

***Cross-Site Report: JDC/RF Programmatic Processes– September 2015
Five Site Report***

This Cross-Site Report presents an analysis of site-specific process data on JDC/RF enrollment and treatment initiation. Data were identified and analyzed by reviewing and comparing site program documents to corresponding process data collected during site visits, clarifying and confirming data with site representatives, soliciting and incorporating feedback from site representatives on draft versions of Site Implementation Process Flows, and confirming with site representatives that the final version of the site-specific reports reflected their site’s JDC/RF implementation process. The cross-site results in this report focus on (1) the number of steps that occur between youth referral to the JDC/RF program and youth enrollment in the JDC/RF program; (2) the average number of days between youth referral to the JDC/RF program and youth enrollment in the JDC/RF program; (3) the number of steps that occur between youth referral to the JDC/RF program and treatment initiation; and (4) the average number of days between youth referral to the JDC/RF program and treatment initiation.

The number of “steps” to enrollment in JDC/RF and to treatment initiation were defined by how many individual activities or components were implemented at each site (e.g., initial court appearance, family meeting, screening) as part of the overall program process. For instance, all five sites conducted a screener, a clinical assessment, had at least one court appearance, and had a staffing/team meeting to discuss appropriateness of youth placement in JDC/RF program. Two sites (Sites 3 and 4) had family meetings, one site (Site 3) had intake interviews, and one site (Site 2) had referrals to case management as part of the JDC/RF implementation process.

Combined, the five JDC/RF sites have a total of nine “tracks” or specialty court programs to best serve their respective youth (one site has three tracks, two sites have two tracks, and the remaining two sites have one track). While some sites have multiple tracks, one track per site was used in the cross-site analysis. This determination was based on (1) limited differences in number of steps and days between tracks at a given site; and/or (2) one track serving as the primary JDC track.

JDC/RF Enrollment and Treatment Initiation Process

Sites	JDC/RF ENROLLMENT		JDC/RF TREATMENT INITIATION	
	Number of Steps	Average Number of Days	Number of Steps	Average Number of Days
Site 1	3	8	6	21
Site 2	1	5	-- ¹	-- ¹
Site 3	4	25	4	25
Site 4	3	17	5	24
Site 5	5	30	4	24
Cross-Site Averages	3	17	5	24

¹data unavailable

The table above shows that sites range from having only one step between youth referral and JDC/RF enrollment to having five steps, with an average of three steps. Further, the average number of days at each site that passed between youth referral and JDC/RF enrollment ranged from five to 30 days. Across sites, youth waited an average of 17 days from referral to JDC/RF enrollment. However, based on ranges identified within each site, youth could be enrolled as quickly as one day or as long as 42 days.

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JDC/RF Enrollment and Treatment Initiation Process

For the number of steps and average number of days to JDC/RF treatment initiation, data are only included for four of the five sites. This difference results from one site having a dedicated substance abuse assessment and referral system that allows youth to initiate treatment independently of JDC/RF, making the calculation of the number of steps and the number of days not applicable. The four sites had either four, five, or six steps between youth referral and treatment initiation, with an average of five steps across all sites. The average number of days at each site between youth referral and treatment initiation ranged from 15 to 25 days, with youth waiting an average of 24 days across all sites. However, based on ranges identified within each site, youth could begin treatment as quickly as five days or as long as 42 days after referral to JDC/RF.

