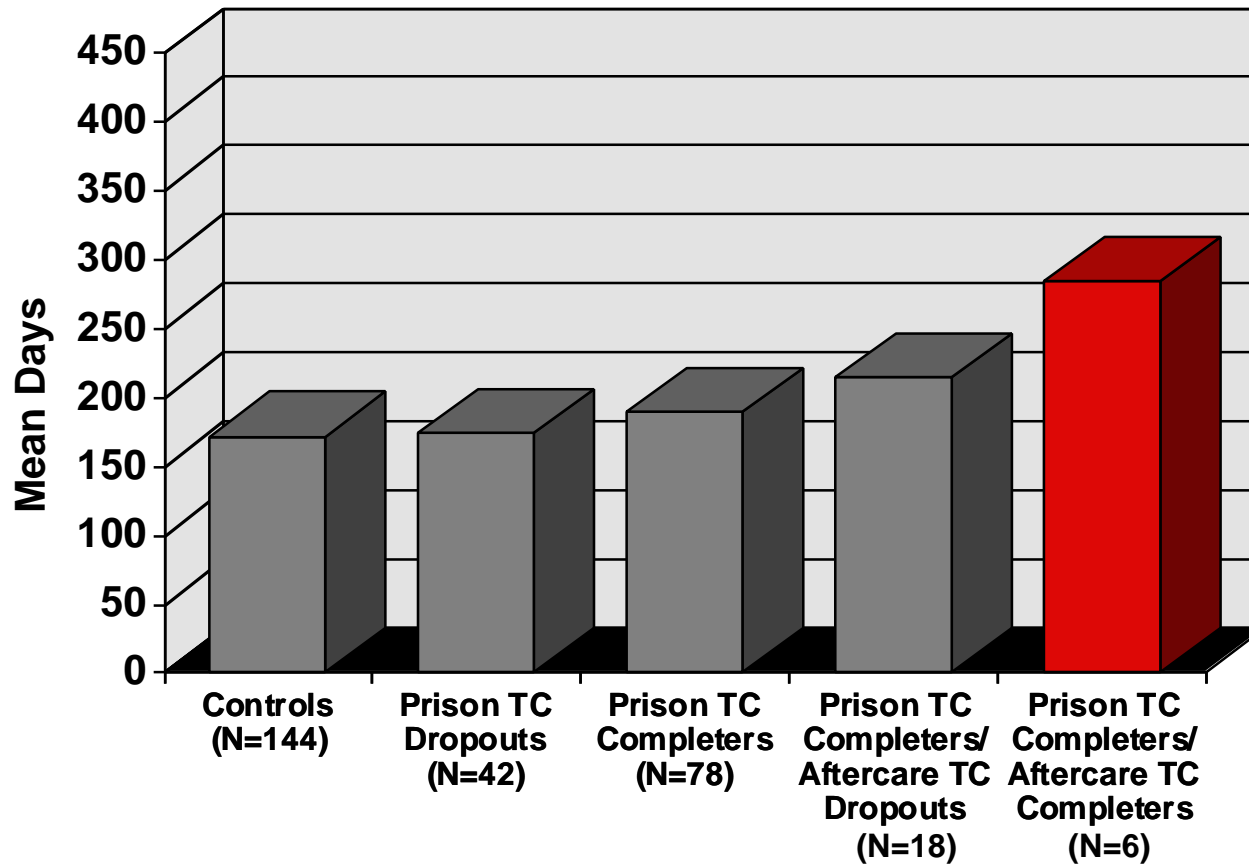


Figure 4
Outcomes at 24 Months:
Time Until Reincarcerated (N=166)

