Mental Health Continuum Model

REACTING **HEALTHY** ILL **INJURED**

Signs and Indicators

Actions to Take at Each Phase of the Continuum

- Normal mood fluctuations
- Calm/confident
- Good sense of humour
- ► Takes things in stride
- Can concentrate/focus
- Consistent performance
- Normal sleep patterns
- ► Energetic, physically well, stable weight
- Physically and socially active
- Performing well
- Limited alcohol consumption, no binge drinking
- Limited/no addictive behaviours
- ► No trouble/impact due to substance use

Focus on task at hand

► Break problems into

manageable tasks

Controlled, deep breathing

Nurture a support system

- Nervousness, irritability
- Sadness, overwhelmed
- Displaced sarcasm
- Distracted, loss of focus
- Intrusive thoughts
- Trouble sleeping, low energy
- Changes in eating patterns, some weight gain/loss
- Decreased social activity
- Procrastination
- Regular to frequent alcohol consumption, limited binge drinking
- Some to regular addictive behaviours
- Limited to some trouble/impact due to substance use

Recognize limits, take breaks

Get enough rest, food, exercise

Reduce barriers to help-seeking

Identify and resolve

Example of personal

problems early

accountability

- Anxiety, anger, pervasive sadness, hopelessness.
- Negative attitude
- Recurrent intrusive thoughts/images
- Difficulty concentrating
- Restless, disturbed sleep
- Increased fatigue, aches and pain
- Fluctuations in weight
- Avoidance, tardiness, decreased performance
- Frequent alcohol consumption, binge drinking
- Struggle to control addictive behaviours

► Talk to someone, ask for help

► Tune into own signs of distress

Make self-care a priority

Get help sooner, not later

withdraw

Maintain social contact, don't

Increase trouble/impact due to substance use

- Excessive anxiety, panic attacks, easily enraged, aggressive
- Depressed mood, numb
- Non compliant
- Cannot concentrate, loss of cognitive ability
- Suicidal thoughts/intent
- Cannot fall asleep/stay asleep
- Constant fatigue, illness
- Extreme weight fluctuations
- Withdrawal, absenteeism
- Can't perform duties
- Regular to frequent binge drinking
- Addiction

Follow care

access them

recommendations

Respect confidentiality

Seek consultation as needed

Know resources and how to

Significant trouble/impact due to substance use

- - See positive mental images

SELF TALK

- **GOAL SETTING**
- Specific: your behaviour ► Measurable: see progress
- Attainable: challenging and realistic

VISUALIZATION

- ► Relevant: want it or need it
- ► Time-bound: set finish time

- ► Become aware of self-talk
- Stop the negative messages
- Replace with positive
- Practice thought stopping:
 - "I can do this."
 - "I am trained and ready."
 - "I will focus on what I can do."

TACTICAL BREATHING

- ▶ Be calm and relaxed
- Use all senses
- Keep it simple
- Use movement

- Rule of 4:
- ► Inhale to count of 4
- Exhale for count of 4
- Practice for 4 minutes

Breathe into the diaphragm

AIR: Ad Hoc Incident Review

The Big 4

ACKNOWLEDGE that something has happened, and listen.

INFORM: Check in and apply the Mental Health Continuum Model.

RESPOND: Observe and follow up.

If you are concerned about signs of poor or declining mental health in yourself or a buddy, get it checked out. Resources include:

- Buddies
- Mental Health Team
- Chaplains
- Leaders/Supervisors

- Crisis or Help Lines
- Community Mental Health Services
- Family Doctor



Commission de la santé mentale du Canada









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- Follow care recommendations
- Seek consultation as needed
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This poster was created through a collaboration between The Department of National Defence, Calgary Police Service, and the Mental Health Commission of Canada. The Mental Health Continuum Model and R2MR Program were originally created by The Department of National Defence. For more info about R2MR, email r2mr@mentalhealthcommission.ca