## Research on Psychoanalytic Therapies - Some Issues

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**IPA-Committee on Research** 

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### Profession and Science

- In his day work it is necessary for a scientist to exercise a high degree of criticism and selfcriticism: and in the world he inhabits neither the data nor the theories of a leader, however admired personally he may be, are exempt from challenge and criticism. There is no place for authority. The same is not true in the practice of a profession.
- If he is to be effective a practitioner must be prepared to act as though certain principles and certain theories were valid; and in deciding which to adopt he is likely to be guided by those with experience from whom he learns. Since, moreover, there is a tendency in all of us to be impressed whenever the application of a theory appears to have been successful, practitioners are at special risk of placing greater confidence in a theory than the evidence available may justify. (Bowlby 1979, p. 4)
- Bowlby J (1979) Psychoanalysis as art and science. Int Rev Psychoanal 6: 3-14

#### Stages of treatment research

Stage V
Patient-Focused Studies

Stage 0
Clinical Case Studies

Stage IV
Naturalistic Studies

Stage I
Descriptive Studies

Stage III

Randomized-Controlled Studies

Stage II
Experimental Analogie Studies

# From Clinical to Systematic Case Studies

Anna O (Freud & Breuer 1895)

Dora (Freud 1905)

Ratman (Freud 1909)

Narrative of a child analysis (Klein 1961)

The psychoanalytic process (Dewald 1972)

The two analysis of Mr. Z (Kohut 1979)

Mrs C (Dahl 1988; Weiss & Sampson 1986)

Amalia X (Kächele et al. 2006)

### Stage I Descriptive Studies on

- # working alliance f.e. Luborsky 's helping alliance 1976
- # transference f.e. Luborsky's CCRT 1977, Dahl's FRAME 1988, Gill's PERT 1982
- # technique, f.e. Q-Sort of Jones 1990
- # mastery, fe. Weiss & Sampson's plan analysis 1986, Dahlbender & Grenyer 2004
- # analytic process-scales, f.e. Waldron 2004
- # countertransference f.e. Bouchard et al. scales 1995

### Stage I Descriptive Studies

#### Methods to Measure Core Relations Patterns

- 1 Luborsky (1977) Core Conflictual Relationship Theme Method (CCRT)
- 2 Horowitz (1979) Configurational Analysis
- 3 Dahl (1988) Frames Method
- 4 Gill & Hoffmann (1982) Patient's Experience of the Relationship with Therapist (PERT)
- 5 Strupp & Binder (1984): Dynamic Focus
- 6 Weiss & Sampson (1986): Plan Diagnosis/ Plan Formulation Methode

## Descriptive Studies

Patient factors
Treatment factors

Therapist factors
Societal factors

Summarized in the

## Generic Model of Psychotherapy

D. E. Orlinsky, K. Grawe and R. Parks 1994 Process and outcome in psychotherapy A. E. Bergin and S. L. Garfield Handbook of psychotherapy and behavior change New York Wiley p. 270-376

# Stage II Experimental Analogue Studies

L. Luborsky: "Beginning in 1946 with the study of the context for an ulcer patient's recurrent stomach pain......

Cattell RB, Luborsky L (1950) P-technique demonstrated as a new clinical method for determining personality structure. Journal of General Psychology 42: 3-24

Luborsky L (1953) Intraindividual repetitive measurements (P-technique) in understanding psychotherapeutic change. In: Mowrer OH (Hrsg) Psychotherapy ₹ Theory and Research. Ronald Press, New York, pp 389-413

The first trial of P-technique in psychotherapy research - A still-lively legacy

J Consulting and Clinical Psychology 63: 6-14 (1995)

### Stage II Experimental Analog Studies

This methodology is not our strength

There are many good reasons for this

Exemption: Studies on Free Association



Hölzer M, Heckmann H, Robben H, Kächele H (1988) Die freie Assoziation als Funktion der Habituellen Ängstlichkeit und anderer Variablen. Zsch Klinische Psychologie 17: 148-161

### **Experimental Analogue Studies**

H. Heckmann, M. Hölzer, H. Kächele and H. Robben 1987 Resistance and transference as two main constituents in an "experimental analogue" of free association

W. Huber (Ed) Progress in Psychotherapy Research. Louvain-la -Neuve Presses Universitaire de Louvain p. 582-593

### Stage III Randomized-Controlled Studies

RCT provide findings for the efficacy of treatments under experimental conditions :

```
# selection of patients (exclusion of co-morbidity, 10% of
the real world samples are in such studies)
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- # manualisation of procedure
- # training of therapists
- # limitation of treatment length
- # standardized instruments

goal: high internal validity - price: low external validity

#### **CAVE** test tube research

# Manuals For Empirically Validated Treatments

- Bulimia
- Chronic Headache
- Chronic Pain
- Chronically Mental III
- Depression
- Post-Traumatic StressDisorder

- Discordant Couples
- Enuresis
- Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- Obsessiv-Compulsive Disorder
- Panic Disorder
- Specific Phobia

# Proves of efficacy of psychoanalytic therapies in RCTs (Leichsenring 2004)