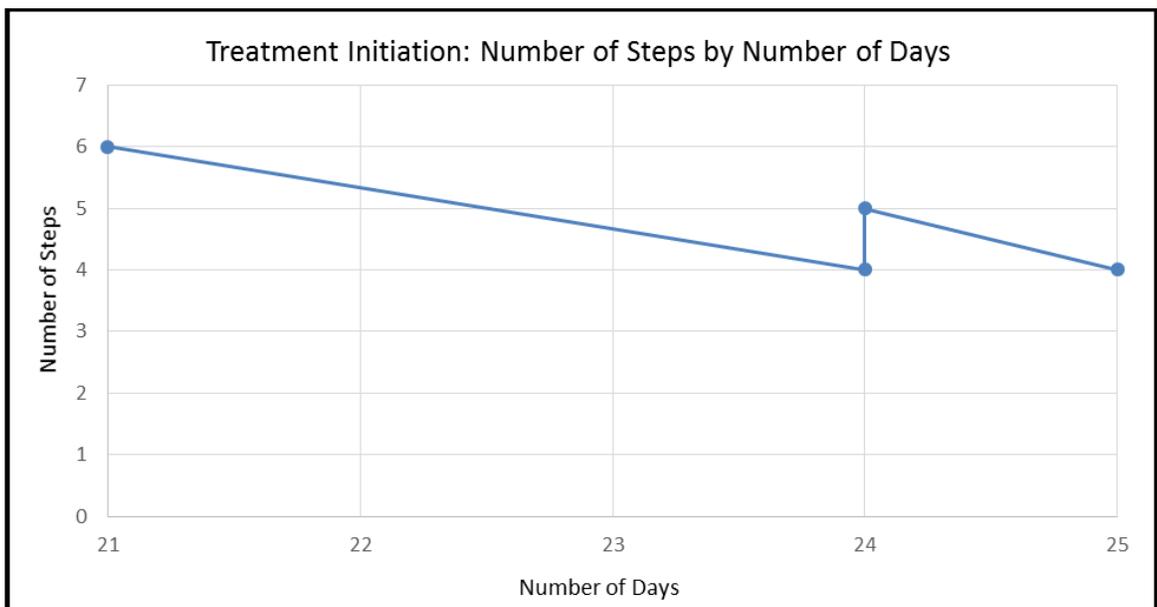
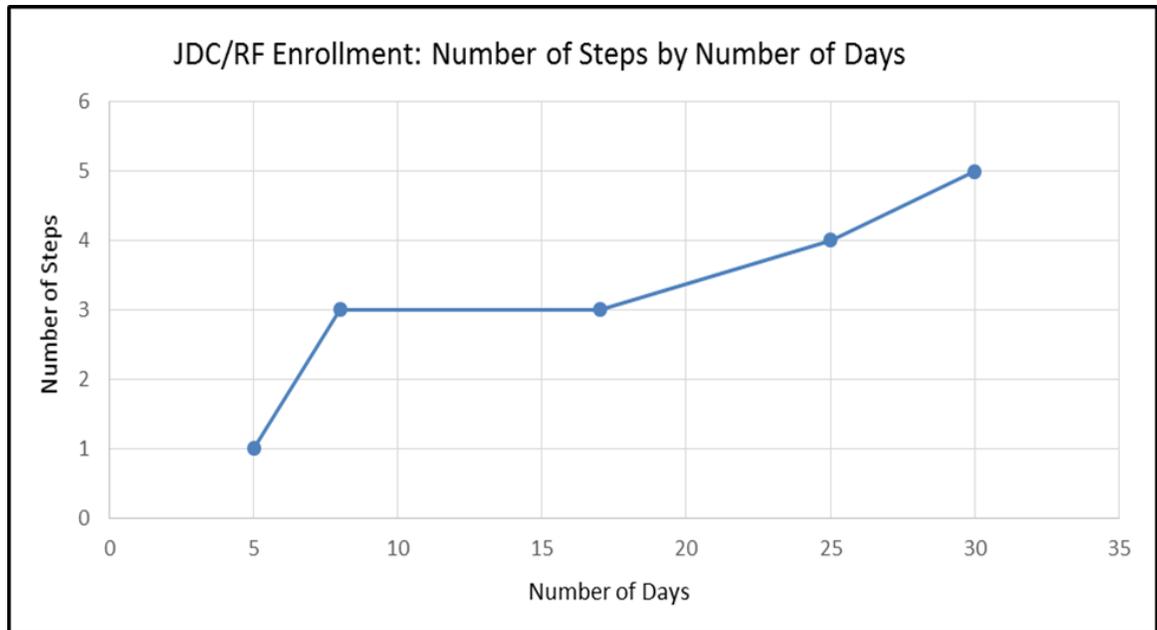
Three sites (Site 1, 2, and 4) had more steps and longer wait time for treatment initiation as compared to JDC/RF enrollment; one site (Site 3) had the same number of steps and days for treatment initiation and JDC/RF enrollment; and one site (Site 5) had fewer steps and a shorter wait time for treatment initiation as compared to JDC/RF enrollment.

As shown in the tables to the right, across sites, the greater the number of steps in the enrollment process, the longer the passage of time between youth referral and youth enrollment in the JDC/RF program.

However, the same was not found for initiating treatment, where the number of steps between youth referral and treatment initiation has an inconsistent relationship to the number of days between youth referral and treatment initiation (see right).

Two implementation strategies were identified as explanations of this difference. First, as sites recognized the importance of minimizing the length of time youth are required to wait for substance abuse treatment, several

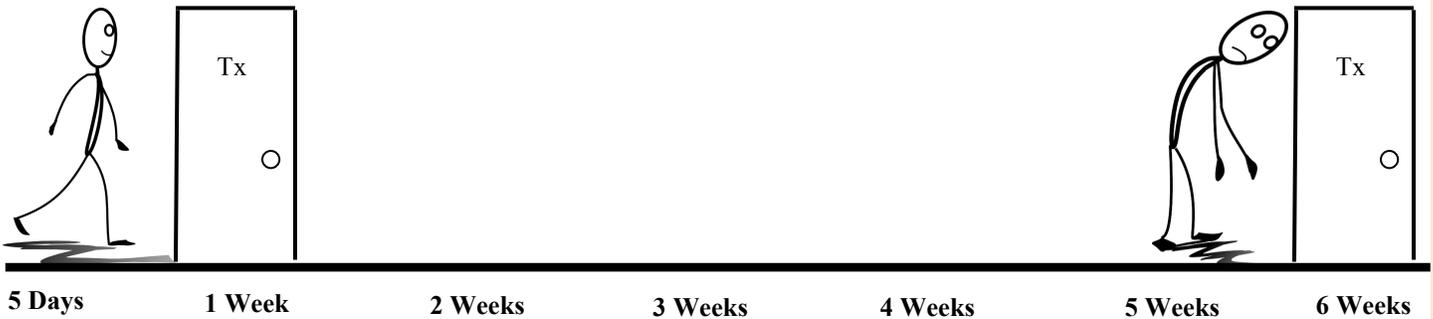
sites had treatment initiation occur prior to formal JDC/RF enrollment. Second, JDC/RF implementation varied considerably across sites with the process at some sites being more streamlined than at others. Thus, even though at some sites there were a greater number of steps, there was not a greater passage of time between youth referral to the JDC/RF program and access to treatment services. Both of these implementation strategies have the positive result of more rapid provision of services for youth in need.



