



**Adolescent Depression:
Developing Treatments and Treating
Development**

David A. Brent, M.D.

*Workshop on the Science of Adolescent
Health and Development*

September 9, 2005

Washington, DC

Objectives

- n Review salient factors that influence onset and course of adolescent depression
 - n Review efficacy, adverse events, predictors of outcome of antidepressants, CBT, and IPT
 - n Discuss how treatment could be improved by broadening context of intervention and outcome
 - n To include achievement of age appropriate developmental tasks and enhancing overall health
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Depression in Children and Adolescents

Point of Prevalence

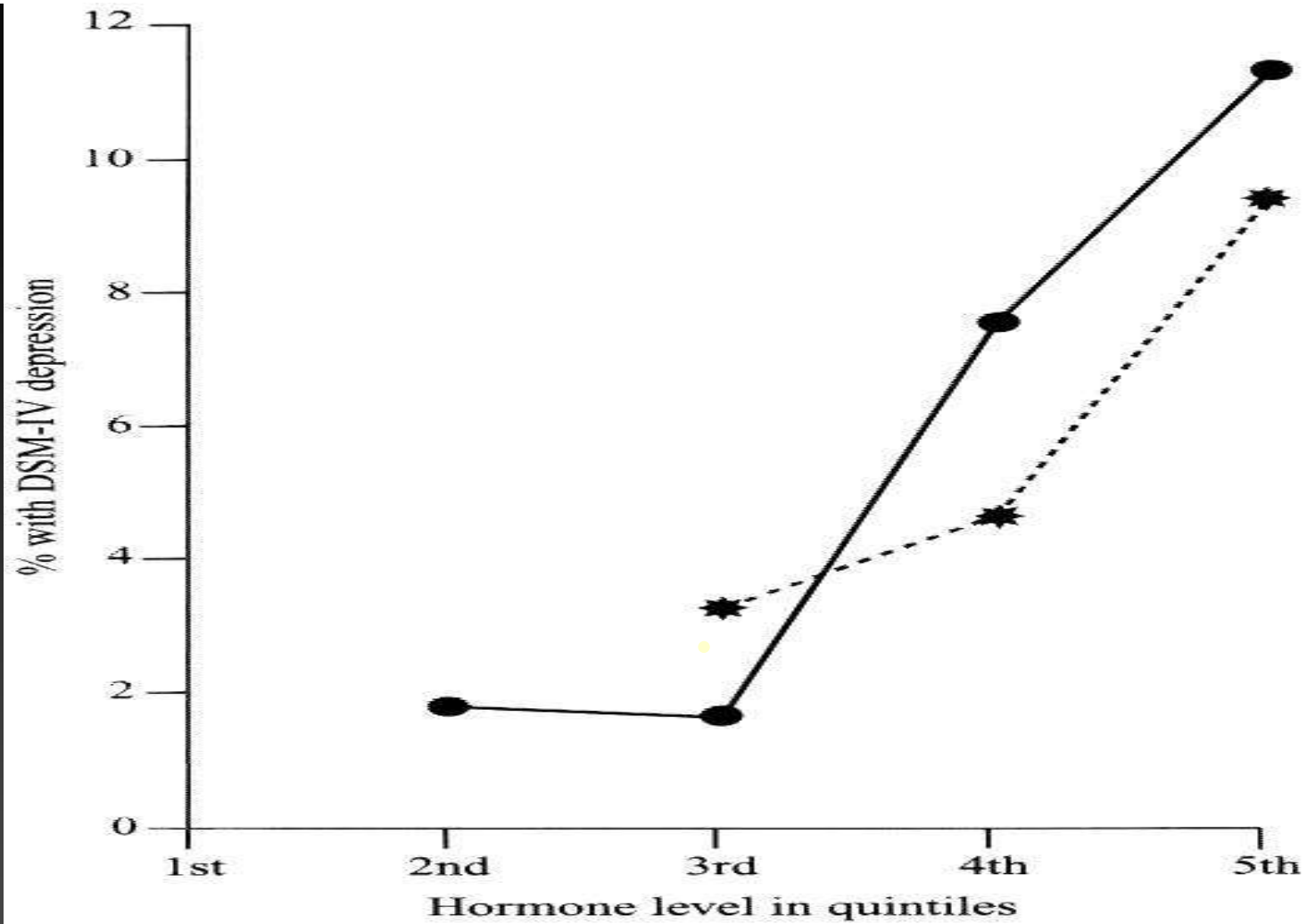
1-2% in children

3-8% in adolescents

Lifetime risk by end of
adolescence

20-30%

After Puberty 2:1 Female:Male Ratio



Hormonal effects on depression ([black circle, horizontal bar, black circle], testosterone; (Symbol), oestradiol).