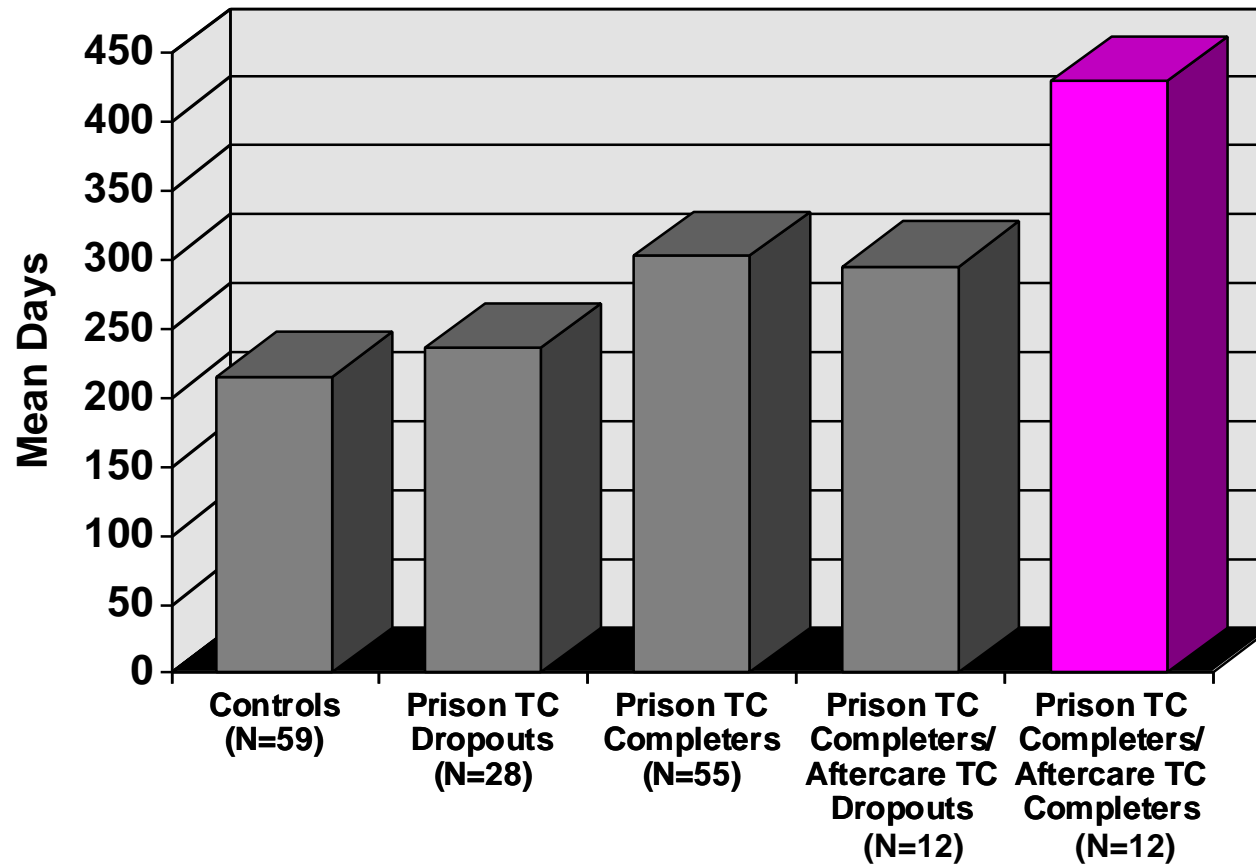
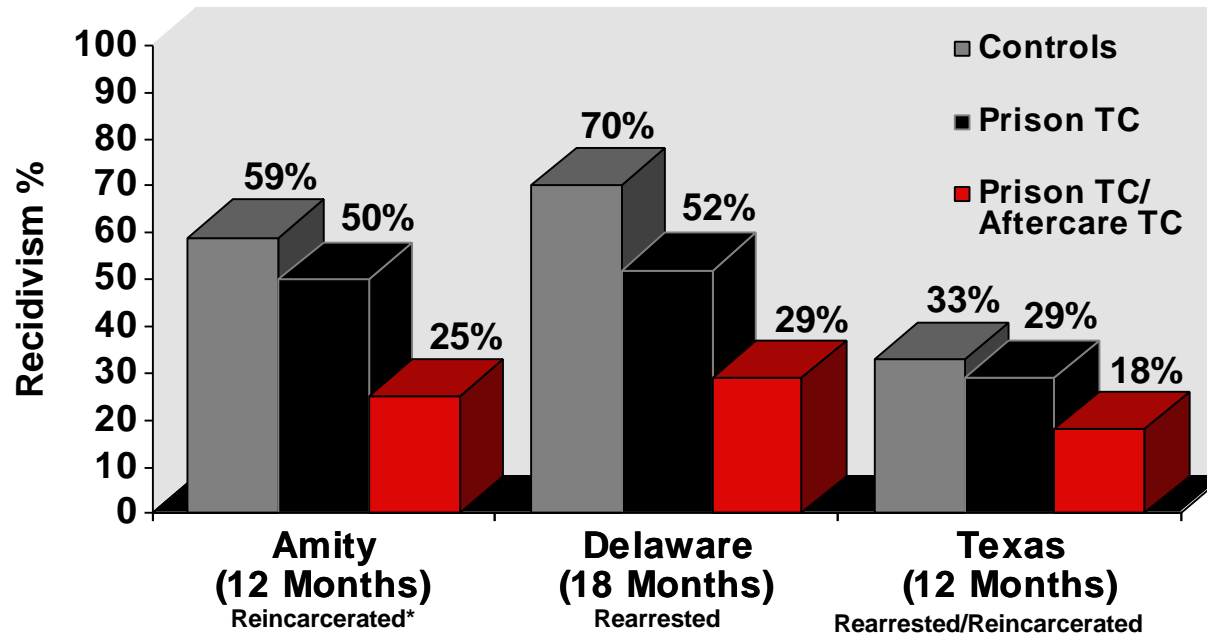


Figure 5 Comparative Impact of Prison TCs and Aftercare TCs on Recidivism



Controls:	Amity N=290, Del. N=77, Texas N=75
Prison TC:	Amity N=193, Del. N=37, Texas N=222
Prison TC + Aftercare TC:	Amity N=137, Del. N=29, Texas N=145