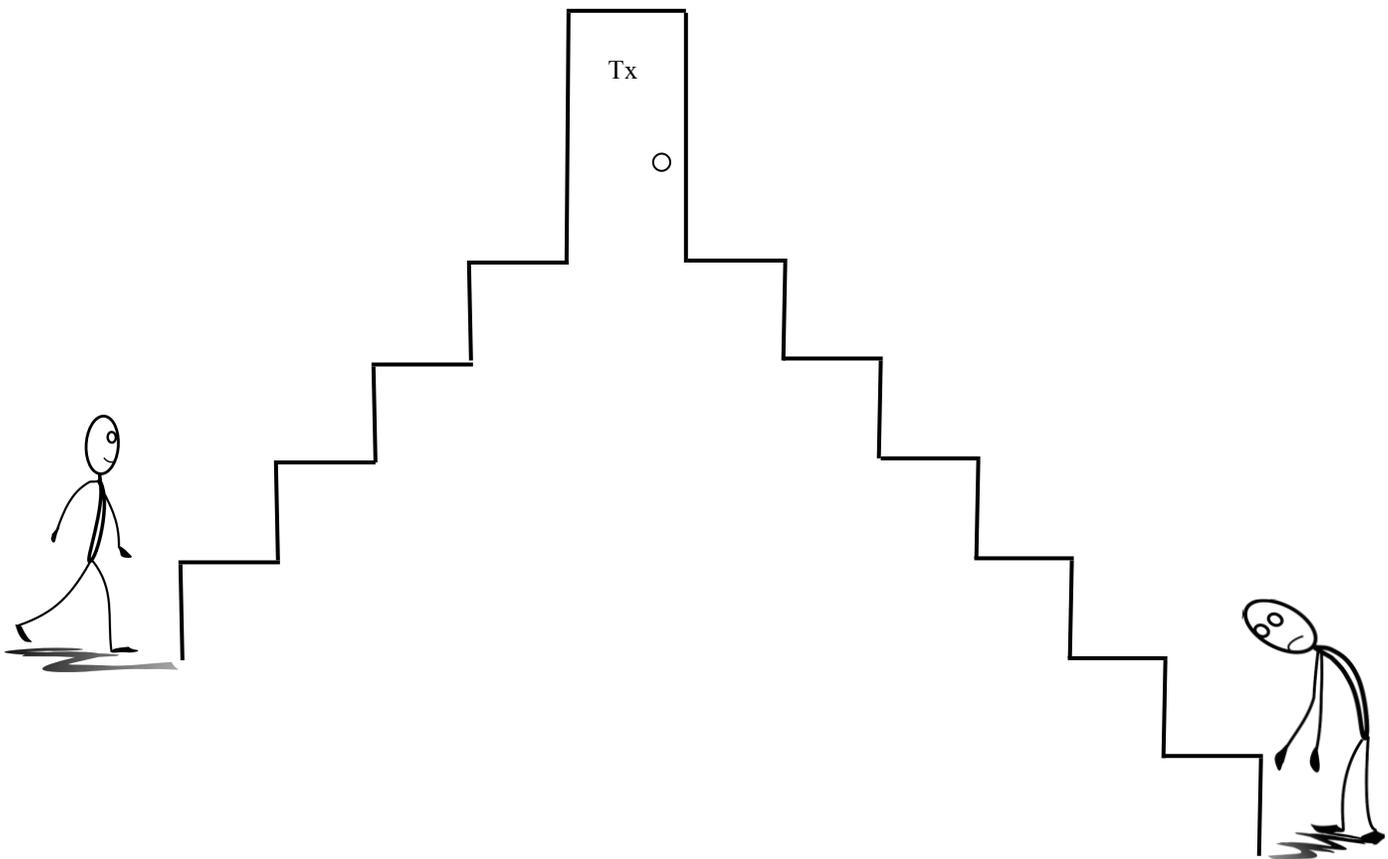
Variation in JDC/RF Programmatic Processes

The evaluation team analyzed the amount of time and number of “steps” required to initiate treatment at each site. Although the cross-site average time period from referral to treatment initiation took 24 days, the amount of time ranged from five to up to 42 days (six weeks), accounting for variations within sites. Likewise, it took an average of five steps to initiate treatment across all sites, but this ranged from four to six steps, depending on the site. The figure below depicts these differences and illustrates how longer wait periods can impact a youth’s access to treatment.

Time to Treatment (Tx) Ranged from 5 Days up to 6 Weeks



Steps to Treatment (Tx) Ranged from 4 to 6 Steps



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