# A NEUROSCIENCE LENS ON CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS

Join us for an engaging webinar where we'll dive into how our brains work and how this affects behavior. We'll start by exploring the basic functions of the brain, breaking down what each part does and why it's important. Then, we'll look at how different stages of brain development can influence typical behaviors—think of it as understanding why people act the way they do at different ages. Finally, we'll discuss how certain risk factors, like stress or environment, can impact brain development and potentially lead to behaviors linked with crime. This session is perfect for anyone interested in understanding the mind and its connection to behavior, offering practical insights to help support those at risk. Whether you're working in corrections or community services, this webinar will provide useful insights into real-world challenges when working with people in the justice system.

# Behind the Statistics: What Makes a Risk and Need Assessment Valid in the Field

The use of risk and need assessment tools, such as the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS), has become a daily practice in the field of corrections. Agencies use the tools to identify clients’ criminogenic risks and needs as well as guide decision making around supervision levels, treatment decisions, and public safety. But how do we know when these tools are truly assisting agencies in making accurate, fair, and appropriate decisions?

The purpose of this webinar is to break down what it means for a risk and need assessment tool to be “valid” and “normed” for a given jurisdiction, why validating and norming a tool matters for an agency, and how it impacts the day-to-day operations of an agency. This webinar is designed for any correctional staff who is interested in learning more about how the theory and statistics behind risk and need assessments are translated into practice.

# How Much, Exactly? Exploring the Concept of ‘Dosage’ in Corrections

In the context of corrections, you may be familiar with “dosage” as the amount of evidence-based programming delivered to an individual client or program participant. But what is dosage, really? And how much is too little or too much, exactly? In this webinar, we’ll take a quick look at the research on dosage. We’ll check the record and review the various definitions and measures of dosage, and we’ll also discuss the importance of understanding dosage across multiple correctional contexts (i.e., prisons, jails, and community corrections). By participating in this webinar, you’ll gain insight into these key considerations, and you’ll leave with the resources and confidence to benchmark dosage at your agency.

# It’s More than a Butt in a Seat! Assessing Individual Progress

Ever wonder what the person sitting across from you is ***actually*** learning? Are they learning new tools, developing new skills, or practicing how to identify high-risk situations? Research has demonstrated that individuals who can anticipate, recognize, and avoid or manage high-risk situations are less likely to recidivate. Research has also demonstrated that completion criteria based on acquiring prosocial behaviors and ways of thinking is a valuable strategy to determine **who** is actually learning and **what** they are actually learning. This workshop will review the evidence in support of measuring progress and focus on strategies for assessing progress and completion criteria. Participants will have opportunities to discuss how these strategies currently fit into daily practice as well as consider how they could enhance their current measures of progress.

# The Principles of Effective Intervention

For decades, UCCI has been at the forefront of translating research into practical strategies that bring "what works" to life. Despite significant advancements, crime persists, prompting curiosity to revisit the Principles of Effective Intervention (Bonta & Andrews, 2023) for deeper insights. Join us for an engaging and evidence-based 3-part webinar series designed specifically for correctional practitioners! This series will look more closely at the RNR model by providing a comprehensive understanding of the overarching principles, core RNR and key areas, and organizational principles of effective intervention with a goal to expand an agency’s “playbook” in shaping safer communities.

Key Topics:

* RNR Model: Understand the RNR model within the Principles of Effective Intervention.
* Spotlight Principles: Learn more about the overarching and organizational principles and the key areas that guide effective correctional interventions.
* Practical Applications: Discover how these principles can be applied in real-world correctional settings to enhance outcomes.
* Future Directions: Discuss emerging trends and future directions in correctional interventions.

While participation in all three sessions is not required, the series is designed to weave a greater message about how the principles overlap and interlock for the greatest impact to positively impact lives and shape safer communities.

Session 1: The Evolution of PEI and Overarching Principles

* Explore the historical development and foundational concepts that underpin effective intervention strategies.

Session 2: The Core RNR Principles and Key Areas

* Gain a deeper understanding of the essential components within the RNR framework and key areas.

Session 3: The Organizational Principles

* Discover how organizational structures and practices can be optimized to support and enhance effective interventions.