



【22th Edition】

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Conference



Invitation to International Asian Drug Prevention Cooperation Workshop

The workshop focuses on problems in Asia, we hope to further promote exchanges and cooperation between Asia and other regions, especially learning scientifically proven prevention methods. Hence, we also welcome parties concerned from outside Asia to participate and share their international experiences of drug abuse prevention as well as their opinions of extensive cooperation within their field.

I. Main Issues

1. Drug Abuse Types, Distribution, and Trends
2. Causes and Hazards of Drug Abuse
3. Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment
4. Relationship between Drug Abuse and Crime
5. Drug Abuse and Criminal Justice
6. Cooperation in Drug Abuse Research
7. Cooperation between drug abuse researchers and practitioners
8. Regional and International Cooperation in Drug Abuse Prevention Areas
9. Technological Development and Methods of Drug Abuse Prevention

II. Workshop Venue:

Venue: National Chung Cheng University (Taiwan)

III. Schedule:

Date: November 9, 2016 (Wednesday)- November 12, 2016 (Saturday)

Reference URL: <http://www.lessdrugs.org/>



UNODC Reports

Scientific Consultation on Prevention of Drug Use and Treatment of Drug Use Disorders

➤ Editorial Office

PodiumUNODC advocates access to drug prevention, treatment, care and rehabilitation services based on scientific evidence, which speaks for the recognition of drug use disorders, in particular drug dependence, as a multi-factorial health disorder. Scientific data proves that drugs affect the brain and cause the course of a chronic, relapsing disease, which can and should be prevented and treated just as any other chronic disease.

In December 2016, the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section of UNODC organized an event that was unique by its scale and scope: the Scientific Consultation on Prevention of Drug Use and Treatment of Drug Use Disorders. Thirty (30) leading researchers from around the world presented the state-of-the-art science in front of over two hundred (200) policy makers from eighty five (85) countries and discussed the latest findings in drug prevention and drug dependence treatment. Policy makers had a chance to learn about a wide range of ethical and science-based drug prevention and treatment methods, as well as rehabilitation programs that have been proven effective in stopping or reducing the negative health and social problems caused by drug use disorders.

Scientific Consultation 2015 Book of AbstractsIn response to the great interest shown by the scientific community, as well as by representatives of the Member States and International Organisations, UNODC decided to take this event beyond the walls of the conference room and help spreading the scientific understanding of drug use disorders among wide audience. With the help of this Book of Abstracts, anyone can easily navigate in the wide range of topics covered during the three and a half days of conference. The recorded presentations will be uploaded shortly.

We sincerely hope that these materials will be of help to many people and organizations providing prevention and treatment services, as well as to all directly and indirectly affected by drug use and drug use disorders.

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

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-prevention-and-treatment/scientific-consultation-december-2016.html>



NIDA Reports

Probuphine: A Game-Changer in Fighting Opioid Dependence

➤ Editorial Office



Medications like buprenorphine and methadone have revolutionized the treatment of people with opioid use disorder, including those with severe disorders (addiction). By controlling cravings and withdrawal symptoms without producing a high, these medications enable the patient to engage in treatment and make healthier choices while balance is gradually restored in brain circuits involved in reward and self-control. In people with severe disorders, these circuits are greatly disrupted.

One of the challenges with all addiction medications, however, is making sure patients adhere to their prescribed regimen. For the medication to be effective, the patient must take their prescription or show up at the clinic on a daily basis. This can be challenging for anyone managing life's responsibilities, especially in times of stress. Failing at this challenge can mean relapse, which can delay recovery.

Today brings a new ray of hope for many people with opioid use disorder, with the eagerly awaited FDA approval of a long-acting buprenorphine implant called Probuphine. This subdermal (under the skin) implant delivers a constant low dose of buprenorphine over a six-month time span, the first such tool in the treatment of opioid use disorder. The implant is approved for individuals with opioid dependence



who have already been treated with, and are medically stable on, existing orally absorbed buprenorphine formulations. It thus gives physicians a valuable new therapeutic tool for this subset of patients.

Buprenorphine, which in numerous studies has been shown to significantly improve outcomes for patients, has previously only been available in products that must be taken daily. The Probuphine implant, created by marrying buprenorphine to a polymer, delivers the drug steadily in the body at a low dose, eliminating the need for daily dosing.

