

*“Practical guide for the
organization of a comprehensive
drug dependency treatment system”*

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Drug abuse in the hemisphere is a serious
problem

Drug Abuse and its Consequences in the Hemisphere

- n Growing demand for drugs
- n Lack of national epidemiological studies
- n Deficient treatment services
- n The effectiveness of treatment programs is not evaluated

Drug-related Disorders

The effects of drugs on users:

- n Immediate
- n Short-term
- n Medium-term
- n Long-term

Drug use disorders are:

- n Complex
- n Chronic
- n Costly
- n Detrimental to the quality of life
- n Overwhelming the response capacity of traditional services

TREATMENT (GOALS)

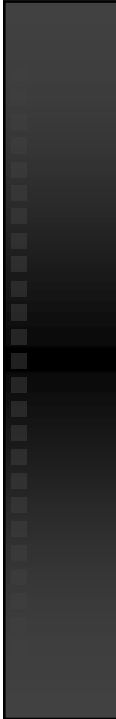
- n Stopping drug use
- n Maintaining abstinence
- n Recovering full functional capacity

Characteristics of Treatment Supply in the Hemisphere:

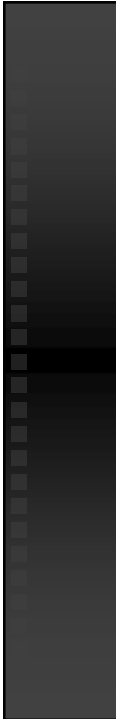
- n Inadequate response to the needs of the population
- n Inadequate political, legal, and technical framework
- n Inadequate resources and management control mechanisms

Treatment should be:

- n Accessible
- n Comprehensive
- n Motivational
- n Adapted to needs
- n Coordinated



Treatment is a priority area, and guidelines should be designed to ensure that the population's needs will be met



Having sufficient knowledge of the factors entering into the quality of customer service

Requisites:

- n Organizational strategies to optimize the quality of treatment services
- n Better knowledge of supply and demand
- n A technical and legal frame of reference for treatment

CICAD/OAS lines of action in the area of treatment

- n Hemispheric policy guidelines for demand reduction
- n Group of Experts on Demand Reduction and Working Group on Treatment
- n Institutional strengthening
- n Publications
- n Legal and regulatory framework

**Institutional strengthening for
the coordination of treatment
activities**

- n Assistance in the design and application of standards
 - u Care
 - u Quality
 - u Registration of programs
- n Assistance in the development of treatment systems

Recommendations of the CICAD Group of
Experts on Demand Reduction for a
national drug abuse treatment policy

Each government should:

Establish as a goal of the treatment system:
restoring persons with substance abuse disorders to full personal, social, and economic functionality.

Each government should:

n Establish a corpus of **human rights with respect to privacy and confidentiality** for individuals calling upon the continuum of services provided for the treatment of substance abuse

Each government should:

- n Establish a national policy on substance abuse treatment
- n Design a National Treatment Agency with responsibility for implementing this policy

Each government should:

Include the following aspects in its National Treatment Plan:

- n International diagnostic classification system
- n Expansion of treatment capacity
- n Coordinated levels of care
- n The inclusion of public and private (NGO) resources
- n Minimum standards of care and professional qualifications for treatment providers
- n Registration of establishments

Treatment of drug abuse and dependency and national drug strategies

- n Demand reduction: key drug strategy component
- n Treatment: part of the national strategy
- n Coordination among different sectors
- n Intrinsic value of treatment supply
- n Access to treatment: right to health and quality of life

Why have a National Treatment System?

National Treatment System:

- n Assessing needs and the resources available to address them
- n Improving the quality of treatment services
- n Financing and organization of services

Areas of progress in developing a national treatment system

Coordination of treatment services

Integrated:

- n Bio-psycho-social
- n Public-Private
- n Among sectors (health and other)

Decentralization

- n National
- n Regional
- n Local

- n Development of the treatment component within the national plans
- n Identification of key actors:
 - u Governmental
 - u Nongovernmental

- n Promotion of treatment services
- n Guidance on treatment for drug users and the general public

Work with the countries

Peru
Ecuador
Venezuela
El Salvador
Dominican Republic
Paraguay
Uruguay

Progress in the countries

- n Minimum Standards of Care
- n Treatment Systems
- n Treatment Components in National Antidrug Strategies

Specific recommendations

- n Integrate drug dependence treatment services with the general health care system
- n Define minimum standards of care
- n Provide guidance for treatment teams on organizational and regulatory aspects



Thank you!