Angold et al. (1999)

Course: Chronic and Recurrent

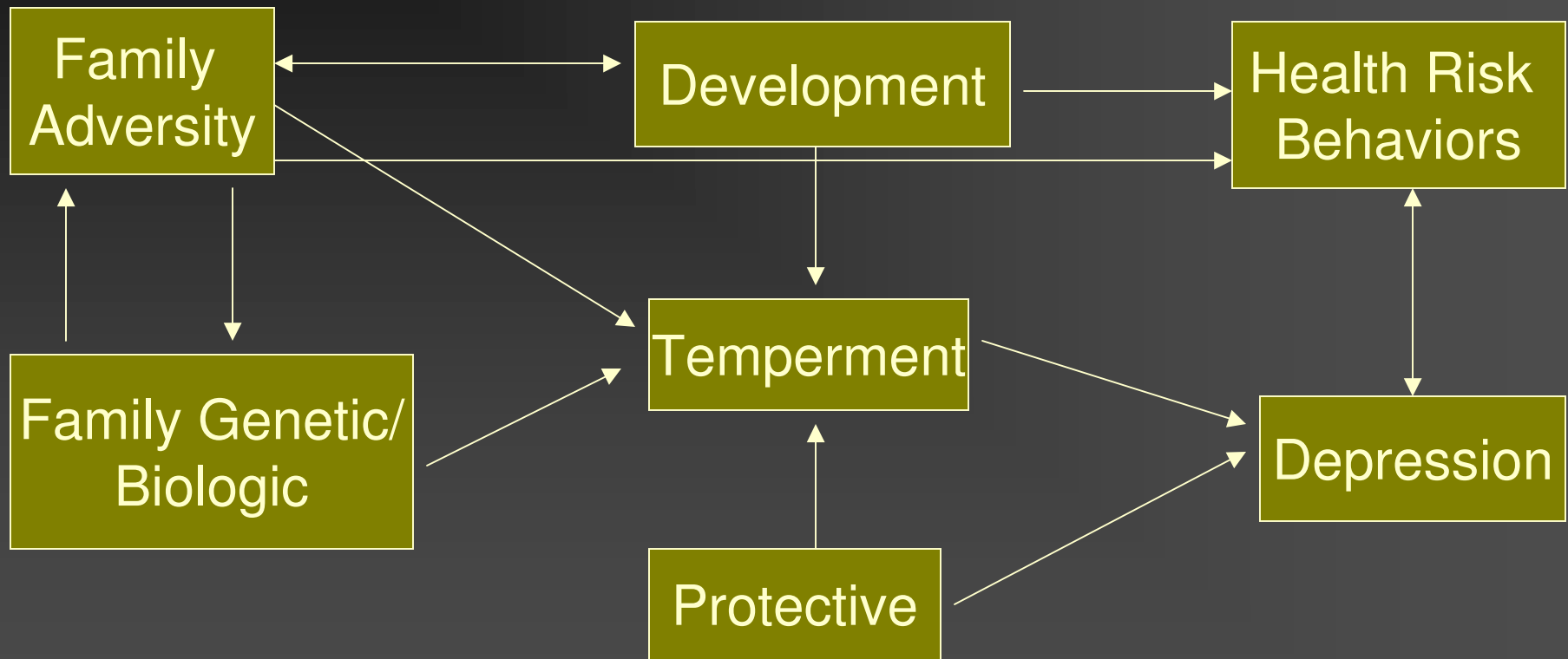
Episode Length: 8 months

Recurrence rate in 2 years 40%

Recurrence rate in 5 years 72%

Recurrence rate by Adulthood ~100%

Overview of Risk and Protective Factors



Development

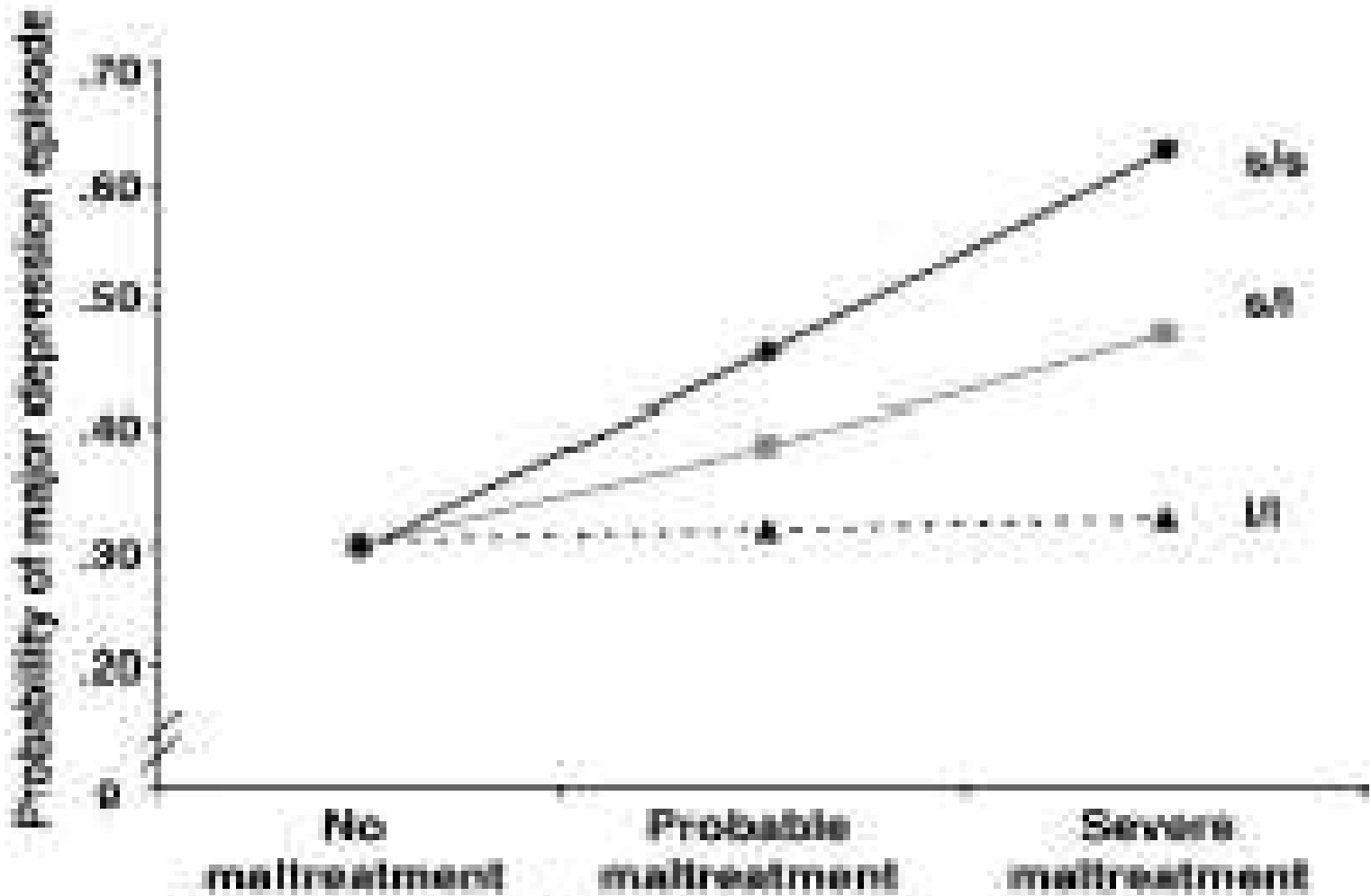
- n Early puberty in girls (related to maternal depression, conflict)
 - n Increased risk-taking and experimentation with sex, thrill-seeking, tobacco and substances
 - n Increase sleep “deficit”
 - n Greater parent-child conflict
 - n Decreased adult supervision
 - n Cognitive distortions become fixed
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Family Adversity

