



**【33<sup>th</sup> Edition】**

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## **2019 Convention on Prevention and Consultation of Teen Drug Abuse**

Dear scholars and experts:

National Chung Cheng University Education Center for Prevention of Drug Abuse and Taiwan Society for Substance Abuse Research will hold the “2019 Convention on Prevention and Consultation of Teen Drug Abuse” conference at National Chung Cheng University International Conference Hall on October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (Tuesday and Wednesday) in response to the development of the issues on teen drug abuse under the support of the Department of Student Affairs and Special Education, Ministry of Education.

This conference invites experts from different countries to share international academic knowledge. We hope to put attention on teen drug abuse from multiple aspects to develop and facilitate current responsive actions.

This conference will provide shuttle buses from the High-Speed Railway Chiayi Station and Chiayi Train Station to National Chung Cheng University.

To register for this event, please visit: <http://tasar.ccu.edu.tw>  
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# UNODC Reports

## **UNODC Donates Latest On-Site Drug Testing Technology to Jamaica to Help Combat the Global Threat of Synthetic Drugs** ➤ Editorial Office

Vienna, 15 March 2019 - The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) officially donated an on-site drug testing device to Jamaica on 14 March as part of its effort to counter the threat of synthetic drugs in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The device was presented to Cheryl Spencer, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Jamaica by Jean-Luc Lemahieu, UNODC Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs on the margins of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

"Jamaica regards this support to the country through this device as not only a tangible demonstration of international cooperation but also as technology transfer, elements which are critical to the development of small developing countries like Jamaica," said Ms. Spencer.

Mr. Lemahieu noted that synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances are emerging rapidly, including in Latin America and the Caribbean. He said that "UNODC supports countries in the region through quality assurance programmes for forensic laboratories, forensic capacity building workshops and the provision of modern technology to identify toxic new substances early on to protect people's health in the region."

In the past ten years, 14 countries and territories in Latin America and Caribbean have reported 178 different new psychoactive substances (NPS) belonging to diverse chemical groups. In 2017 alone, 61



different NPS were reported to UNODC by nine countries in the region. Evidence also suggests a growth in consumption of "ecstasy" and new psychoactive substances mimicking its effects among secondary school and university students.

These developments present a serious threat to global public health and pose unprecedented challenges for policy makers and law enforcement institutions on national and international levels. Challenges exist both in terms of detection and identification of the growing number of synthetic drugs, and also regarding treatment and prevention.

These issues can be aggravated by the lack of adequate detection and identification technology and the lack of technical capacities of law enforcement officers and forensic drug analysts, especially when dealing with a constantly fluctuating array of NPS and unknown substances never encountered before.



To address this situation, the UNODC Global Synthetic Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends (SMART) Programme has trained 60 front line law enforcement officers, forensic drug analysts and custom officers from 16 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean on safe handling and identification of drugs and precursors. The participants also received training on the use of handheld Raman spectrometers to be able to test unknown samples, suspected narcotics, psychotropic substances, precursor chemicals as well as cutting agents, directly in the field.

Within this framework, UNODC is donating two of these handheld Raman spectrometers to each of the beneficiary countries, which will allow them to identify a substance in various forms such as powders, crystals, tablets, capsules and liquids, with one quick scan. Beneficiary countries are the Bahamas,



Barbados, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

The SMART Programme is financially supported by the Government of Canada through the Anti-Crime Capacity Building Program (ACCBP) and the Government of the United States of America, through the U.S Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).

*This paper is from: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*

*[https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2019/March/unodc-donates-latest-on-site-drug-testing-technology-to-jamaica-to-help-combat-the-global-threat-of-synthetic-drugs.html?fbclid=IwAR1InP8iVGlugYROM795j8u\\_t5\\_P6ZRaNyndqT4TQf3xqOVLgCHPfA4\\_4t4](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2019/March/unodc-donates-latest-on-site-drug-testing-technology-to-jamaica-to-help-combat-the-global-threat-of-synthetic-drugs.html?fbclid=IwAR1InP8iVGlugYROM795j8u_t5_P6ZRaNyndqT4TQf3xqOVLgCHPfA4_4t4)*



# NIDA Reports

## Scientists Identify Brain Circuits Engaged in Compulsive Heroin Use

➤ Editorial Office

People addicted to heroin and other opioids experience withdrawal when they discontinue or no longer have access to these drugs. Withdrawal can include a host of negative emotional symptoms such as depression, anxiety, pain, and dysphoria, which can drive people to use opioids again in order to relieve those symptoms. Environmental stimuli that people have come to associate with withdrawal and the negative emotional state that accompanies it (i.e., conditioned cues) can themselves trigger withdrawal and may perpetuate drug use.