Buprenorphine, methadone, and depot naltrexone (a long-acting formulation of the opioid antagonist naltrexone)—a group of treatments known as medication-assisted treatments or MAT—have been demonstrated to help patients recover from opioid use disorder, improve their social functioning, and reduce their risks for overdose and for contracting HIV or hepatitis C; buprenorphine and methadone have also been shown to lessen patients' risk of criminal activity. Although these medications are highly cost-effective and far more successful at preventing relapse and illicit drug use than detoxification followed by abstinence, fewer than half of private treatment programs offer them. In those that do, only 34.4% of patients actually are prescribed them. This is why increasing the adoption of MAT—and overcoming the misconceptions and stigma that have stood in the way of using medications to treat drug addiction—is a central prong of the recently announced HHS and White House initiatives on combating the opioid problem in America.

This paper is from: National Institute on Drug Abuse

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2016/05/probuphine-game-changer-in-fighting-opioid-dependence>



Taiwan Research News

Study of Counseling Ability and Process Involvement by Counselors in Illicit Drug Use of Senior and Vocational High School Students

Tsung-Yi Lin, Chiu-Chin Chang and Rong-Yu Liao

Department of Health Promotion and Health Education, National Taiwan Normal University

The purpose of this study is to understand the performance of counseling ability and skills, counseling process involvement by the counselors counseling school students who using illicit drugs, and to study the impacts of background factors to counseling ability and skills, counseling process involvement. The study uses the cross-sectional questionnaire survey method, with the Counselors of senior and vocational high school students using illicit drug as study target, a total of 37 valid questionnaires, response rate was 86.05%. Respondents of this study received 3 days Empowerment Study. The data collected includes basic information, counseling ability and skills, counseling process involvement, etc.

This study uses multiple-regression to perform analysis. The result shows that more than 50% of counselors are conscious of their counseling ability and skills, and are able to involve in the counseling process. There is a relevancy between counseling ability skills and counseling process involvement that is the significant impact factor, and the gender of counselors, counseling seniority and service units in their respective districts will not affect the performance of counseling ability and skills or counseling process involvement.



In other words, counseling ability and skills and the counseling process involvement will not be any different because of the different backgrounds of the counselors or increase the counseling ability and skills, their level of counseling process involvement will be higher, with a positive correlation between the two. This study can demonstrate the importance of the counseling process involvement, worthy of taking into consideration for the counselors of drug users.

Since the drug use behavior has complicated background factors, if the relevant personnel executing counseling courses do not have the professional accomplishment and discipline of related illicit drug use and prevention, then it is easy to encounter difficulties when counseling. According to the recommendation from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), a minimum of two days of workshops should be organized for training counselors (Mercer & Woody, 1999); this study has met the requirement. From the results, performance of the counselors in counseling ability and skills, the counseling process involvement is very well, and provides positive feedback to the training workshop; we believe the teaching and counseling skills and the effective communication with students are the most helpful parts.

Therefore, we recommend continuing the organization of the training workshop for counselors to effectively promote the counseling for the illicit drug use students and maintaining the counseling execution quality. Furthermore, the practice of this study can be continued in the future to strengthen the situational exercise and demonstrate teachings to increase the familiarity of counseling courses for students using illicit drugs, as well as to improve the counseling experience.



Gateway Empirical Investigation of Adolescent Using Illicit Drugs: A Case Study of Juvenile Inmates

Shih-Lung Yan, Fan-Yu Chang and Shu-Ping Tseng

Department And Graduate Institute Of Criminology, National Chung Cheng University

The use of illicit drugs by adolescents has become a serious social problem, and there is an urgent need to understand its history of development, in order to research and plan for preventive measures in response. Scholar Kandel (1975) proposed "The Gateway Theory of Drug Use" and pointed out that illicit drug use is developed in stages. Most adolescent began by using legal substances (such as tobacco, alcohol); followed by moving up to use minor, soft illicit drugs (drugs), such as marijuana, then continue on to use the other hard illicit drugs.

In order to view the perspective of this Gateway Theory, this study is targeting Juvenile Inmates to study their use of legal substances, illicit drugs and the relevancy between the two, hoping to learn from the process of using illicit drugs from using legal substances, and then propose recommendations for crime prevention.