- n Parent-child discord
 - n Abuse/Domestic violence
 - n Parental criminality
 - n Parental substance abuse
 - n Loss
-

Family Genetic/Biologic

- n Parental depression and anxiety
 - n Adolescents > prepubertal depression re: genetics
 - n Altered serotonergic/noradrenergic neurotransmission
 - n Altered serotonin associated with adverse environment
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Caspi et al. (2003)

Temperment

- n Neuroticism
 - n Cognitive distortions
 - n Rumination
 - n Anxiety
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Protective Factors

- n Parent-child connection, supervision, expectations
 - n Family leisure time together
 - n School-child connection and achievement
 - n Prosocial peer group
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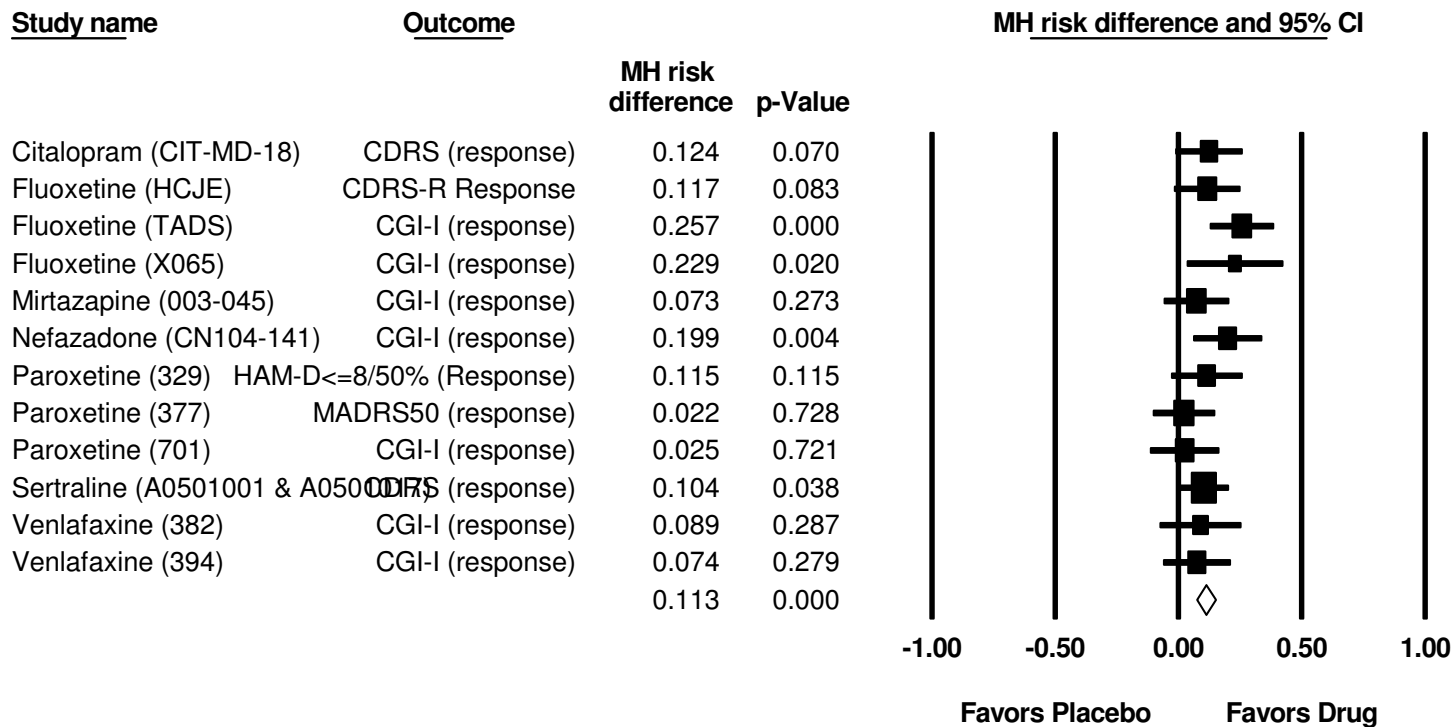
Associated Health Risk Behaviors