```
# depression (ICD-10 F3)
# anxiety disorders (ICD-10 F40-42)
# stress reactions (ICD-10 F43)
# Dissociative, conversion- and somatoform disorders
(ICD-10 F44, F45, F48)
# eatings disorders (ICD-10 F50)
# psychic and social factors with somatic diseases (ICD-10
F54)
# personality- and behavioral disorders (ICD-10 F6)
# dependency and abuse (ICD-10 F1, F55
```

# News: Eclecticism in Treatment Development

So-called "disorder-specific" treatment development:

f.e. INTERPERSONAL THERAPY

IPT for major depression √
IPT for bulimia √
IPT for everything ????

### **Duration of Experimental Trials**

#### Cognitive-Behavioral Therapies

- 429 Studies, mean duration 11,2 sessions
- 434 Studies, mean duration 7, 9 weeks

#### Humanistic Therapies

- 70 Studies, mean duration 16,1 sessions
- 76 Studies, mean duration 11, 6 weeks

#### Psychodynamic Therapies

- 82 Studies, mean duration 27,6 sessions
- 80 Studies, mean duration 30,7 weeks

Data extracted from Grawe et al. 1994

### **Stage IV Naturalistic Studies**

#### Quite a number of good studies

#### Classic studies

like the Menninger-Studie: PI Robert Wallerstein

like the Berlin I Studie: PI Annemarie Dührssen

like the Penn-Studie: PI Lester Luborsky

like the Heidelberg I Studie: PI Michael von Rad

like the Berlin II Studie: PI Gerd Rudolf

#### **Stage IV Naturalistic Studies**

#### **Ongoing Top-Studies**

liked the Stockholm Study: PI Rolf Sandell

like the DPV Follow-up Study: PI Marianne Leuzinger-Bohleber

like the Göttingen Study: PI Falk Leichsenring

