

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

FORTY-FIFTH REGULAR SESSION
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NIDAMED 


**NIDA SCREENING AND TREATMENT RESOURCES
FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**

<http://www.nida.nih.gov/nidamed>

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NIDA Screening and Treatment Resources
for Medical and Health Professionals

Overview

- Why screen for drug use in general medical settings?
- **NIDAMED**  Website
 - Online Screening Tool
 - Quick Reference Guide
 - Online Resource Guide
- Updated Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment
- Patient Postcard

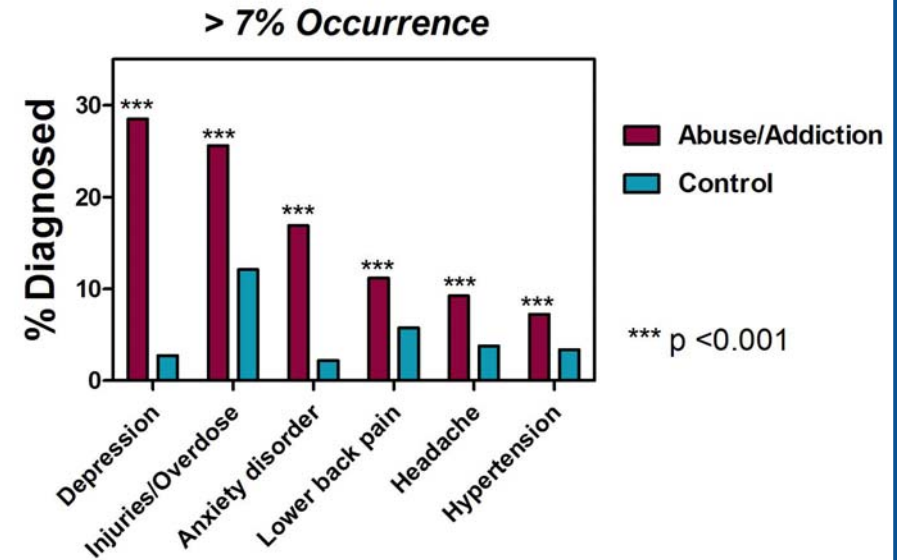
Why screen for drug use in general medical settings?

- **The use of illicit drugs is more common than you might think.**
 - In 2007, an estimated 20 million Americans aged 12 or older (~8.0 percent of the population) were current illicit drugs users.
 - Nearly 1 in 5 Americans aged 18-25.
- **Only a fraction of individuals who need specialty treatment for drug or alcohol addiction receive it each year.**
 - In 2007, of the more than 23 million persons aged 12 or older who needed specialized treatment for a drug or alcohol problem in the United States, most—almost 21 million—did not receive it.

Why screen for drug use in general medical settings?

- Drug use has wide ranging health , social consequences.
 - Cardiovascular disease, stroke, cancer, HIV/AIDS, anxiety, depression, sleep problems, as well as financial difficulties and legal, work, and family problems can all result from or be exacerbated by drug use.

Occurrence of Medical Conditions in Diagnosed Substance Abusers

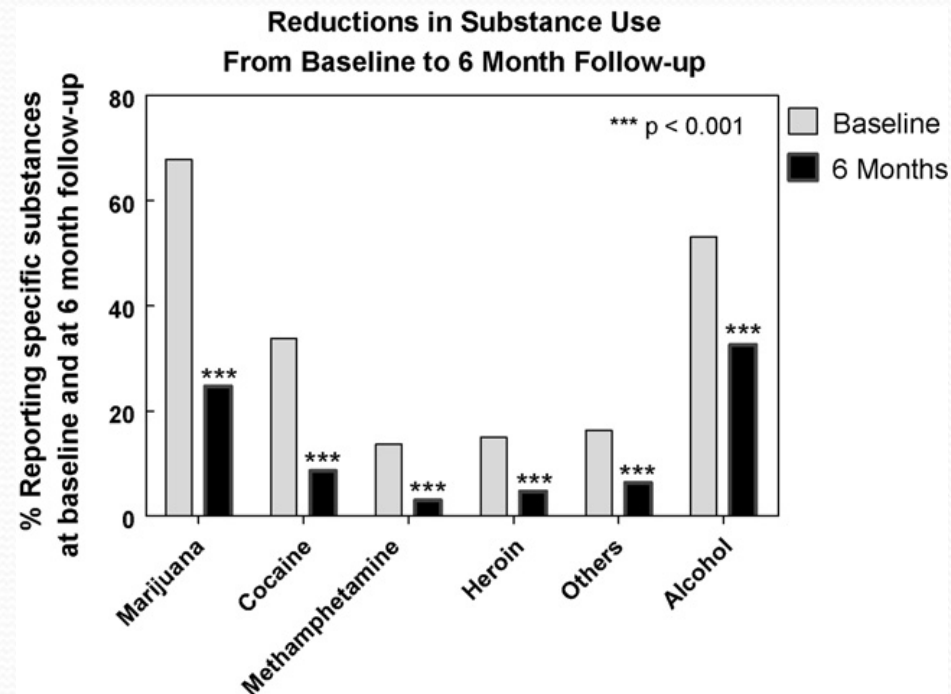


Substance Abuse Can:

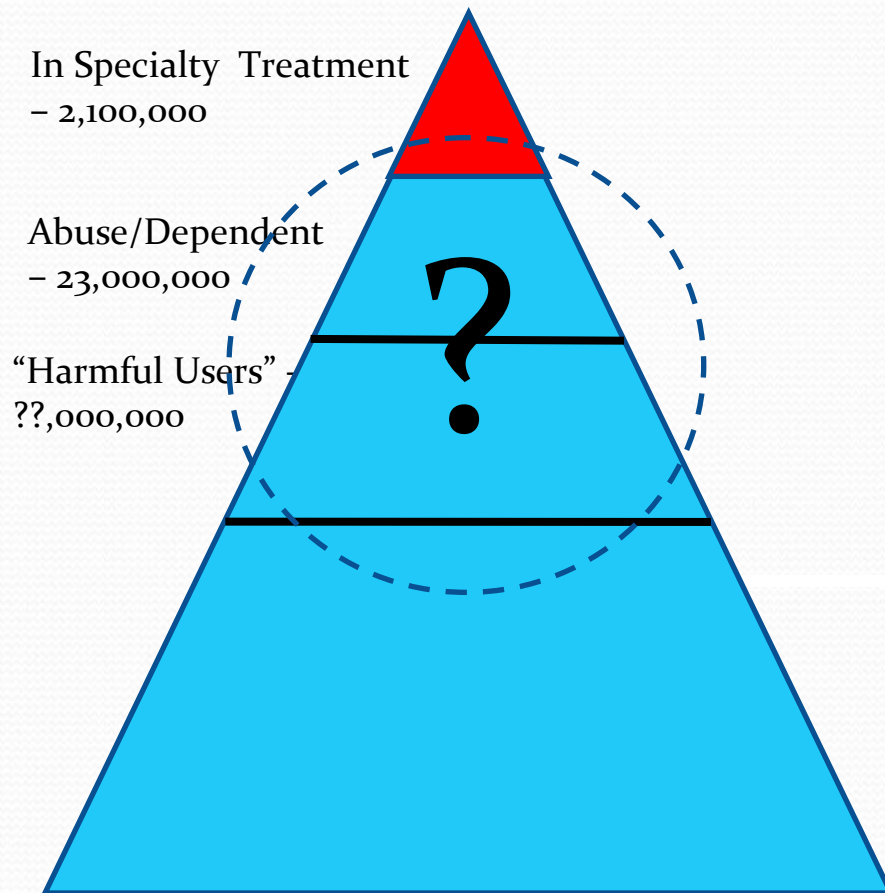
- Lead to **unintentional injuries**
- **Exacerbate medical conditions**
- **Exacerbate psychiatric problems**
- **Induce** medical diseases (stroke, cancer, dementia, hypertension)
- Induce **infectious diseases** (HIV, HCV)
- Affect the **efficacy** of prescribed medications
- Be associated with **abuse of Rx medications**
- Result in **low birth weight**, premature deliveries, developmental delays
- Result in **addiction**

Why screen for drug use in general medical settings?

- Using screening and brief intervention (SBI) procedures in general medical settings can make a difference in drug use behaviors
 - Research has demonstrated that SBI can reduce alcohol and tobacco use.
 - A growing body of literature suggests SBI can also reduce illicit and nonmedical prescription drug use as well.



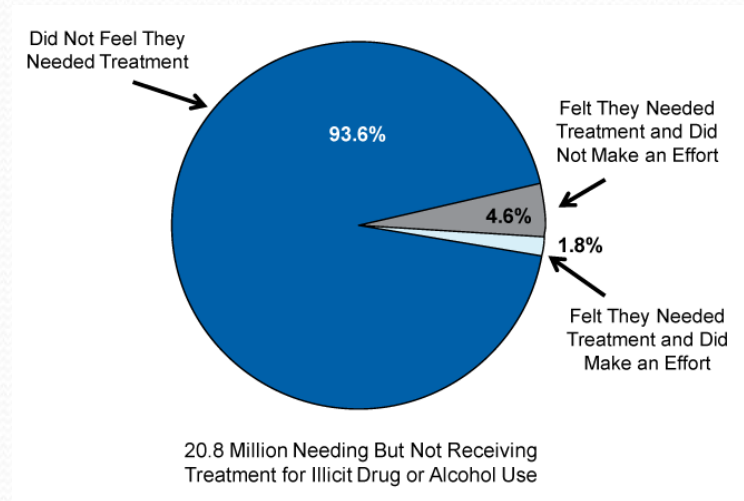
Goals of NIDAMED Project



- Engage medical community
- Identify those at lower or moderate risk to intervene early and prevent the escalation to abuse and addiction.
- Identify patients at high risk for a substance use disorder and refer for specialty assessment and treatment, if necessary.