- n Related to adversity rather than depression per se
 - n Tobacco and substance abuse (bidirectional, although depression moderates risk, impact on serotonin)
 - n Obesity (decreased activity in depression)
 - n Early sexual experience and pregnancy
 - n Lower school and occupational attainment
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Antidepressant Treatment

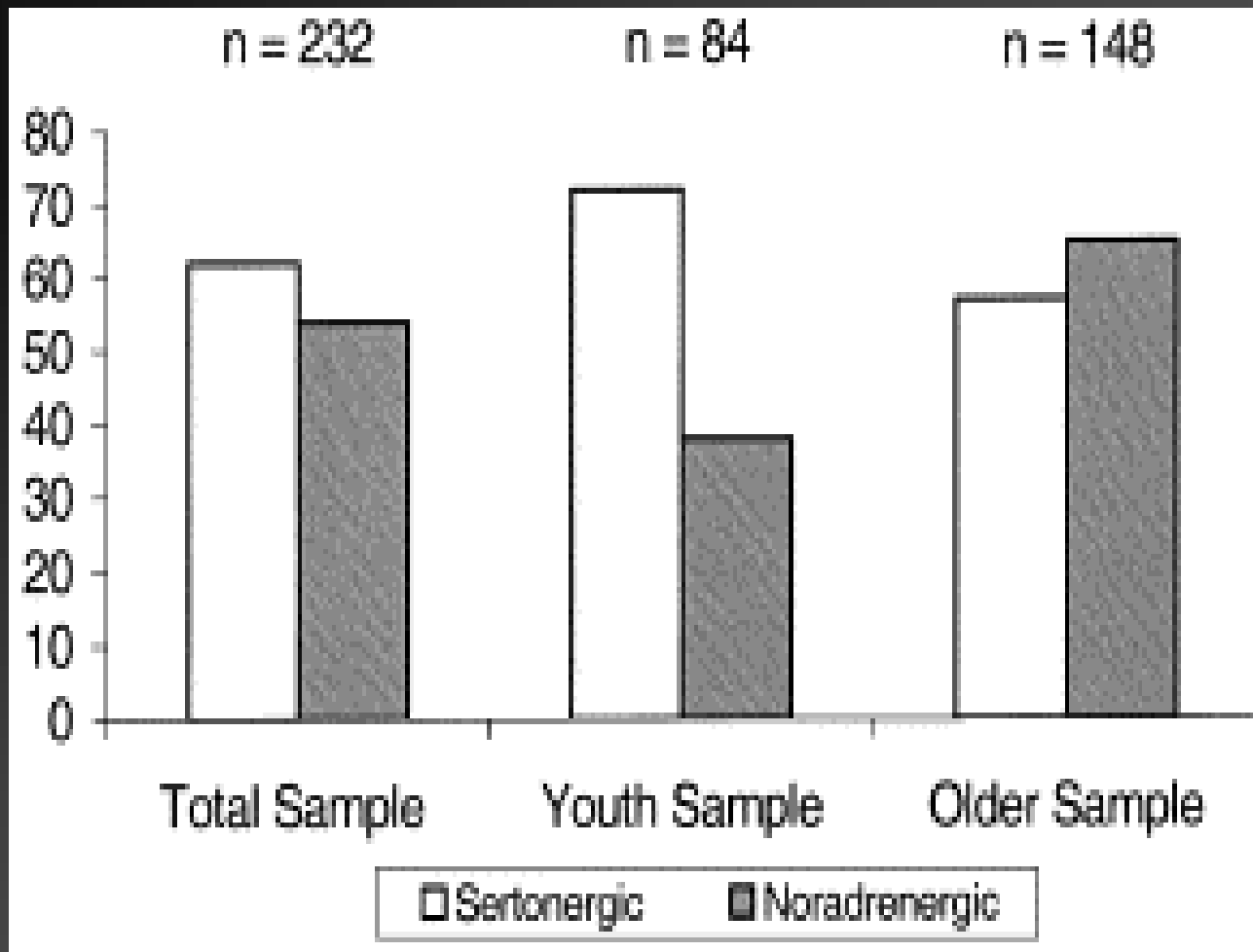
- n TCAs not efficacious
 - n SSRIs, NNT 5-10
 - n Adolescents > children (Venlafaxine, Paroxetine)
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Differences in Response Rates Between Antidepressant and Placebo Groups: MDD Studies



Developmental effects on SSRI response

- n Younger individuals metabolize SSRIs more quickly
 - n In young, serotonergic agents > noradrenergic agents; in older, they are equivalent
 - n In young adults, 5HT transporter s allele does not predict response, in older adults it does
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Percentage of patients in remission (i.e., HAM 17 \leq 7) by age group and drug type

Mulder et al. (2003)

Citalopram Pharmacokinetics: Steady State Half-Life at 20 mg (hrs)