like the Heidelberg Study: PI Gerd Rudolf

like the New York Borderline-Study: PI Otto Kernberg

like the Finnish comparative Study, PI R. Knegt

like the Stuttgart TRANS-OP study PI Kordy

### **Stage IV Naturalistic Studies**

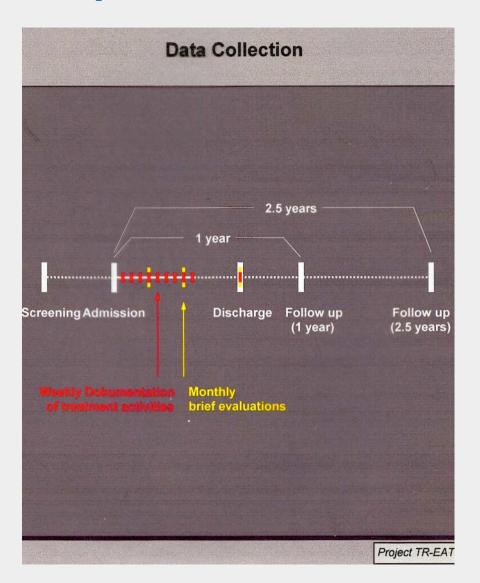
#### **In-Patient Psychotherapy-Studies**

like the Stuttgart Studie: PI Volker Tschuschke

like the nation-wide group-therapy-Study: PI Bernhard Strauss

like the TR-EAT Study: PI Horst Kächele

#### Requirements for a Naturalistic Study



representative sample

N = 1200 !!!!!!!

standardized instruments

a lot of money (2.5 Mill €)

Kächele H, Kordy H, Richard M & TR-EAT (2001) Therapy amount and outcome of inpatient psychodynamic treatment of eating disorders in Germany: Date from a multicenter study.

Psychotherapy Research 11: 239-257

### **Stage V Patient-focused studies**

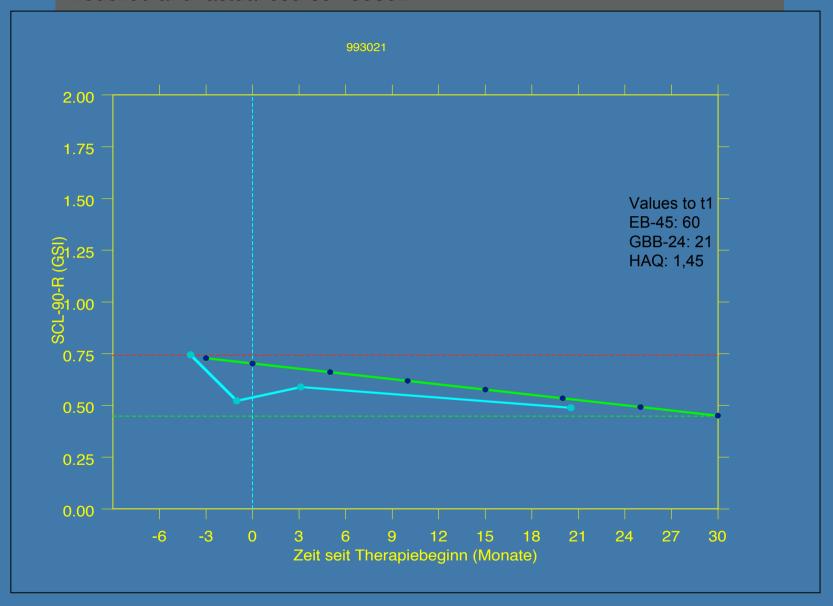
Using hierarchical-linear modeling the course of individual treatment may be predicted and the factual course compared with the prediction

Puschner, B., Kraft, S., Kächele, H. & Kordy, H. (in press):

Course of Improvement during two years in psychoanalytic and psychodynamic outpatient psychotherapy.

Psychology and Psychotherapy.

#### Modelled and factual course: 993021



### **Hot topics**

**Attachment** 

Duration and frequency

# **Attachment Theory and Treatment Duration**

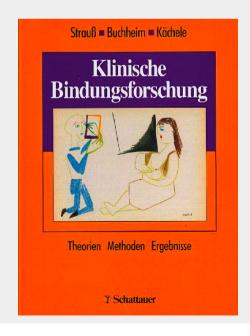
