



# Spectrum of Interventions

## Activity Output

- ✓ Reflect on current team practices and interventions related to public health response strategies
- ✓ Classify current interventions as emergency or transformational interventions
- ✓ Consider updating current interventions or adopting new interventions

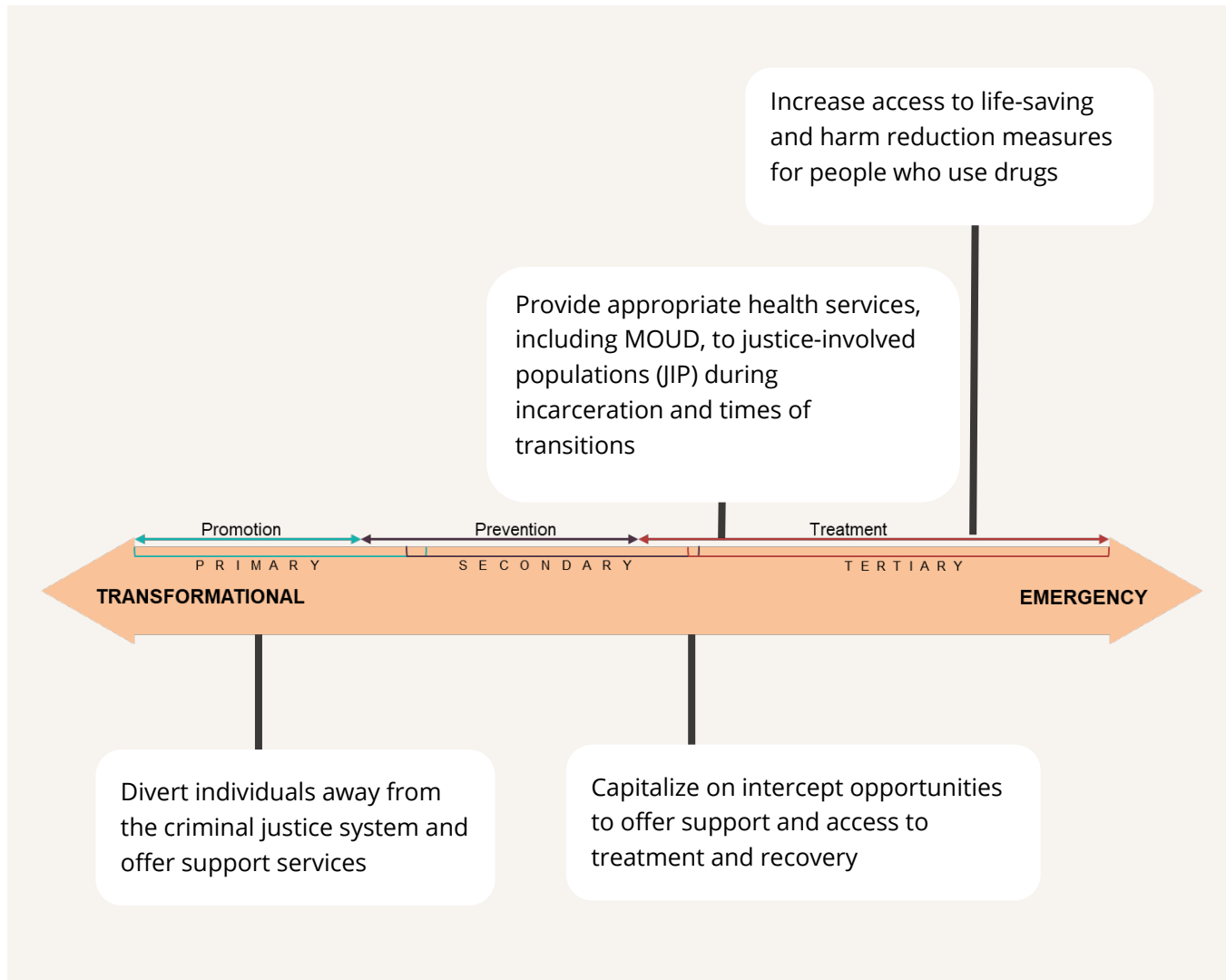
## Purpose:

To assist your team in discussing and making sense of your evidence-based overdose prevention interventions.

## Definitions:

**Transformational interventions** (e.g., cross-sector initiatives) focus on working differently to transcend and address issues that drive overdose and substance use more broadly. These types of interventions take time to implement and may be more system wide. Transformational approaches have substantial potential for preventing problems from occurring, recurring, or worsening.

**Emergency interventions** focus on very tactical, real-time, right-now strategies designed to immediately prevent fatal and non-fatal overdose.



In Module 3 of the PHAST toolkit, four key areas were described on which you can focus your overdose interventions. These have been placed onto the spectrum (see figures above and below). There are also specific interventions recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that relate to three of these four areas. Access the report here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/featured-topics/evidence-based-strategies.html>.



## Instructions:

With your public health and safety members, reflect on:

1. Which interventions you are currently implementing, that overlap/align with the four areas identified in the PHAST Toolkit and CDC recommended interventions. Where do these fall on the transformation to emergency spectrum?
2. What other interventions are you implementing (outside of the recommended interventions/programs) that align with the four key areas? Where do these fall on the spectrum?
3. Reflect on whether you are implementing more emergency vs transformational interventions. Does your public health and safety partnership want to continue the intervention types that you are implementing or are new intervention types required?
4. Make a list of new interventions that you might consider adopting based on your discussion.

You may want to refer to the Suite's [System Mapping](#) tool for Module 3 to aid your discussion and thinking.

## Suggested Next Steps:

- ✓ Incorporate your findings from this exercise in your partnership discussions and external communications.
- ✓ Include your findings as part of a grant or funding proposal to illustrate available interventions and needed interventions.
- ✓ Discuss intervention gaps and needs with existing or potential partners.