<u>Isomer</u>	<u>Adolescent</u> ¹	<u>Adult</u> ²
S	16.9	32.7
R	30.4	54.3

¹Perel, et al, 2001

²Sidhu, et al., 1997

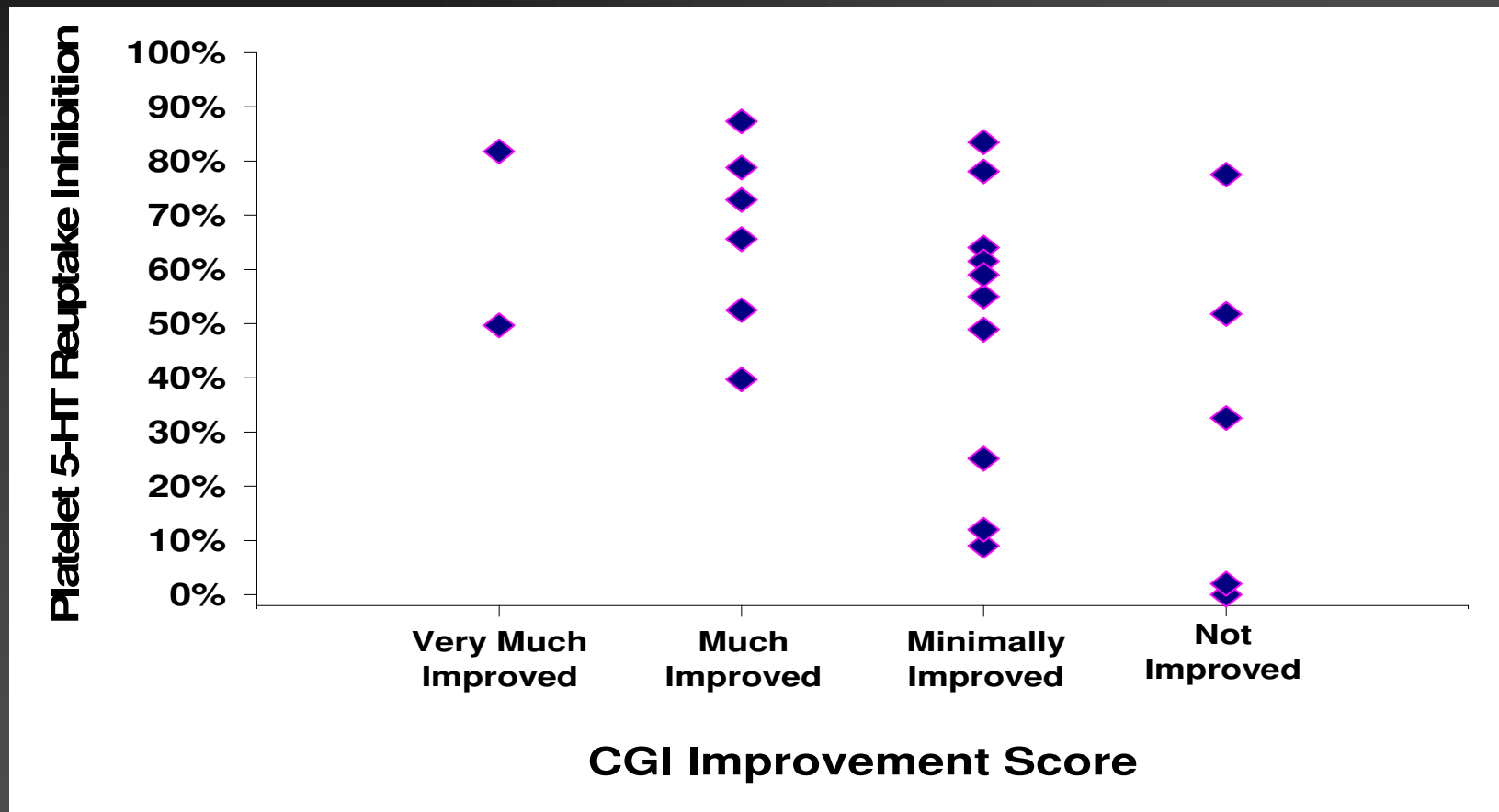
Suicidality and SSRIs

- n 1.8-fold increased risk, NNH=50
 - n Mostly ideation and threats, few attempts, no completions
 - n Related to family history, intake ideation and depression, increase in hostility
 - n ? Withdrawal, akathisia, disinhibition, mixed state
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Predictors of Response

- n SSRI reuptake inhibition (Axelson et al., 2005)
 - n Comorbidity
 - n Chronicity
 - n Severity
 - n Family discord
 - n Adequate dose and duration
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Platelet Serotonin Reuptake Inhibition by CGI-Improvement Score