# A desirable increase of attachment security as a curative and protective factor for psychic disturbance can be achieved only by change of procedural memory (Bowlby 1988)

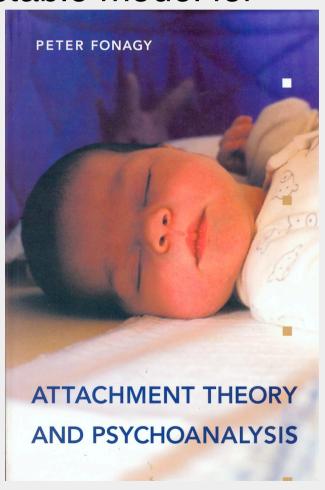
### **Attachment Theory and Psychotherapy**

# Attachment theory provides a testable model for

the concept of re-staging of earlier experiences in the presence, i..e. transference

s.a.





### **Change and Attachment**

- Is the therapist an attachment figure providing corrective emotional experience?
- Is therapeutic alliance equivalent with attachment?
- Is there something like attachment-transference or attachment resistance?
- Does intensity and length of treatment play a role in rdert to alter attachment?

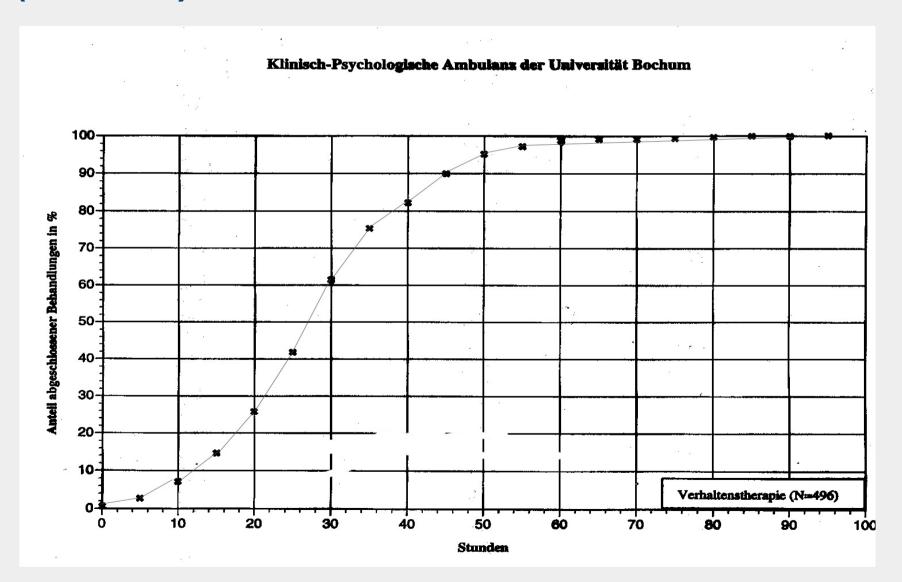
- ■Many open questions !!!!!!!!!
- (our new study: psychological and neurobiological changes in patients with chronic depression in psychoanalytic treatment - a longitudinal observation)

# Frequency, Duration & Total Dosage of Psychotherapeutic Therapies

! my personal guess !

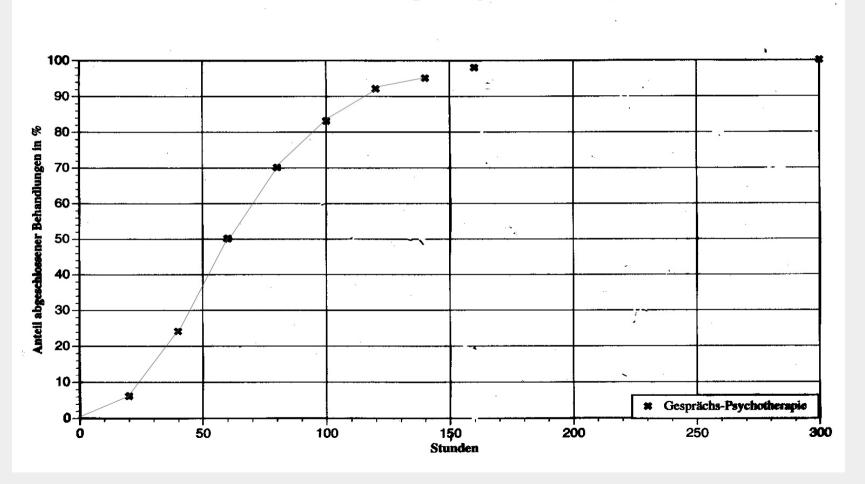
- 1 session per week ± 1 year: ± 30 sessions
- 2 sessions per week ± 2 years: ± 120 sessions.
- 3 sessions per week ± 3 years : ± 270 sessions.
- 4 sessions per week ± 4 years : ± 480 sessions.
- 5 sessions per week ± 5 years : ± 750 sessions.

# **Duration of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy** (N = 496)

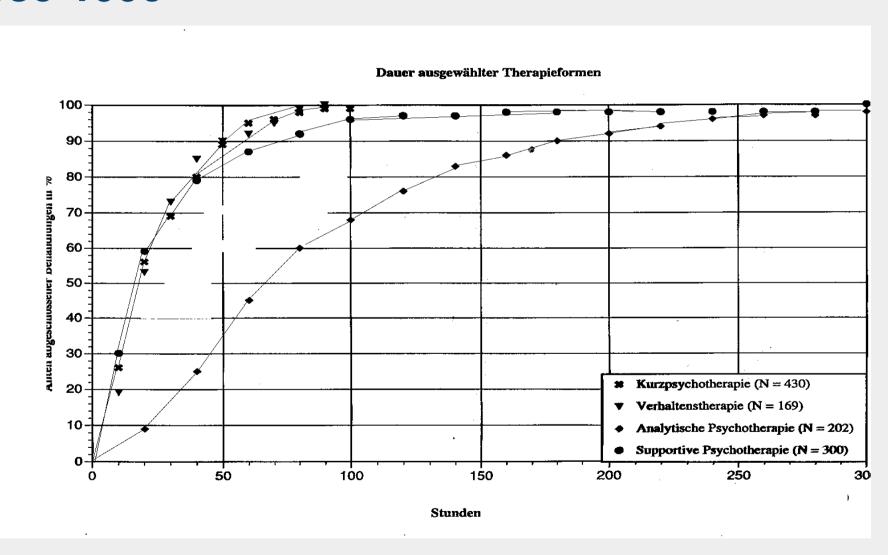


# **Duration of Client-Centered Psychotherapy (N = 300)**

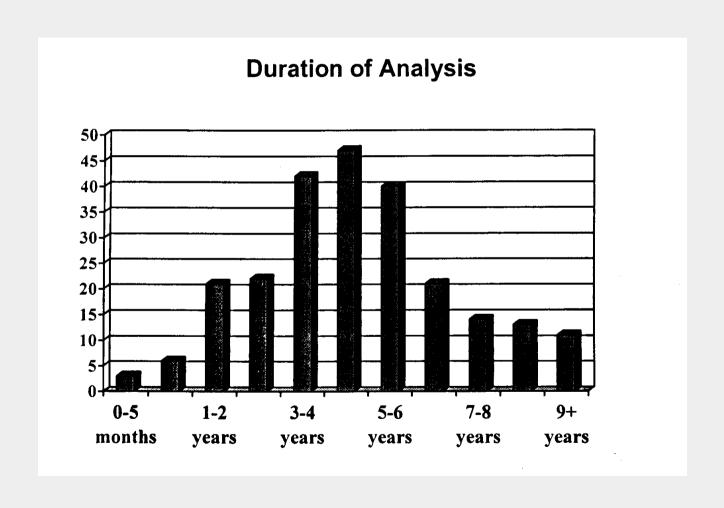




