European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) is the hub of drug-related information in the European Union. Its role is to gather, analyse and disseminate objective, reliable and comparable information on drugs and drug addiction and, in so doing, provide its public with a sound and evidence-based picture of the drug phenomenon at European level. It is one of over 20 EU decentralised agencies.

The EMCDDA’s publications are a prime source of information for a wide range of audiences including: policy-makers and their advisors; professionals; and scientists and researchers working in the drugs field. In this catalogue, the EMCDDA showcases its series of scientific monographs which offer expert opinion and comprehensive research from leading drug specialists in the EU and other world regions. The publications are prepared in the context of EMCDDA research studies, conferences and seminars and cover a broad range of issues relating to science, policy, theory and method.

Monograph titles

Hepatitis C and injecting drug use: impact, costs and policy options

Hepatitis C infections occurring in recent years in the European Union may cost countries billions of euros in future healthcare, according to research published by the EMCDDA in the monograph Hepatitis C and injecting drug use: impact, costs and policy options.

A conglomeration of state-of-the-art research on hepatitis C, drug use and public health methods, this publication presents analyses on the impact and costs of the disease among injecting drug users, as a basis for sound policy-making. Other issues addressed include: quality of life; treatment, surveillance and prevention; and the cost-effectiveness of measures such as needle-exchange programmes and substitution therapy.

Hepatitis C affects an estimated 170 million people worldwide and at least a million, but possibly several million, people in Western Europe who are at risk of developing liver cirrhosis or liver cancer. It is a highly infectious and potentially fatal blood-borne disease that attacks the liver and for which there is as yet no vaccine.

No 7 Hepatitis C and injecting drug use: impact, costs and policy options
Modelling drug use: methods to quantify and understand hidden processes

Dynamic modelling is a quantitative technique used by scientists when data are scarce to generate estimates, test hypotheses and forecast trends. Modelling drug use: methods to quantify and understand hidden processes explores the potential role of dynamic modelling in helping to interpret data on drug use and its consequences in the European Union.

The monograph contains over a dozen expert reviews on modelling techniques and their use in estimating drug use and related health consequences. The publication presents dynamic modelling as a valuable analytical tool, not only in improving insight into drug use, but also in contributing to the development of evidence-based drug policies and interventions.

No 6 Modelling drug use: methods to quantify and understand hidden processes
Available in English

Evaluation: a key tool for improving drug prevention

Evaluation: a key tool for improving drug prevention contains over a dozen expert contributions demonstrating how evaluation theory and knowledge can be implemented to improve drug prevention practice in the European Union.

The monograph looks at both the practical and political aspects of evaluation and presents an array of tools, techniques and recommendations to improve drug prevention programmes and assess needs, processes and outcomes. Also demonstrated are ways to overcome obstacles that may weaken the evaluation process, such as poor communication between evaluators and policy-makers or conflicts between political agendas and poor evaluation results. This volume complements the EMCDDA’s second scientific monograph and forms part of a broad EMCDDA goal to promote an evaluation culture in Europe.

No 5 Evaluation: a key tool for improving drug prevention
Available in English

Understanding and responding to drug use: the role of qualitative research

Qualitative research is increasingly recognised by drug experts in the European Union as a useful tool for understanding drug use patterns and planning suitable responses. Focusing on the meanings, perceptions, processes and contexts of the ‘world of drugs’, its main value is to complement quantitative data and analyses and provide insight into developments behind the statistics.

Understanding and responding to drug use: the role of qualitative research offers a comprehensive overview of this issue in the EU. In over 40 chapters, the monograph highlights the multiple roles, techniques and methods of qualitative research, as well as its impact on policy-making.

No 4 Understanding and responding to drug use: the role of qualitative research
Available in English
Evaluating the treatment of drug abuse in the European Union

Methods, instruments and indicators designed to enhance the evaluation of treatment programmes for drug users in the EU are described by the EMCDDA in the monograph Evaluating the treatment of drug abuse in the European Union.

Through a dozen expert papers and recommendations, the publication explores the theory of drug treatment evaluation and how the principles of such evaluation can be applied in practice and made relevant to practitioners. In particular, the monograph demonstrates how evaluation can help policy-makers take informed and appropriate decisions on treatment and help professionals boost the quality, relevance and cost-effectiveness of treatment services.

No 3 Evaluating the treatment of drug abuse in the European Union
Available in English

Evaluating drug prevention in the European Union

Preventing drug use is a universal challenge and identifying approaches that work, and why they work, is a specific objective for drug professionals and evaluators. Through research published in its monograph Evaluating drug prevention in the European Union, the EMCDDA focuses on the ideology of prevention in Europe. In particular, it presents arguments for making evaluation a routine and scientifically sound procedure that draws on good practice and proven methodology.

The volume includes a broad overview of the history and status of prevention activities and their evaluation in Europe and the US, as well as an introduction to the theoretical foundations of evaluation. Also reviewed are the most commonly encountered evaluation methods, instruments, problems and obstacles and the diversity and complexity of evaluation models. The monograph explores how drug professionals can interest politicians in evaluation and how evaluation can stimulate the allocation of funds.

No 2 Evaluating drug prevention in the European Union
Available in English
Estimating the prevalence of problem drug use in Europe

*Estimating the prevalence of problem drug use in Europe* is a landmark publication on prevalence estimation theory and method in the European Union. The monograph – the result of collaboration between 30 scientific authors – explores the relationship between epidemiological work on the estimation of drug problems and the development of drug policy and strategy.

The strengths and weaknesses of the most commonly used estimation techniques – such as case finding, capture-recapture, multiplier and nomination – are uncovered in the volume, as are the virtues of combining and comparing different methods in the estimation process. The monograph underlines the need to improve the quality of data on which prevalence estimates depend, and to complement these estimates with qualitative studies exploring other aspects of the drug situation beyond the statistics.

No 1 *Estimating the prevalence of problem drug use in Europe*
1997 – 272 pp. – 16 x 24 cm (English); ISBN 92-9168-006-0 (English); Cat. No: AO-06-97-763-EN-C;

No 1 *Estimation de la prévalence de la consommation problématique de drogues en Europe*
1999 – 312 pp. – 16 x 24 cm (French); ISBN 92-9168-007-9 (French); Cat. No: AO-06-97-763-FR-C;

Available in English and French

How to order EMCDDA monographs

Ordering options

EMCDDA monographs may be ordered through the national sales agents of the EU Publications Office.
http://publications.eu.int/others/sales_agents_en.html

Alternatively, they may be ordered via the EU Bookshop, a new online service offering citizens access to various publications of the European institutions, agencies and other bodies which are published and/or catalogued by the Publications Office.
http://bookshop.eu.int

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http://www.emcdda.eu.int/?nnodeid=428

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