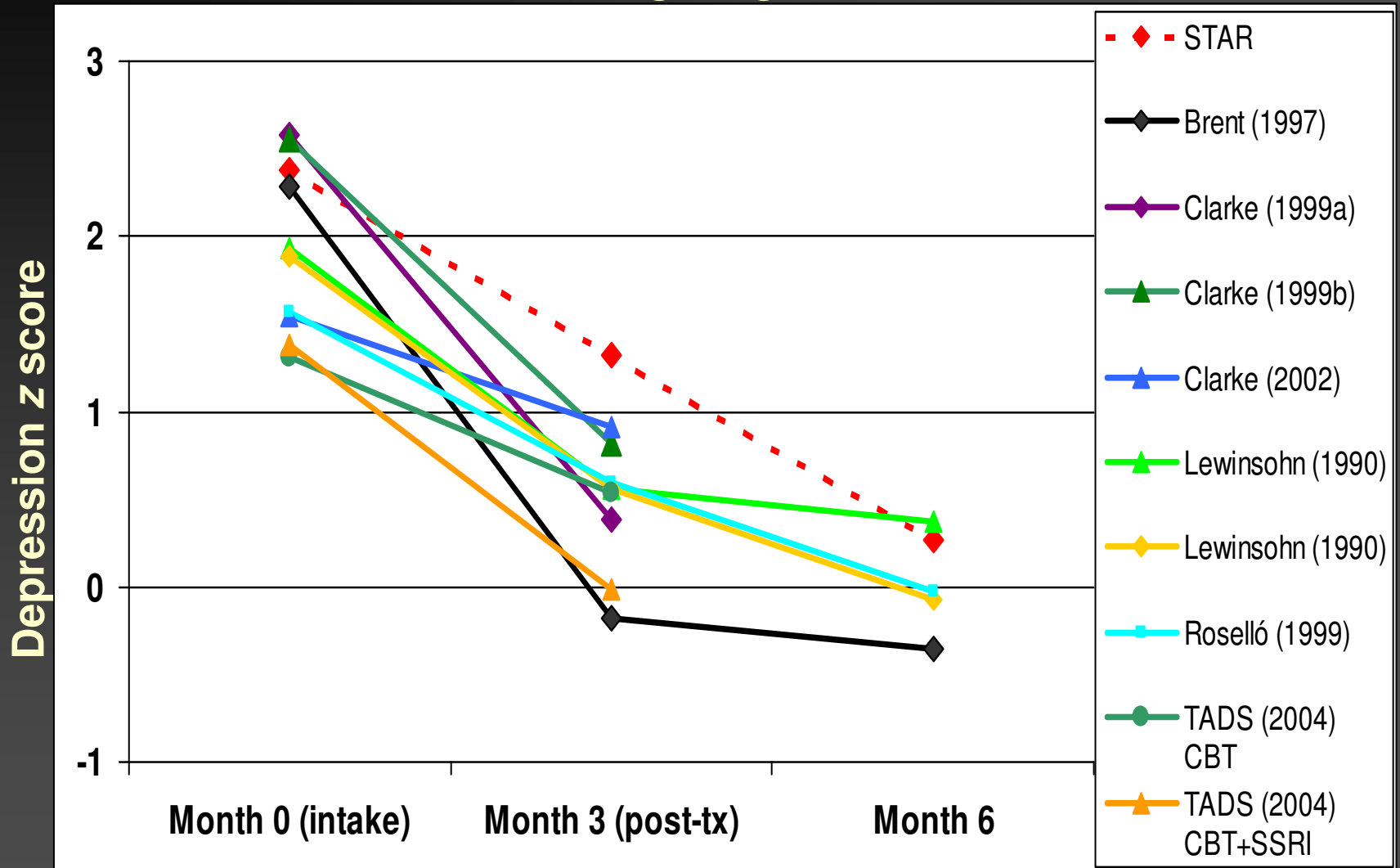


Axelsson et al. (2002)

CBT

- n Behavior activation
 - n Cognitive restructuring
 - n Social skills
 - n Almost all studies CBT > WLC, FT, ST, RL
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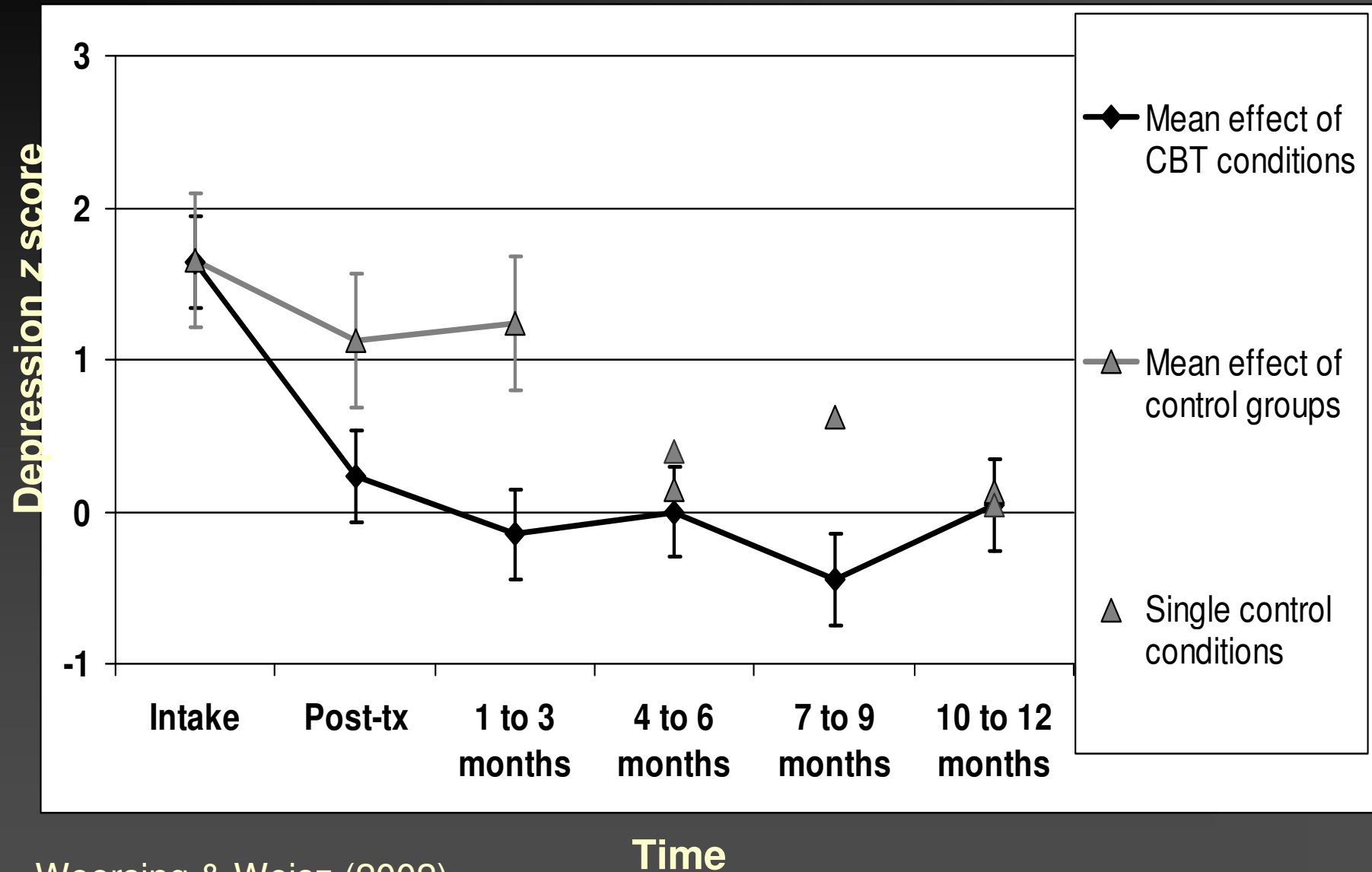
Converging Evidence: Data from CBT RCTs Targeting MDD in Adolescents