# Ulm Psychotherapeutic Out-Patient Clinic 1980-1990



#### **NewYork Psa Institute Data**



#### **Dose - Effect Relationships**

- Is there an equivalent to the dosage-concept in pharmacology?
- Howard HI, Kopta SM, Krause MS, Orlinsky DE (1986) The dose-effect relationship in psychotherapy. American Psychologist 41: 159-164
- Kadera SW, Lambert MJ, Andrews AA (1996) How much therapy is really enough? A session-by-session analysis of the psychotherapy dose-effect relationship. The Journal of Psychotherapy Practice and Research 5: 132-151
- The crucial issue: Is more of the same better?

### **ConsumerReports Study 1**

A US-survey to satisfaction with psychotherapy

- Questions to
- kind of therapy
- kind of therapist
- problems leading to therapy
- puration and frequency of therapy
- emotional situation before and after therapy
- Improvment in which targets
- Satisfaction with treatment etc.

### **ConsumerReports Study 2**

#### Three scales ranging from 0-100

- a) target-symptoms related improvement
- b) satisfaction with therapist
- c) global improvement (at time of survey) total scores between 0 and 300

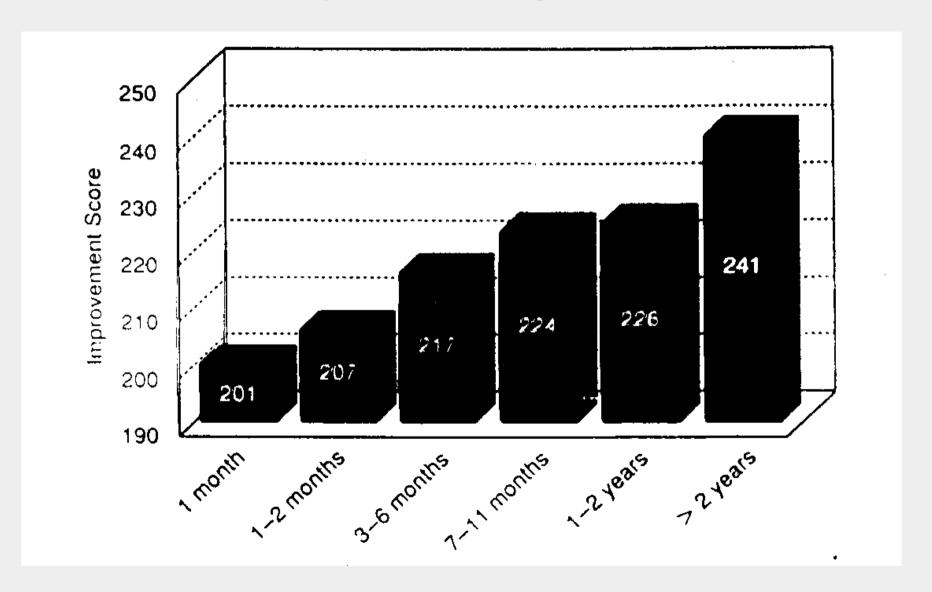
statistical control for initial degree of severity and duration of treatment.

#### Main finding:

Global Improvement correlates with duration of treatment

$$(N = 2.846).$$

### **ConsumerReports Study 3**



### IPTAR Study of the Effectiveness of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Aims

- 1. What is the influence of duration on effectiveness
- 2. What is the influence of frequency on effectiveness