Why did NIDA develop these tools?

- Many substance abusing patients don't feel they need treatment and therefore won't seek it on their own.



- Physicians don't routinely screen for drug use. Why?
 - Don't know what to do
 - No effective treatment
 - Not medical problem
 - No time

Why now?

- Research has clearly shown addiction to be a treatable brain disease, including medications for some.
- Screening and brief intervention (for smoking and alcohol) is among the top 5 preventive services in terms of health impact and cost-effectiveness
- Reimbursement codes for screening and brief intervention are now available (in US)
- Parity legislation passed: should improve insurance coverage for addiction and other mental disorders

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NIDAMED Online Screening Tool

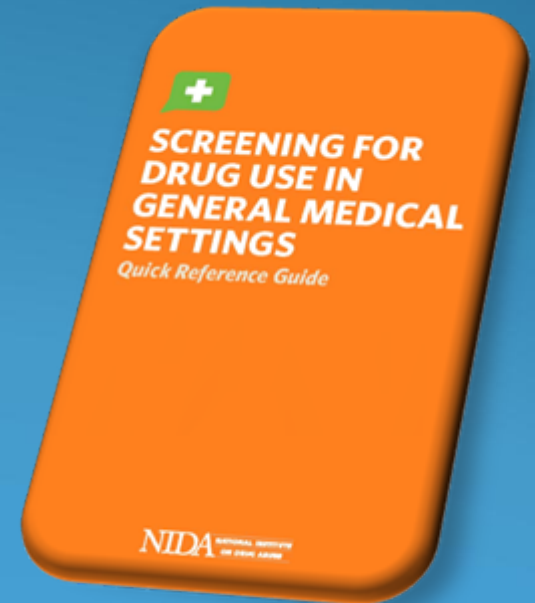
- Based on the WHO ASSIST
- Screens for tobacco, alcohol, illicit, and non-medical prescription drug use
- Based on patients' responses, automatically:
 - Leads to next appropriate question
 - Determines substance involvement score (i.e., risk level not a diagnosis)
- Links to additional resources

[Website and Online Tool](#)

