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◎ **UNODC and NIDA Reports**

◎ **Taiwan Research News**

◎ **Recent International Academic**

Conference

National Chung Cheng University Drug Abuse Prevention

Education Center: Welcome to the Official Instagram Account

Dear Scholars and Experts,

Now is the age of information explosion. Different social media platforms have emerged. If you only use a single platform on the Internet to promote anti-drug knowledge, you can only reach a small number of people. In addition to the traditional physical tours, the Drug Abuse Prevention Education Center has also launched an official Line account in line with the digital trend. However, today numerous digital platforms have emerged. The Drug Abuse Prevention Education Center also needs to adapt to the changing times. To cater to this trend, the official Instagram account of the Drug Abuse Prevention Education Center has been established in 2023 so that it may increase the reach of drug abuse prevention awareness. In addition to introducing its resources through images and text, the Center will promote information about drug abuse prevention from time to time. This will improve public intelligence and keep up the promotion of drug abuse prevention.



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UNODC Reports

UNODC and Thailand discuss developing a national early warning mechanism for synthetic drugs

➤ Editorial Office

Bangkok (Thailand), 29 March 2023 – The global evolution of the synthetic drug market has had significant ramifications for country responses. The market for methamphetamine has continued to expand in both scope and scale, while new psychoactive substances (NPS) and various synthetic drug products have emerged in the synthetic drug market. These market shifts have further complicated the situation and

pose serious public health challenges that require adequate responses.

To respond to these developments, early warning systems have been established in some countries and regional organizations around the world to prevent crises before they occur.

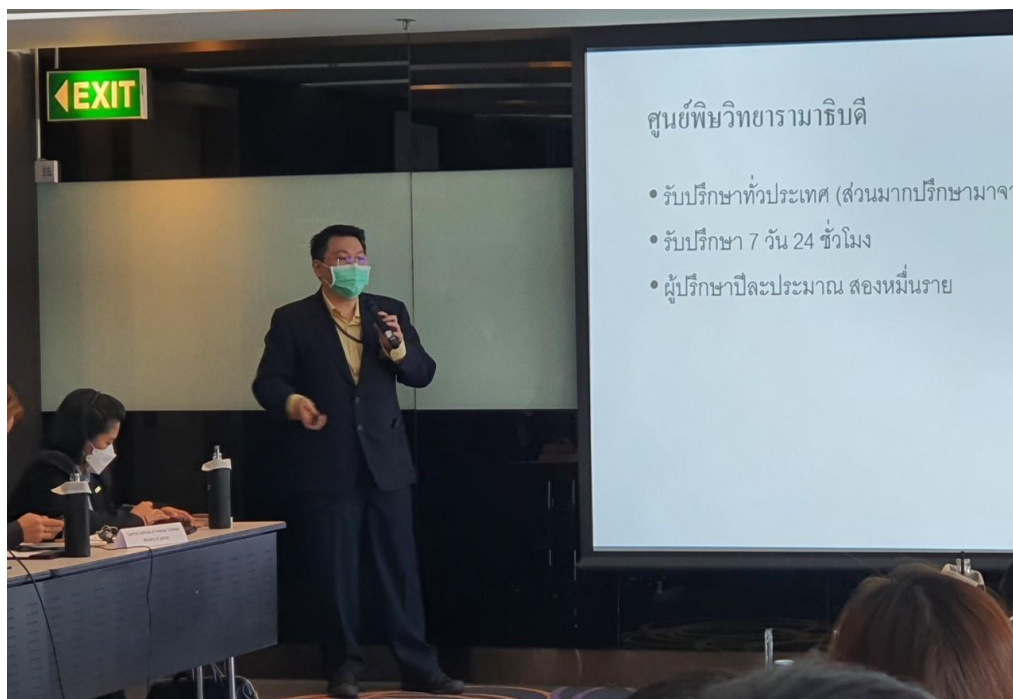
Krisadakorn Sortong, Technical Officer of the Raks Thai Foundation, shares his experiences from working with drug users in the community

These systems are multidisciplinary, inter-institutional networks that enable information exchange among key actors, directly or indirectly, involved in the field of drugs to identify new substances and products, as well as notable changes in the drug market.