The study aims at investigating the Juvenile Inmates in Juvenile Detention House in New Taipei City, Taichung City and Kaohsiung City, Taiwan, with a total return of 145 valid samples. The study found that the highest reason for Juvenile sent to Detention House is violating the "Narcotics Hazard Prevention Act" (54 Inmates, 37.2%), and the percentage is very high using only, or in combination with, legal substances (tobacco, alcohol, betel nut), more than fifty percent of Juvenile Inmates (80 Inmates, 55.2%) also had smoking, drinking and chewing betel nut behaviors one year before they were sent to Detention House.



The bulk use of illicit drugs is Ketamine (90 Inmates, 62.1%); followed by Class II Drugs such as Amphetamine, MDMA, Marijuana, Methcathinone (Bath Salts) and Psilocybin Mushroom (Magic Mushroom), etc., for a total of 72 Inmates (49.7%). The use of legal substances in combination with illicit drugs by Juvenile Inmates mainly is "K Smoke (Ketamine)" (86 Inmates, 59.7%), the finding shows the gateway process from legal substances to illicit drugs.

The study also found that when the experience of using legal substances by Juvenile Inmates, it is more possible to have the experience of using illicit drugs, and with the higher frequency of using tobacco products and betel nut, it is more likely they will use illicit drugs.

The Gateway Processes of Juvenile Inmates in sequence are: (1) Tobacco, (2) Alcohol, (3) Betel Nuts, (4) Ketamine and (5) Other Drugs, with Ketamine played the role of soft illicit drugs. In view from the Gateway Timeline, the Juvenile Inmates with experience in using illicit drugs, from the initial legal substances to using illicit drugs, in average in less than one year (0.96 years) of time.

In accordance with the aforementioned study result, this study proposes recommendations to strengthen the advocacy preventing the use of legal substances, early intervention of high-risk juvenile with experience of using legal substances, aimed at expecting to reduce the use of illicit drugs and gateway by adolescents.



An Empirical Study of Females in Illicit Drug Abuse and Their Courses of Rehabilitation

**Po-Chi Wang and Yu-Wei Liu, Research Associate, Crime Research Center, National Chung
Cheng University**

This study aims at the process of female drug abuse, to understand the inner psychological and outer environment factors of female drug abuse as well as the drug addiction process from a mental condition, family environment and social experience of female addicts, to study the mentality processes of their start of using drugs, abuse drugs and until after they successfully completed drug rehabilitations. Survey data is obtained through face-to-face interviews with three subjects provided by the Operation Dawn and the collection of study data is mainly using the Narrative Research Method.

Discovery from the study constructed an analysis structure of drug abuse factors and their life history from three distinct cases, and from comprehensive analysis and discussion, describe the similarities and differences of the life history of the three cases, and supplemented by relevant literature as corroboration.

Recalling the interviews with three study participants, accompanying them together to trace back their lives in the past, going into their life, the study found the various events in their growing up stage that had certain impacts to their growing up processes. From the course of life using drugs of three research participants, the researchers learned from their childhood innocence to the ignorance of their rebellion period that the pressure they faced in their family and lives led them to the way of using drugs. From the study, researchers provide recommendations from the aspects of family, peers, intimates, cognition and faith for reference, hoping to provide help from a prevention aspect in the future.



Many related studies in the past have pointed out that the partial reason of drug addiction can be attributed to the impact from the outside environment. For example, being labeled and classified by society that caused their broken emotional relationship with society. Under the circumstances, the only way to bring happiness is through seeking drugs to gradually reduce their dependence on the society. The cause for females to use drugs mostly began with curiosity or led by their companions, friends or relatives. Other causes include losing weight, reducing physical pain, feels refreshing, etc. Taiwan Scholar Rueih-Chin Lin and others (2002) found that female's thoughts of "Living without any meaning, I might as well take drugs to death", "Drug use is a good way of losing weight (or refreshing mind)." are stronger than the male's.

When females make contact with drugs for the first time, it may have been voluntary or from the temptation of outside factors, or involuntary use but coerced by others. This study aimed at the drug abuse period to study their drug craving level and the inner psychological state of drug use as well as the outside factors when female addicts are under the drug addiction condition.

In the past, we have learned that successful drug addiction treatment to complete rehabilitation is not easy, and more than a few drug addicts choose to go back and indulge in drugs again. Since repeated drug use will cause a strong dependence, this is also the reason many drug users are unable to kick the addiction successfully.