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Quick Reference Guide

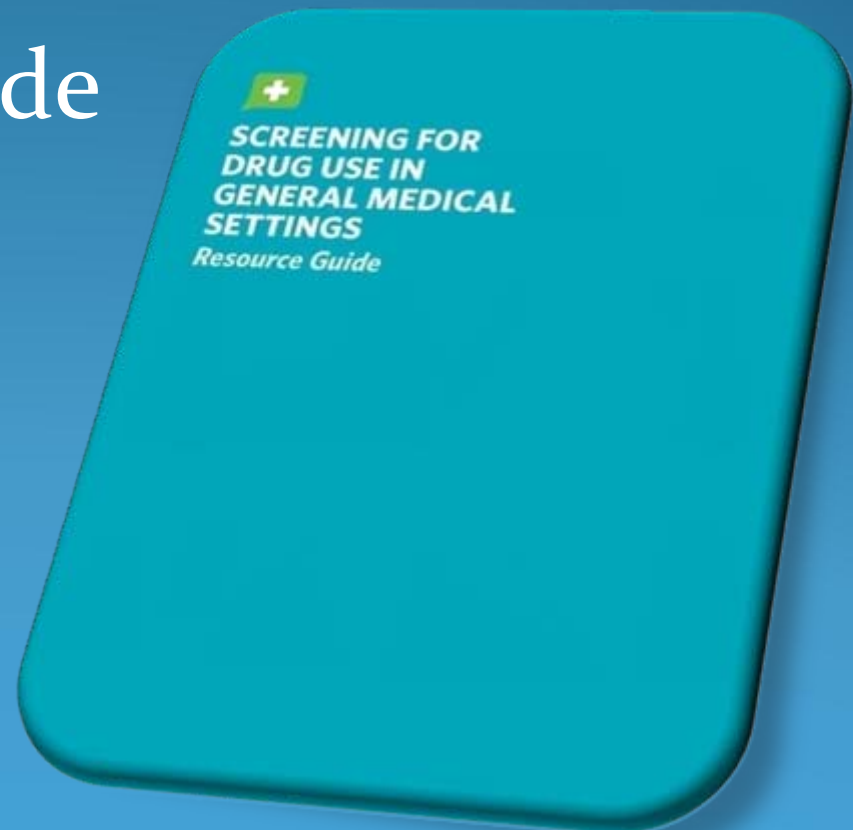


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Online Resource Guide

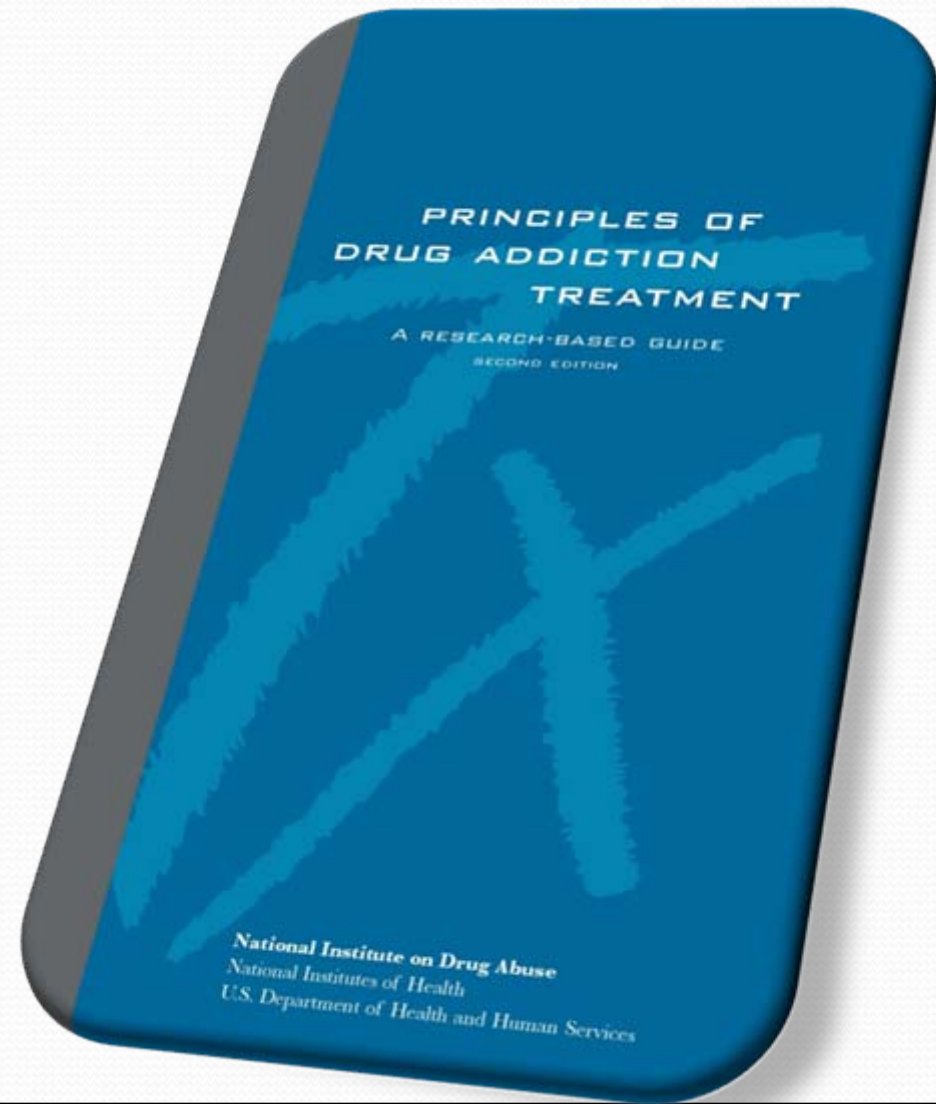
- Rationale
- Instructions on how to implement screening
- The five A's of intervention – Ask, Advise, Assess, Assist, Arrange
- Scripts on how to discuss drug use with patients
- Additional Resources



Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide

Selected Principles:

- No single treatment is appropriate for everyone.
- Treatment needs to be readily available.
- Effective treatment attends to multiple needs of the individual, not just drug use.
- Remaining in treatment for an adequate period of time is critical.
- Counseling and other behavioral therapies are the most commonly used forms of treatment.
- Medications are an important element of treatment for many patients, especially in combination with behavioral therapies.
- Treatment does not need to be voluntary to be effective.



Encouraging Patients to Talk About Drug Use



**WITHOUT THE
WHOLE PICTURE,
YOU MIGHT NOT
GET THE WHOLE
TREATMENT.**

To give you the best possible care, your doctor needs to know about any and all drugs you are taking, including tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, over-the-counter and prescription medications—even those not prescribed for you.

**Tell Your Doctor About
ALL the Drugs You Use.**

www.drugabuse.gov/nidamed

Comments or inquiries?

email: information@nida.nih.gov. To order
free copies of this card, call 1-800-729-6686
and request NIDACRDXX

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law. For more information on privacy
rights, visit <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa> or call 1-866-627-7748

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AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health

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WHO ASSIST Spanish Version

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/assist_spanish.pdf