Southeast Asia is not immune to these developments, yet no national or regional early warning mechanism exists in the region. To address this gap, UNODC has held national consultative dialogues on early warning with several countries in the region to discuss the establishment of early warning systems, including in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia. On 28-29 March 2023, UNODC together with the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) of Thailand organized this dialogue as well for institutions in Thailand. The two-day dialogue was the first meeting among representatives from forensic experts, health professionals, law enforcement, regulatory bodies, and civil society organizations working in the field of drugs to consider and discuss the necessary steps to create an early warning system in the country.



Sahaphume Srisuma from the Ramathibodi Poison Center sharing information collected from the center and providing perspective on how the health sector can contribute to an early warning system

“Thailand has been especially affected by the emergence of new synthetic drug products in recent years, including ‘k-powdered milk’ and ‘happy water’. While we do have mechanisms in place that resemble early warning, they are limited in scope and spread between agencies,” said Preyanuch Leuhatong, Director of the International Organizations Division, Foreign Affairs Bureau, of ONCB. “This meeting, which gathers relevant institutions from across the nation, is a crucial step in developing a single platform,



national early warning system that can reduce harm, benefit the public, and help us better understand emerging threats in the country.”

The dialogue served as a venue to discuss a concept for a national early warning system, taking into account the Thai context, and identify areas for strengthening data exchange among participating institutions. “The community is the first to know and the first to be affected by changes in the drug market, but fear of punitive measures and limited access to services to help identify new, dangerous substances limit their engagement with authorities,” said Krisadakorn Sortong, Technical Officer of the Raks Thai Foundation. “It is important to incorporate the valuable input of drug users in ways that are safe and accessible for them.”

“The participants had an engaging conversation over the course of the dialogue on what an early warning would look like for Thailand and discussed actionable steps that can be taken to establish one,” said Inshik Sim, Regional Coordinator for East Asia and the Pacific for the UNODC Global SMART Programme. “UNODC will continue to work with partner agencies in Thailand to provide support on developing a national early warning system.”

This paper is from : UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific

<https://www.unodc.org/roseap/en/2023/03/early-warning-mechanism-synthetic-drugs-thailand/story.html>



NIDA Reports



Social Determinants of Health Can't Be Extricated from Addiction Science

➤ Editorial Office

A few years ago, I visited a methadone clinic in Baltimore and sat with several of the patients discussing the challenges they faced sticking with their treatment for opioid addiction. Every one of the individuals around the table told me the same thing: The biggest challenge was not having



a place to sleep. Without housing, so much of their time was consumed arriving early enough to a shelter so that they could get a room, or other logistical challenges related to their basic life necessities—obtaining meals was another challenge—that they frequently could not make it to the methadone clinic on a given day.

Talking to these patients demonstrated to me that treatment isn't just about the delivery of a medication or some other intervention that works in ideal laboratory conditions. It is also about the social and economic factors that shape people's real lives, day to day. Across many institutes of the NIH, research is increasingly focusing on social determinants of health: factors like work and housing instability, food insecurity, racism,



class discrimination, immigration status, and stigma and their integral role in shaping risks and treatment outcomes for many health conditions. Understanding and finding ways to intervene in such factors are now also central priorities for my institute, the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

The NIDA and NIAAA -led nationwide longitudinal Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development study is already yielding striking new science on some of the neurodevelopmental mechanisms by which various forms of social adversity influence many aspects of mental health. Mitigating the adverse effects of environmental risk factors like social-economic disadvantage has long been a target of NIDA-funded substance use prevention research, and with projects like the HEALing Communities study, we are now bringing a similar mindset to addiction care and recovery. For instance, data is being gathered on how providing transportation to patients receiving medication for opioid use disorder increases retention in treatment.

