Sex and Female Empowerment (SAFE): A Successful Sexual Health Intervention for Women in Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder

SAFE INTERVENTION

WHAT IS IT?



SAFE is a social-cognitive, theory-driven 3-session intervention to help women consider: (1) if they want to prevent pregnancy and (2) if so, then what contraceptive method(s) they want to use

HOW IT WORKS

SAFE works both as a face-to-face intervention or as a computer based intervention. It helps women:



Learn about contraceptive methods

Decide if they want a contraceptive method

Talk with a health care provider about the method

SAFE VERSUS USUAL CARE

In a randomized controlled trial comparing women Usual Care and SAFE groups, women recieving SAFE were:



More likely to attend a contraception consultation with a health care provider



More likely to select long acting reversible contraception (LARC)

Usual Care: 3 out of 10 women attended the appointment



SAFE: 7 out of 10 women attended the appointment



Usual Care: 2 out 10 women recieved LARC



SAFE: 7 out of women recieved LARC



KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

WHAT THIS MEANS



Integrating SAFE as a sexual health intervention within OUD treatment services may have a positive impact on reproductive health by increasing informed decision-making and empowering patients to initiate their chosen contraception method.

Source: Jones, H. E., Martin, C. E., Andringa, K. R., Ellerson, R. M., Johnson, E., Hairston, E., & O'Grady, K. E. (2021). Sex and female empowerment (SAFE): A randomized trial comparing sexual health interventions for women in treatment for opioid use disorder. Drug and alcohol dependence. 221, 108634. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2021.108634