Weersing & Weisz (2002)

Time

Efficacy of CBT for Youth Depression



Weersing & Weisz (2002)

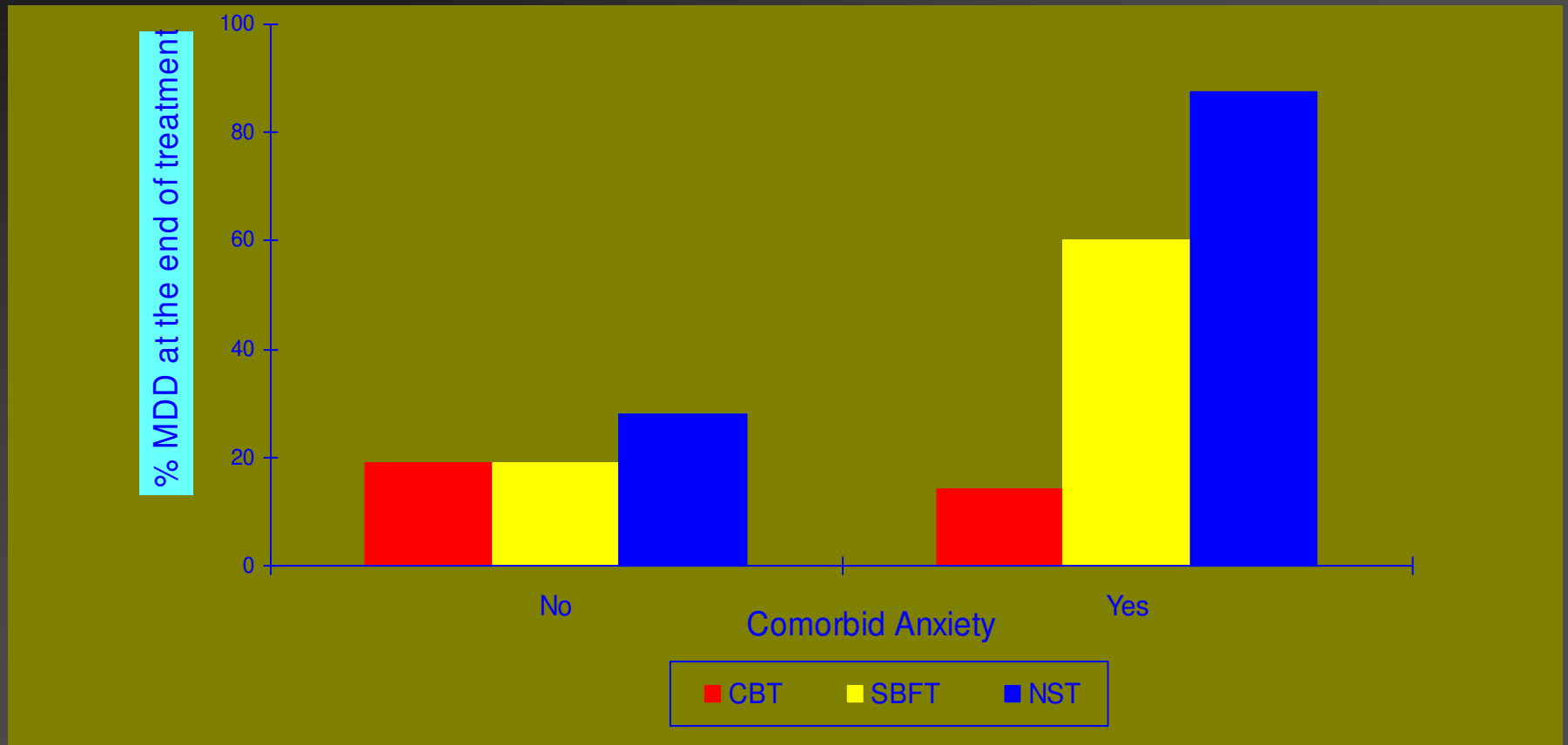
TADS and CBT: Why was CBT=PL?

