A photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water's surface. The water is dark blue with many small, dark ripples and bubbles scattered across it. The sky is a mix of light blue and white, suggesting a clear or slightly hazy day. The overall mood is calm and serene.

**What does an Evidence-based
Mood Intervention look like?**

BACKGROUND

The relationship between tobacco use and mood disorders is complex.

- Individuals with major depressive disorder (MDD) are approximately **twice as likely** to become smokers.¹
- Approximately **60%** of individuals with history of depression are current or past smokers.²
- Quitting tobacco use is associated with reduced symptoms of depression, anxiety and stress, and improved mood.³

SCREENING, BRIEF INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL TO TREATMENT (SBIRT)

SBIRT is an evidence-based approach to delivering early interventions and treatment services for individuals with substance-use disorders, and those at risk.⁴ SBIRT aims to reduce the burden of disease, injury and disability related to substance use disorders through 3 main components: screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment.⁴ In this resource, we will discuss how to provide **brief interventions** for mood management as part of smoking cessation programming.



Brief Interventions may include communicating with your client the link between smoking and mood, measuring readiness to change, and setting behaviour change goals for follow-up.⁴ Psychoeducation and motivational interviewing can be applied throughout the session to address ambivalence.⁴

WHAT DOES AN EVIDENCE-BASED MOOD INTERVENTION LOOK LIKE?

- The type of intervention delivered will depend on the level of depression severity and symptoms
- The foundation of all treatment levels is **brief intervention and educational resources**^{5, 6, 7}

Minimal Depressive Symptoms (PHQ score 5-9)



Educational resources (e.g., workbook)

Brief intervention (<5 minutes)

Major Depression, mild severity (PHQ score 10-14)

- With increased symptom severity, use clinical judgement about treatment
- Determine treatment plan based on patient's duration of symptoms and functional impairment^{5,6,7}



Referral:
Psychotherapy

AND/OR

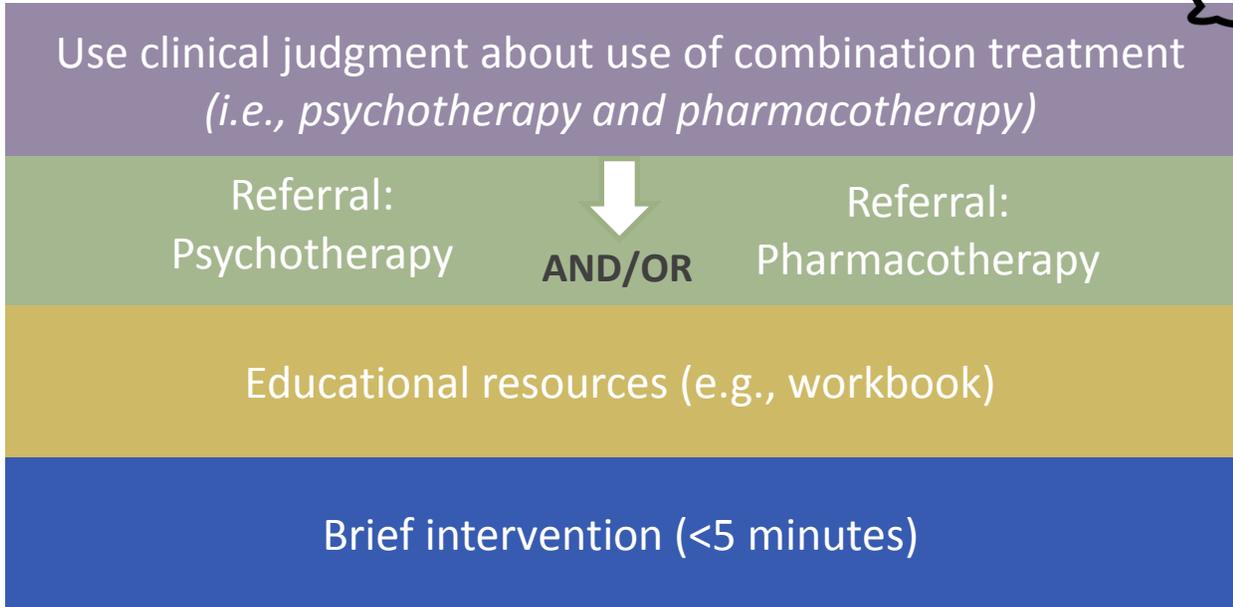
Referral:
Pharmacotherapy

Educational resources (e.g., workbook)

Brief intervention (<5 minutes)

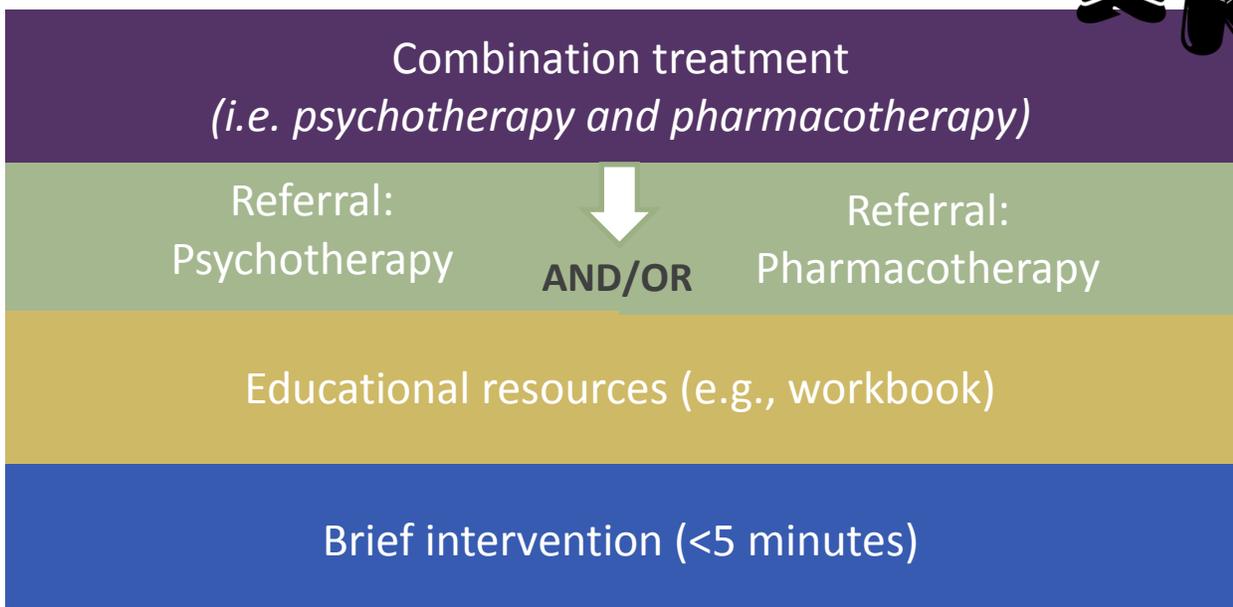
Major Depression, moderate severity (PHQ score 15-19)

- With an increase in symptom severity, referral to specialty care is strongly advised
- Use clinical judgement to decide on individual vs. combination therapy^{5,6,7}



Major Depression, severe severity (PHQ score ≥ 20)

- Immediate referral to combination therapy is strongly advised
- Pay special attention to risk of suicide^{5,6,7}



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