Measuring social determinants of health can help researchers better design treatment interventions and services, as well as make addiction care more equitable. Research in other areas of medicine has already revealed the distorting effects of failure to take that step. For instance, a 2019 reanalysis of the data from a huge international clinical trial of hypertension medications found significant disparities in blood-pressure control, all-cause mortality, and various heart-related outcomes depending on whether participants had received their care in low-income versus high-income neighborhoods—differences not accounted for by the medications participants received or by their clinical characteristics, and ignored in the original analysis.

In clinical trials of new medications to treat addiction, it is crucial that we take into account social determinants that influence participants' access to quality healthcare. Besides enhancing clinical science, measuring such factors could also help personalize our approach to addiction treatment, for instance by helping determine which patients in opioid addiction treatment might benefit from counseling or other services in addition to medications.



No aspect of health exists in a bubble, and this is especially true of substance use and addiction. Researchers keep in mind the diversity of people affected and how their different social contexts and circumstances affect their prospects, especially when those factors can be modified to make treatment more successful and recovery more likely.

This paper is from : National Institute on Drug Abuse

<https://nida.nih.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2023/04/social-determinants-health-cant-be-extricated-addiction-science>



Taiwan Research News

Current Dilemmas and Countermeasures for Intervention and Prevention Mechanisms of Juvenile Drug Offenders

Tseng Li-wen ¹、Lai Yung-lien ²

According to a press release from the Executive Yuan (2022), the new-generation of anti-drug strategies implemented by the government in recent years have effectively suppressed the growth of the drug population and the number of new drug users. However, according to data from the National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior (2022), the juvenile use of drugs still occupies the largest proportion of juvenile delinquency. This article aims to explore the current dilemma of how to intervene in the current juvenile drug crime and prevent it while proposing feasible countermeasures. For this study, in-depth interviews were conducted with scholars and experts from correctional institutions and police stations (branches). It was found that partners who are involved in the intervention mechanisms for juvenile drug use and cross-domain collaboration believe that the current modes of intervention for juvenile drug use are not very effective, that the control of ketamine abuse is weak, that the functions of the family of origin of several juveniles are not respected, and that the draft of the Science and Technology Investigation Act required for drug detection has not yet been passed; this severely affects drug investigation.

Finally, based on the results of the study, the authors propose the following countermeasures: (1) Establish a mechanism between cross-domain partners within the framework of the new-generation anti-drug strategy 2.0 organizations; (2) for drug rehabilitation and investigation strategies, aim to improve the

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intervention modes and enhance the investigation techniques for juvenile drug use; (3) for drug literacy strategies, aim to strengthen anti-drug advocacy and emphasize the traditional family functions; (4) in regard to comprehensive planning strategies, the draft of the Science and Technology Investigation Act should be passed as soon as possible to reinforce the capabilities and strength of law enforcement agencies in drug investigations. It is expected that the above research findings and preventive measures will be of help to the relevant practical institutions and follow-up researchers.



Testosterone, Exercise, and Drug Abuse

➤ Editorial Office

In an article published in 2023 in the international journal Clinical Neuropharmacology, Perreault, Hammond, and Thanos reviewed studies on exercise, testosterone, and drug abuse. The article mentions testosterone is as an anabolic steroid and is thought to be associated with functions such as mood, perception, sociability, and metabolism. Many studies in the past have found that drug abuse can affect testosterone levels in men, including opioids, alcohol, cocaine, and amphetamines, which can all reduce testosterone levels in men. After injecting cocaine into mice, low-dose cocaine injections can result in higher testosterone levels in male mice. However, this effect is limited to short-term exposure. When exposed to cocaine over a long time, it can significantly reduce cocaine levels in male mice. After giving drug-addicted male rats testosterone, it was found the drug used dopamine to restore balance.

Furthermore, testosterone reduces activation of the midbrain dopamine system by regulating dopamine activation, thereby reducing the rewarding effect male rats received from the drug. When comparing testosterone effects on drug abuse in gonadectomized male rats, studies have shown that gonadectomized rats are more sensitive to cocaine. Even male rats with testosterone injection therapy are not sensitive to cocaine, which shows that testosterone is essential for the cocaine sensitization process. It helps to reduce the initial response to cocaine. Based on the above, drug abuse can reduce testosterone levels in the body. However, many animal studies have also shown that increasing testosterone can effectively treat drug abuse. Therefore, using "exercise" has recently come to be promoted to increase testosterone in the body to help treat drug addiction, which may be one way to help with addiction recovery in the future.