Scientists at NIDA’s Intramural Research Program (IRP) wanted to learn more about the brain circuits that enable these conditioned withdrawal cues to promote compulsive heroin use. Using fMRI, they scanned the brains of heroin-dependent rats while the



animals were presented with a specific odor (i.e., the conditioned cue) that they had previously come to associate with the drug withdrawal. They found that in addition to triggering heroin seeking and taking, these cues engaged the hypothalamus and amygdala nuclei, brain systems involved in negative emotional learning.



Overall, this study provides an innovative conceptual framework for understanding opioid use disorder (OUD). Current Food and Drug Administration-approved medications for OUD targeting opioid receptors can be effective but may not fully alleviate cue-conditioned withdrawal. This study provides insight into the brain circuits engaged during this process and could lead to pharmacological or behavioral interventions to reduce relapse and overdose. These findings also underscore the need for additional research aimed toward understanding the neurobiology of negative emotional learning in addiction. These efforts are currently underway at NIDA IRP.

Study:

Stephanie A. Carmack, Robin J. Keeley, Janaina C.M. Vendruscolo, Emily G. Lowery-Gionta, Hanbing Lu, George F. Koob, Elliot A. Stein, and Leandro F. Vendruscolo. **Heroin addiction engages negative emotional learning brain circuits in rats.** *Journal of Clinical Investigation.*

*This paper is from: National Institute on Drug Abuse*

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2019/04/opioid-dose-variability-associated-overdose>



# Taiwan Research News

## Research on Narrative Interviews with Successful Inmates about the Resilience of Drug Abuse Rehabilitation

Chun Liang Liu, Yi Wen Chen

There are many factors influencing a person who becomes addicted to drugs, including personal reasons, environment, and social factors. At times, these factors create a chance for a person to use drugs. In many situations, these influences change along with time. The treatment of drug use is not simply a physical, mental, or medical issue.

This research looked into resilience in recovery from drug addiction, and sorted out the elements that can help drug addicts succeed in rehabilitation, return to society, and stay away from drugs. This research adopted purposive sampling and conducted in-depth interviews with selected subjects who were once drug addicts, and have successfully rehabilitated. The in-depth interviews were based on qualitative research. The resilience factors that affect the rehabilitation of drug addicts were collected and studied during the in-depth interviews.

**Keywords:** drug abuse, resilience



# Questionnaire Analysis about the Attitude of “Prisoners of Drug Manufacturing, Trafficking, and Dealing” in Taiwan Prisons about Sentencing Factors of Drug-Related Crimes

**Zhi Yi Huang**

The purpose of this research is to study and analyze the deciding factors of whether the defendants of drug-related crimes would plead guilty during police investigation. The subjects participating in this research are 315 prisoners of drug-related crimes in Taiwan Taoyuan Prison, Taiwan Taichung Prison, Taiwan Taichung Women’s Prison, and Taiwan Kaohsiung Prison. The experiment was conducted through questionnaires to clarify the influence of “sentencing factors” of drug-related crimes on drug dealing. The research showed that the main factor making most drug dealers willing to plead guilty is the requirements of commutation. Depriving persons of the profits from drug dealing, and strict enforcement of the death penalty are strong deterrence as well. In addition, the sentencing criteria which vary according to the type of drug dealing (such as armed drug dealing, on-campus drug dealing, online drug dealing, and amount of drug dealing) will change the behavioral patterns of drug dealing as well. The research findings may provide the direction and aspiration for amending the sentences of drug-related crimes under drug laws.

**Keywords: drug trafficking, pleading factor, commutation, behavioral pattern, crime hotspot**



# Latest Conferences Information

➤ 編輯組

Conference	Host Organization	Date	Location
2019 Convention on Prevention and Consultation of Teen Drug Abuse	National Chung Cheng University Education Center for Prevention of Drug Abuse	October 08-09 2019	Chiayi, Taiwan Contact: deptcrc@ccu.edu.tw
NIDAMED Webinar: Provide Resources on Substance Use	NIDA	June 05 2018	Webinar Contact: michelle.corbin@nih.gov
International Women’s and Children’s Health and Gender Group	In Women’s Group	June 14 2019	San Antonio, Texas, USA Contact: media@nida.nih.gov
College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)	College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)	June 15 2019	San Antonio, Texas, USA Contact: media@nida.nih.gov
50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting	International Narcotics Research Conference (INRC)	July 07-11 2019	New York, New York, USA Contact: <a href="https://www.inrconference.org/">https://www.inrconference.org/</a>
10th Conference on HIV Science	International AIDS Society (IAS)	July 21-24 2019	Mexico City, Mexico Contact: <a href="http://www.ias2019.org/">http://www.ias2019.org/</a>