- 3. What is the influence of duration and frequency on effectivenss
- 4.is there an interaction among clinical syndromes and duration, frequency and outcome

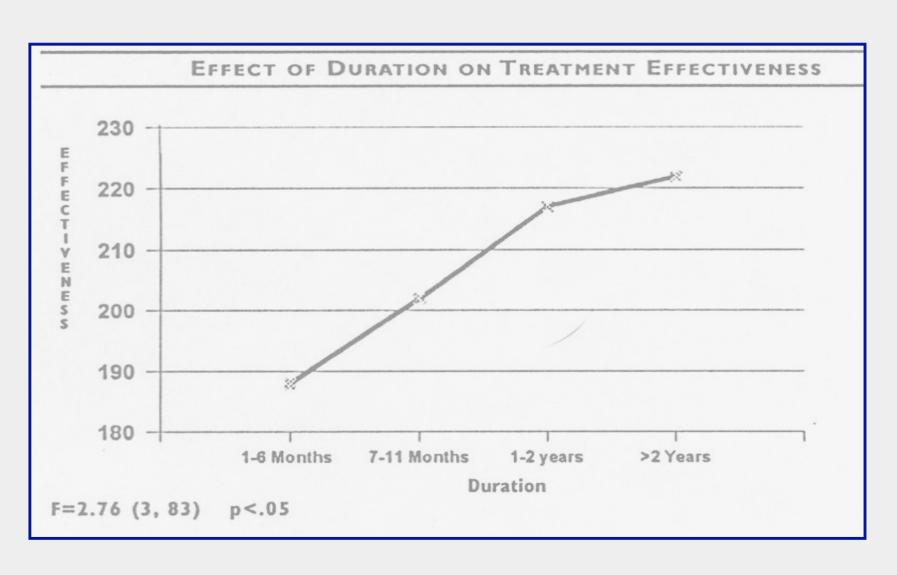
### ■ IPTAR Study - Sample and Method

Sample: Pat. of the IPTAR Treatment Center

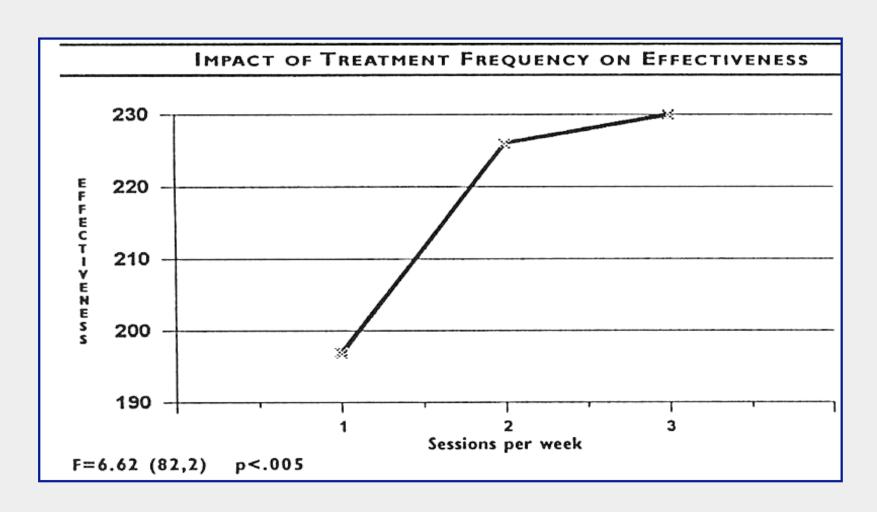
Method: ConsumerReports Questionaire

Participation: of 240 distributed questionaires only 99 were returned: 41% quota of participation

### IPTAR Duration and Effectiveness



## IPTAR Frequency and Effectiveness



# IPTAR Interactions of Frequency and Duration

Effect by Factor	Frequency	Duration
Overall	r=.29***	r=.28***
1. Eating	r=.51*	r=.09
disorders		
2. Anxiety	r=.57**	r=.14
3. Depression	r=.25	r=.22
4. Family	r=.17	r=.44
disorganization		
5. Stress	r=.07	r=.49**

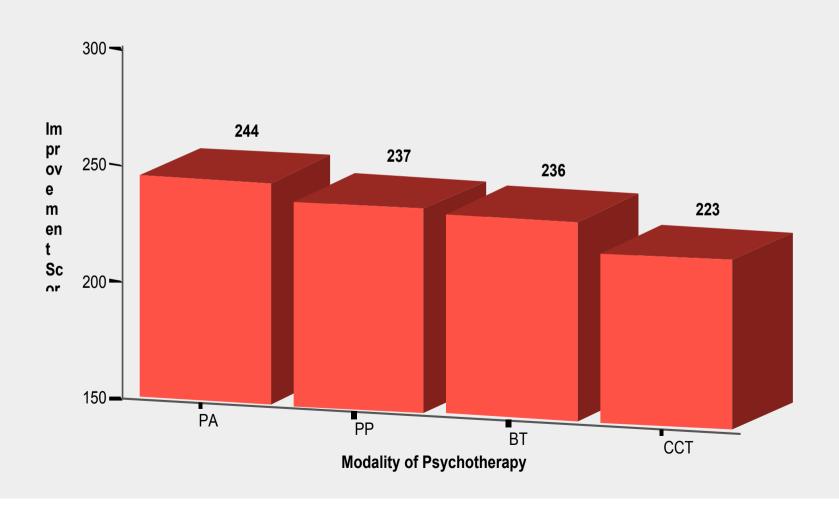
# Saarbruecken Study on Effectiveness of Psychotherapy and on Patients' Satisfaction

- Replication of the US CR Study;
- this is the second German ConsumerReports Study.
- see Konstanz Study
- F. Breyer, R. Heinzel and T. Klein (1997) Kosten und Nutzen ambulanter Psychoanalyse in Deutschland. in Gesundheitsökonomie und Quality Managment: 2 59-73

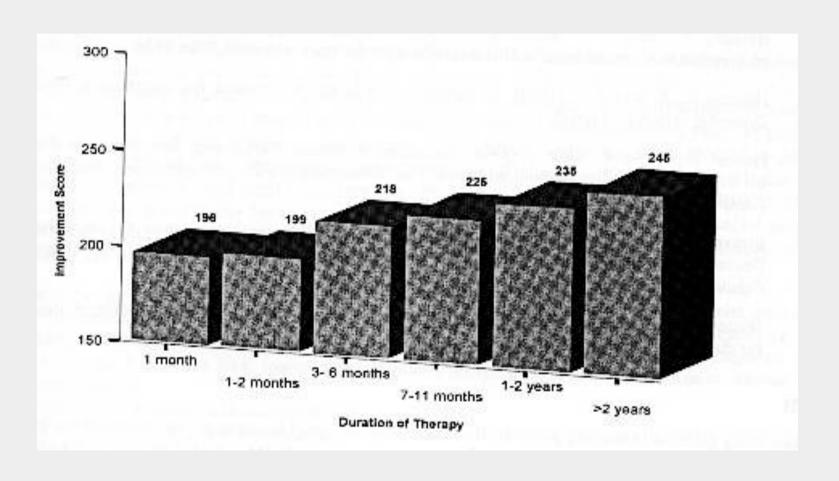
### Saarbruecken Study II Instrument and Sample

- Translation of the CR-Questionaire into German
- Distribution by various professional organisations.
- Samples: 1621 questionaires, 1506 useful, 115 excluded.
- The authors claim representativeness for German psychotherapy patients in terms of social-demographic features