The information source is from :

Clin Neuropharmacol. 2023 May-Jun;46(3):112-122. doi:10.1097/WNF.0000000000000546. Epub 2023 Mar 7.

Effects of Exercise on Testosterone and Implications of Drug Abuse: A Review

Brendan Perreault 1, Nikki Hammond 1, Panayotis K Thanos 2

PMID: 37191565 DOI: 10.1097/WNF.0000000000000546



Juvenile Drug Abuse Prevention and Counseling (2nd Edition)

Authors:

Yang Shu-Lung, Guo Jong-Long, Tai Shen-feng, Tzeng Shuping, Ku Yi-Chien, Chu Jih-Chiao, Lee Tzung-Sian, Lai Wen-Sung, Liu Tzu-Hsuan, Feng Ling-Yi, Lan Yu-Ching, Li Jih-Heng, Wei Han-Ting, Chen Lian-Yu, Lin Hung-Chih, Hsu Chung-Lung, Hsu Hua-Fu, Wu Chi-Yu, Liang Hsin Chung, Ma Yueh Chung, Cheng Kai-Pao, Wu Lin-Hue, Chang Hui-Wen, Su Yu-Chih, Wu Tzu-Hao, Huang Chiu-Mieh, Chiou Hsien-Huei, Szu-Hsien TONY Lee, Hung Chia-Chun, Su Lien-Wen, Huang Chai-Liang



Given the rapid changes in society in recent years, adolescent student drug use incidents have occurred one after another. Young adolescents who were poisoned when they were just kids believe it is necessary to actively carry out prevention and counseling from early childhood to adolescence. Only by strengthening the professionalism teachers and relevant counselors in preventing drug abuse, can higher-quality prevention and counseling measures be provided. Therefore, based on the experience of scholars and experts who study the causes and counseling of drug abuse among young students in

recent years, as well as visits and observations on counseling drug abuse in other countries around the world, Shu-Lung Yang, distinguished professor of the Department of Criminology of National Chung Cheng



University and director of the Education Center for Prevention of Drug Abuse, and Jong-Long Guo, distinguished professor of the Department of Health Promotion and Health Education of National Taiwan Normal University, invited the several authors to write a textbook on the prevention and counseling of drug abuse among adolescents. The authors include Professor Yueh-Chung Ma, president of the Taiwan Academy of Alliance of Drug Abuse Prevention; Szu-Hsien TONY Lee, distinguished professor of the Department of Health Promotion and Health Education, National Taiwan Normal University; Chiu-Mieh Huang, distinguished professor of the Institute of Clinical Nursing, College of Nursing, National Yang-Ming Chiao Tung University; Hua-Fu Hsu, professor and Dean of International Affairs of the Department of Criminology, National Chung Cheng University; Chih-heng Lee, former professor of the Kaohsiung Medical University Doctoral Degree Program in Toxicology, chairman of the Asian Society of Toxicology, and president of the Asian Society of Toxicology; Chia-Chun Hung, doctor of the Bali Psychiatric Center, Ministry of Health and Welfare; Liang-Yu Chen, former dean of the Kunming Prevention and Control Center, Taipei City Hospital; Han-ting Wei, doctor of the Taipei City Hospital Linsen Chinese Medicine Kunming Branch; Dr. Lien-Wen Su, former dean of the Addiction Prevention and Treatment Department, Taipei City Hospital Heping Songde Branch; Chai-Liang Huang, dean of the Tsaotun Psychiatric Center, Ministry of Health and Welfare; Professors Shen-Feng Tai, Shu-Ping Tzeng, and

Hsien-Huei Chiou of the Department of Criminology, National Chung Cheng University; Professor Wen-Sung Lai of the Department of Psychology, National Taiwan University; Yu-Ching Lan, associate professor of the Department of Health Risk Management, China Medical University; Ling-Yi Feng, doctoral degree holder from the Doctoral Degree Program in Toxicology, Kaohsiung Medical University; and Dr. Tzu-Hsuan Liu of Overseas Chinese University. The textbook was revised and reprinted in May 2023. It aims to provide some references for school principals, directors of student affairs, non-academic staff, military instructors, school security personnel, teachers, case managers. Meanwhile, it is also a reference for drug abuse-related personnel such as personal supervisors in drug prevention centers of county and city governments to counsel young students on drug abuse.



