

PROVISIONAL PRACTICE PRINCIPLES FOR TREATING CHILDREN WITH COMPLEX
TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDERS

1. Identify and address threats to the child's family's safety and stability.
Potential threats include ongoing family violence, self-harm or suicidality, behaviors that place the child at risk for harm, substance abuse or psychopathology by caretakers.
2. Develop a relational bridge to engage, retain, and benefit the child and the caregivers. Be certain that treatment is responsive to the client's cultural practices.
3. Diagnosis should avoid emphasizing pathology. Rather, the treatment plan should reflect the child and family's wishes, hopes, and strivings.

Sources: SAMSHA