- n CBT used-low dose of many techniques
 - n Not blind to medication assignment
 - n Combined treatment recommended, but for CGI-I, adjusted endpoints, more severe depression, CBT + FL = FL
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Predictors of Outcome

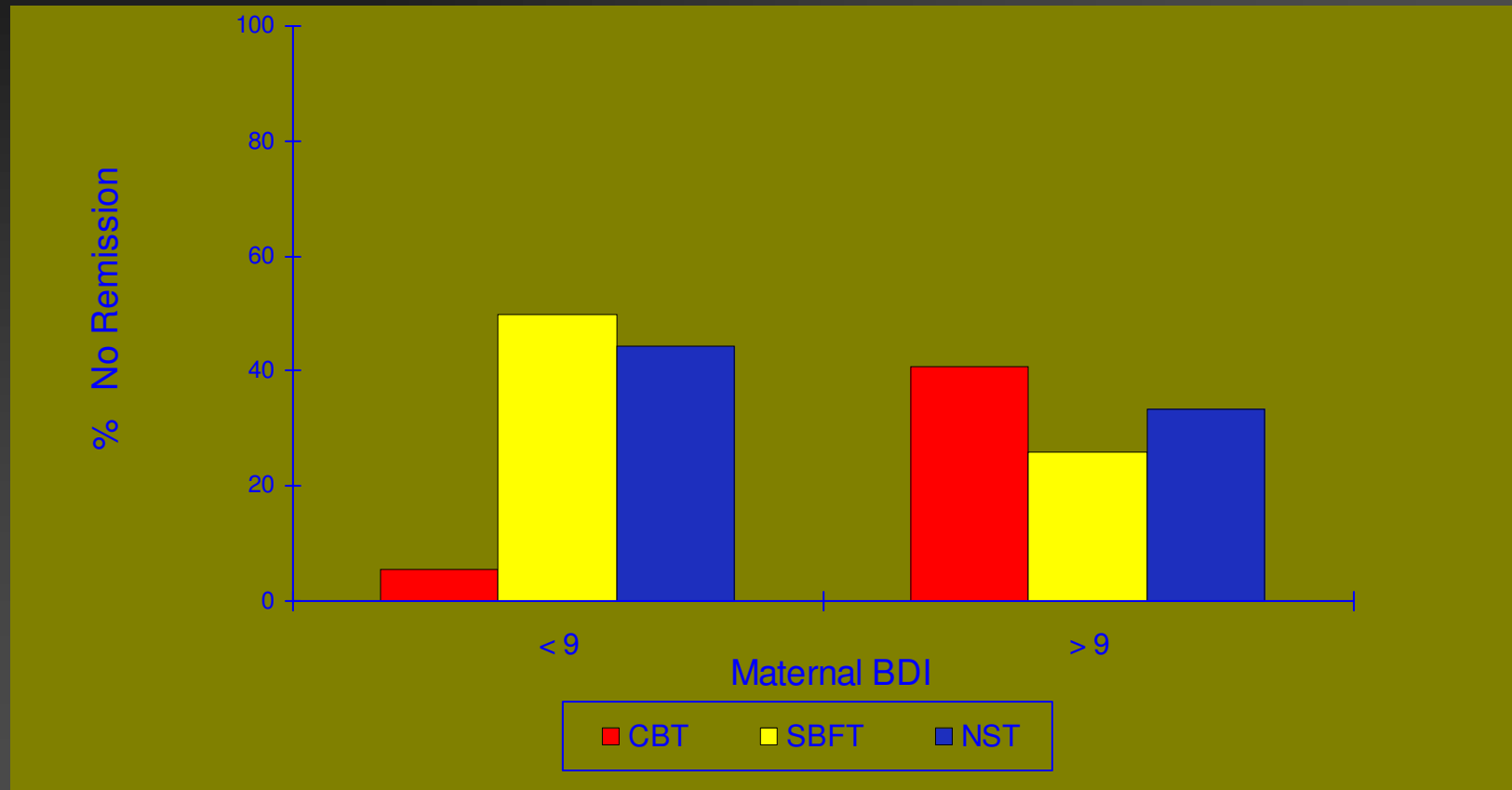
- n Age (younger more efficacious)
 - n Cognitive distortion, hopelessness, severity
 - n Comorbid anxiety, ADHD, substance abuse
 - n Advertisement
 - n Anxiety
 - n Parental depression
 - n Sexual abuse
 - n Change in cognitive distortion predicts response (age moderates)
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Depression at the end of Treatment as a Function of Comorbid Anxiety*



* Brent et al. (1998)

Failure to Achieve Remission as a Function of Self-Reported Maternal Depression (BDI)*



* Brent et al. (1998)

IPT

- n Focus on interpersonal relations
 - n Role dispute, transition, peer or parent conflict, loss, single parent family
 - n Developmentally appropriate
 - n More severe: IPT > CM
 - n Relatively easy to disseminate
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IPT for Adolescent Depression: % Response

	<u>IPT</u>	<u>CBT</u>	<u>CM</u>	<u>TAU</u>	<u>Prevent Relapse</u>
Rosello 1999	82	59	-		+
Mufson 1999	75	-	46		+
Mufson 2004	50	-	-	34	+

How to Improve Depression Outcome

- n Adequate dose, duration, continuation
 - n Education, and address hopelessness, to improve adherence
 - n Comorbidity (ADHD, substance abuse)
 - n Parental depression
 - n Family discord
 - n Sexual abuse
 - n Better understand heterogenetics in response (FG, PK, PD, PG, FMRI)
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Reducing Intercorrelated risks (? In Continuation Phase)

- n Problem-solving, emotion-regulation
 - n Prosocial peer group
 - n Modify parental supervision, connection, expectations
 - n Improve school connection
 - n Increase physical activity
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Recommendations

- n Treatment goals should be tied to the accomplishment of adolescent developmental tasks
 - n Use what is known about non-response to modify treatment
 - n Importance of contextual protective factors and associated health risks in treatment planning
 - n Need to study psychosocial and biological factors likely to explain individual differences in treatment outcome
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