This study hopes to integrate the point of view of Interpretive Interactionism, with the research method of narrative-oriented in-depth interview, to invite individual cases to narrate their course of drug abuse in order to understand in their processes of repeated offences, which are the major factors of influences.



Anti-Drug Academic Activities

Invitation to International Asian Drug Prevention Cooperation Workshop

➤ **Editorial Office**

Drug abuse is the common problem faced by most countries in the world, Asia included. Effective drug prevention strategies require multi-layer and cross-organizational cooperation, including regional cooperation, government and non-government cooperation, research and practitioner cooperation, and so on. After years of hard work, government functional sectors, non-government organizations, and drug abuse researchers have found successful methods and modes for preventing drug abuse, which are valuable experiences that have paved the way for learning about and coping with this social problem.

The main objective of this workshop is to provide a platform for multi-party exchange and cooperation among government officers, researchers, and practitioners engaged in drug abuse prevention and joint discussion of opportunities, challenges, and coping strategies during drug abuse prevention undertakings.

Although the workshop focuses on problems in Asia, we hope to further promote exchanges and cooperation between Asia and other regions, especially learning scientifically proven prevention methods. Hence, we also welcome parties concerned from outside Asia to participate and share their international experiences of drug abuse prevention as well as their opinions of extensive cooperation within their field.

1. Workshop Theme: Overcoming Barriers; Strengthening Cooperation

2. Main Issues

Drug Abuse Types, Distribution, and Trends

Causes and Hazards of Drug Abuse



Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment

Relationship between Drug Abuse and Crime

Drug Abuse and Criminal Justice

Cooperation in Drug Abuse Research

Cooperation between drug abuse researchers and practitioners

Regional and International Cooperation in Drug Abuse Prevention Areas

Technological Development and Methods of Drug Abuse Prevention

3. Guest Speakers

Lu Lin, Superintendent of Peking University Sixth Hospital; Director of Research Institute of National Drug Dependence; Director of Peking University National Center of Mental Disease Research; Professor

Steven Belenko, Professor of Department of Criminal Justice, Temple University; Adjunct Professor of Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine Kamiar Alaei, Professor of Public Service, Department of Public Management and Policy, State University of New York (Albania Campus); Founding Director of International Centre for Human Rights and Health

Spencer De Li, Chairman of Asian Drug Abuse Research Society, Dean of Department of Sociology, University of Macau

4. Workshop Venue:

Venue: National Chung Cheng University (Taiwan)

5. Schedule:

Date:

November 9, 2016 (Wednesday) Reporting and Onsite Signup

November 10, 2016-November 11, 2016 (Thursday-Friday) Workshops

November 12, 2016 (Saturday) Dismissal



6. Information Submission

All abstracts or papers must be submitted either on-line through the AASAR website at www.lessdrugs.org or by email to conference@lessdrugs.org.

7. Contact:

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To follow up on outstanding issues and workshop preparation progress, visit the workshop column on the Asian Drug Abuse Research Society website(<http://www.lessdrugs.org/>).

Asian Drug Abuse Research Society

University of Macau

Taiwan Society for Substance Abuse

National Chung Cheng University (Taiwan)



Latest Conferences Information

➤ Editorial Office

| Conference | Host Organization | Date | Location |
|---|---|----------------------|---|
| National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse | National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse | September 7-8 2016 | Neuroscience Center, Conference Rooms C & D, 6001 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, Maryland 20852 Contact: mswieter@nida.nih.gov |
| European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) | European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) | September 17-20 2016 | Vienna, Austria Contact: http://www.ecnp-congress.eu/ |
| 21 st International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety | International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety (ICADTS) | October 16-19 2016 | Gramado, Brazil Contact : http://www.t2016.org/ |
| International Conference on Cooperation in Substance Abuse Research and Antidrug Practices in Asia 2016 | Asian Association for Substance Abuse Research University of Macau National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan Taiwan Society for Substance Abuse Research | November 9-12 2016 | National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan Contact: http://www.lessdrugs.org/index.php/news/view/45 |
| Frontiers in Addiction Research Mini-Convention - "Relapse and Recovery: from Mechanistic Understanding to Translational Research" | National Institute on Drug Abuse | November 11 2016 | San Diego Convention Center, Room 7; San Diego, California Contact : http://apps1.seiservices.com/nida-niaaa/frontiers2016/ |