#### Saarbruecken Study III: Effectiveness



### Saarbruecken Study IV **Duration and Effectiveness**



### Saarbruecken Study V Commentary to Findings

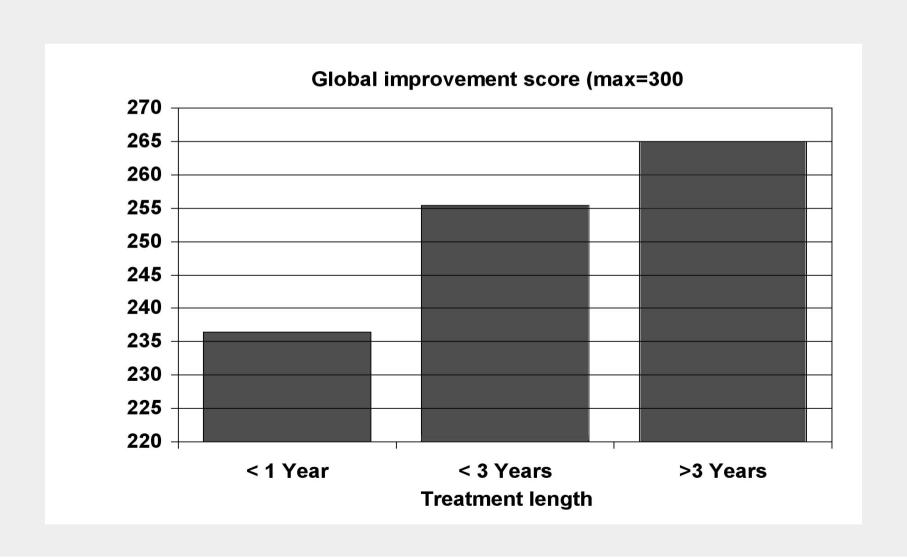
- Strong influence of duration
- The first significant improvement of effectiveness after 7 months, the second after 1 year and a highly significant improvement after 2 years.
- Methodical problems reside in the doubtful reprasentitativeness of the sample.

### **Berlin Jungian Psychoanalysis Study I Characteristics of the Follow-Sample**

Follow-up sample (n=111)	Mean (SD)
Age at follow-up,	44.5
1994 (yrs)	(4.8)
Age at start of	35.0
treatment (yrs.)	(8.8)
Age at the end of	37.0
treatment (yrs)	(8.0)
Time of follow-up	5.8
(yrs)	(0.79)
Treatment length	2.9
(0.3-8.3 yrs)	(1.7)
Number of therapy	161.9
sessions (range 15-	(94.9)
399)	

#### Berlin Jungian Study

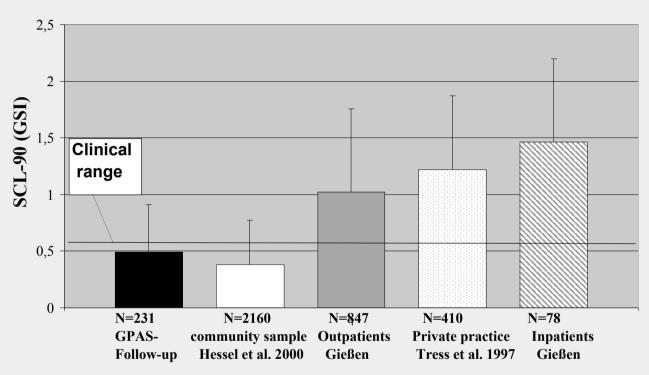
#### **Duration and Outcome**



#### **German Psa Follow-Up Study**

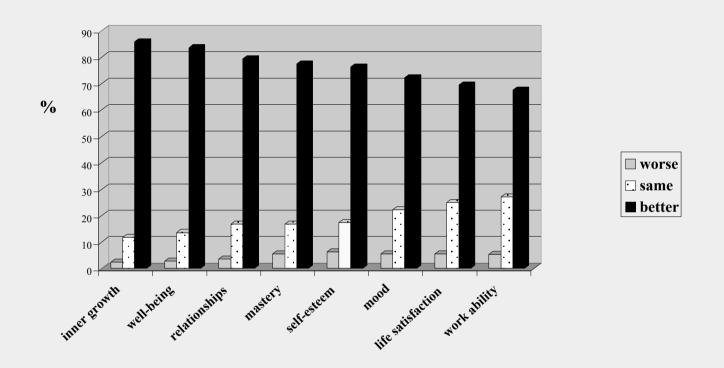
after six years:

SCL-90: GSI N = 231



Leuzinger-Bohleber M, Stuhr U, Rueger B, Beutel M (2003) How to study the quality of psychoanalytic treatments and their long term effects on patients well-being. A representative multiperspective follow-up study. Int J Psychoanal 84: 263-290

## **German Psa-Follow-Up Study Quality of Life N = 247**

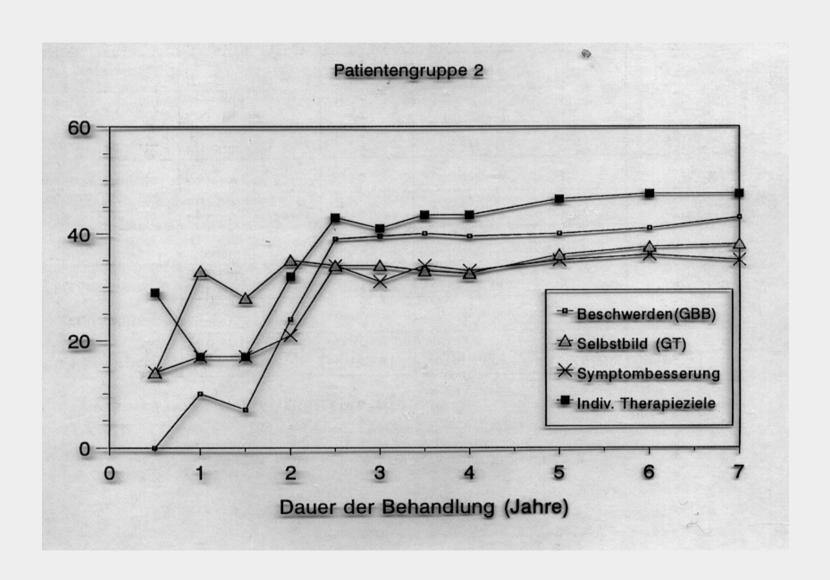


## Heidelberg Study Dose-Effect Relationships

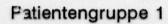
