

Substance Use Treatment Counselors' Attitudes Toward Evidence-Based Practice: The Importance of Organizational Context

Substance Use & Misuse

April 2013, Vol. 48, No. 5 , Pages 379-390 (doi:10.3109/10826084.2013.765480)

<http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/10826084.2013.765480>

Brenda D. Smith

School of Social Work, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, USA

Preparation of this paper was assisted by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Substance Abuse Policy Research Program.

Address correspondence to Professor Brenda D. Smith, School of Social Work, University of Alabama, Box 870314, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 USA; E-mail: bsmith2@sw.ua.edu.

This study addresses individual and organizational correlates of substance user treatment counselors' attitudes toward evidence-based practice. Counselors (n = 293) from a probability sample of outpatient treatment organizations in a northeastern US state were surveyed in 2008. Multilevel [hierarchical linear model (HLM)] models address the nested sample. Attitudes toward evidence-based practice were measured with the Evidence-Based Practice Attitude Scale (Aarons). Study limitations and implications for the implementation of evidence-based practices in routine substance user treatment organizations are addressed.