Taiwan Events News

Anti-Drug Illustration Contest— 2023 FunPark Creative Storytelling Digital Picture Book Creation Competition – Register Now Until July 2, 2023

To implement the Executive Yuan's New Generation Anti-Drug Strategy Action Plan and strengthen the prevention of drug abuse among students, the Ministry of Education held the 2023 FunPark Creative Storytelling Digital Picture Book Creation Competition at China Telecom Board Bridge College today (10th). In addition to inviting personnel in charge of student drug abuse prevention in different counties and cities to participate in the event, it also opens to the instructors who intended to serve as the competition team to sign up, and the Ministry of Health and Welfare also sent staff to show their support for the competition.



For further information, please refer to the official website of :<https://story.funpark.com.tw/2023/index.do>

★Time: until 2 July 112

The information source is from Ministry of Education

https://www.edu.tw/News_Content.aspx?n=9E7AC85F1954DDA8&s=7E40679033928D6F



Submit Your Entry to the 6th "My Future, My Way" Microfilm Competition Today

The Ministry of Education encourages students to make creative films of less than 7 minutes using the themes #AntiDrug and #AntiBullying to say no to drugs and bullying at school. #The submission deadline for this contest is June 7, 2023, at 15:00. The total prize money for this contest is up to NT\$1.46 million. Young students are welcome to showcase their creativity by submitting their entries.

Video types for this competition are not limited to performative forms and methods (you can submit scripts, animation, and various genres of films). Competitors will be divided into three groups: college and university students, senior high school students, and elementary and junior high school students. Each of these groups will be rewarded with a gold medal, silver medal, bronze medal, and other awards, and will be judged by a jury composed of experts and scholars in drug abuse prevention and academic counseling, as well as professional directors and producers of animation and narrative and non-narrative film. It is expected that the shortlist will be announced on August 2, 2023, and the award ceremony will be held on September 9, when the finalist creative teams will be invited to the ceremony. The winning entries will have a better chance of being selected for anti-drug and anti-bullying teaching materials on campus in the future.

For further information, please refer to the official website of : www.antidrug.tw/

or 【My Future, My Way】 facebook : www.facebook.com/antidrug.edu/

Or contact the organizer, Tel: (02)77407924.



新近研討會訊息

Conference	Host Organization	Date	Location
NZ Drug Foundation Parliamentary Symposium 2023	NZ Drug Foundation & The Cross Party Group for Mental Health & Addiction	June 1 2023	Wellington, New Zealand
The 2023 NIDA International Forum	National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)	June 8–9 2023	Virtual Meeting Contact: info@issup.net
European Drug Report 2023: Trends and Developments	European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)	June 16 2023	Brussels, Belgium Contact: press@emcdda.europa.eu
85 th Annual Scientific Meeting	College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)	June 17–21 2023	Denver, Colorado, USA Contact: info@cpdd.org
The 33rd Annual International Cannabinoid Research Society Symposium on the Cannabinoids	International Cannabinoid Research Society (ICRS)	June 24–29 2023	Toronto, Ontario, Canada Contact: icrs@icrs.com
118th Annual Meeting: The Educative Power of Sociology	American Sociological Association (ASA)	August 17–21 2023	Philadelphia, PA, USA Contact: asa@asanet.org



Crime Research Center – CCU

2023 NDARC Annual Research Symposium	National Drug & Alcohol Research Centre Medicine (NDARC)	October 27 2023	Sydney, Australia ndarc@unsw.edu.au
X International Conference on Novel Psychoactive Substances 2023	European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)	November 6-8 2023	Abu Dhabi, UAE Contact: press@emcdda.europa.eu