- (1) 'more severe disturbed patients" clearly lower improvement rates than less severe disturbed patients
- (2) patients with psychosomatic disorders or chronic functional disturbances need more time

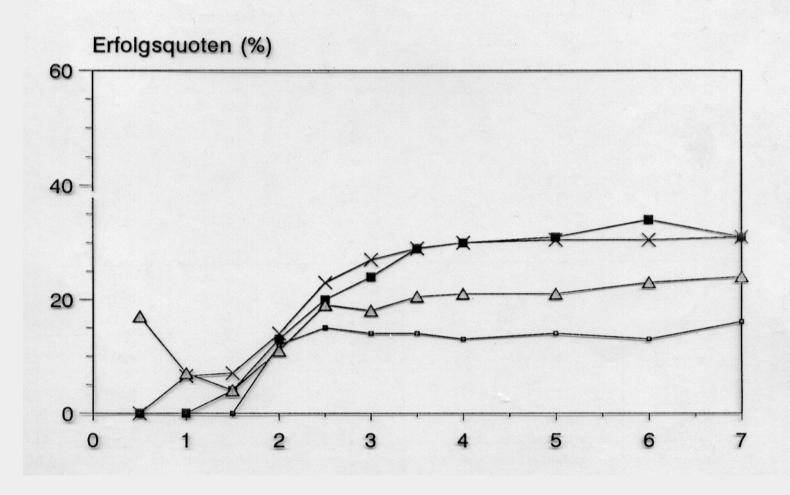
- M. v. Rad, W. Senf and W. Bräutigam (1998)
- Psychotherapie und Psychoanalyse in der Krankenversorgung: Ergebnisse des Heidelberger Katamneseprojektes.
- PPmP Psychotherapie, Psychosomatik, med. Psychologie 48 88-100

#### **Neurotic Patients**



#### **Psychosomatic Patients**

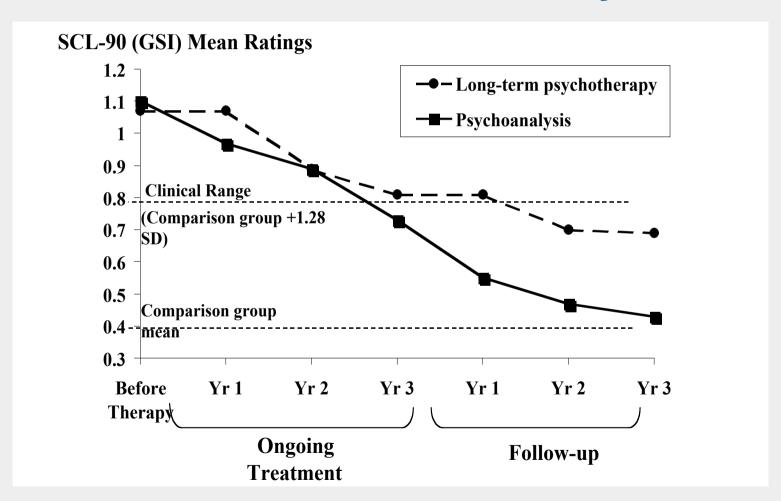




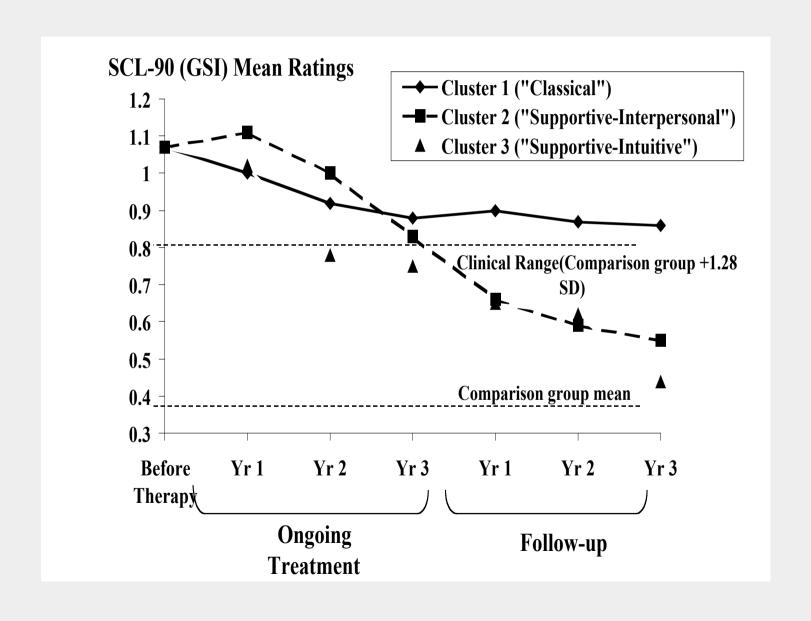
# The Stockholm Outcome of Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis (STOPP) Study

Treatment Groups	Comparison Groups
N = 700 persons at various stages of treatment (before, ongoing, or after):- n <sub>1</sub> = 60, subsidised for psychoanalysis 1990-1992 or 1991-1993 n <sub>2</sub> = 140, subsidised for long-term psychotherapy 1990-1992 or 1991-1993 n <sub>3</sub> = 500 on waiting-list for subsidy in 1994	N = 650 persons:- $n_4 = 400$ in community random sample $n_5 = 250$ university students

#### STOPP SCL-90 Global Severity



#### **STOPP Therapists factors**



#### Conclusions

- Time matters; dosage less so
- Focus on interaction of patient qualities and therapists style: treatment-aptitude paradigm
- Lambert (1992): 30% of improvement are a function of therapeutic factors (warmth, empathy, acceptance etc.)
- Wampold (2001): therapists have an effect size of .50 .60 and "dramatically more variance is due to therapists than to treatments"