

# NEPENTHE

Newsletter on Drug and Alcohol Issues published by the University of Washington Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Institute and the Washington State University Alcoholism Training and Research Unit

ISSUE No. 21

OCTOBER, 1978

## SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING LECTURES

Ken Polk, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology,  
University of Oregon, Director,  
Marion County Youth Study

*"Trends in the Use of Alcohol  
& Drugs in a Small-City Cohort  
From Ages 16 to 26"*

Thursday, Oct. 19, 1978

3:30 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #E205

Hank Samson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor,  
Dept. of Psychology, Univ. of Wash.

*"The Rat as an 'Alcoholic': An  
Animal Model of Ethanol Over-  
drinking"*

Thursday, Oct. 26, 1978

3:30 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #E205

Gaylord Ellison, Ph.D., Professor of  
Psychology, University of Calif-  
ornia at Los Angeles

*"Continuous Amphetamine Intoxi-  
cation as an Animal Model of  
Schizophrenia"*

Monday, Oct. 30, 1978

4:00 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #D209

M. Duncan Stanton, Ph.D. Director, Addicts  
& Families Project, Dept. of Psych-  
iatry, Univ. of Pennsylvania

*"Treating Addict Families"*

Friday, Nov. 3, 1978

12:00 Noon

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #T479

*"Family Aspects of Drug Addiction:  
Research and Results"*

Friday, Nov. 3, 1978

3:30 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #E205

Igor Grant, M.D., Associate Prof-  
essor of Psychiatry, Univ-  
ersity of California at  
San Diego

*"Neuropsychologic Abilities  
in the Younger Alcoholic"*

Monday, Nov. 6, 1978

4:00 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #D209

E. Roy Hammarlund, Ph.D., Professor  
of Pharmacy, University of  
Washington

*"Rational Use of Licit Drugs"*

Thursday, Nov. 16, 1978

3:30 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #E205

Joseph Westermeyer, M.D., M.P.H.,  
Ph.D., Professor of Psychia-  
try, University of Minnesota

*"An Opium Odyssey"*

Monday, Nov. 27, 1968

4:00 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #D209

Roger Dale Walker, M.D., Medical Dir-  
ector, Alcoholism Treatment  
Program, Veterans Administra-  
tion Hospital, Seattle

*"Indian Drinking: A Clin-  
ical Exploration of Socio-  
cultural & Psychological  
Theories"*

Thursday, Nov. 30, 1978

3:30 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #E205

Mark A. Stewart, M.D., Ida P. Haller  
Professor & Head of Child  
Psychiatry, University of  
Iowa Psychiatric Hospital

*"Alcoholism & Hyperactivity:  
Are They Truly Related?"*

Thursday, Dec. 7, 1978

3:30 P.M.

Health Sci. Bldg. Room #E205

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*Nepenthe* (ni-pen-the), n. (L. Gr. *nepenthes*, removing sorrow; *ne-*, not + *penthos*, sorrow, grief) 1. a drug supposed by the ancient Greeks to cause forgetfulness of sorrow; 2. any-thing causing this state.

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POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAM  
EXPLORES CAUSES OF ALCOHOLISM

With the purpose of providing a two-year guided research experience, the Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Institute's postdoctoral training program is just entering its second year. Entitled "The Etiology of Alcoholism: An Interdisciplinary Program," the project emphasizes research in the area of causative factors in alcoholism and alcohol abuse. The Research Fellows appointed to participate in the program develop an independent research project and carry it out under the supervision of a preceptor.

Although the main focus of the program is on individual research, other training opportunities are also available to the Fellows. The Institute conducts a seminar series which invites local and state professionals from treatment facilities and community alcoholism programs to discuss their areas of expertise, ranging from research and treatment to legislation. Field trips have also been conducted at some of these programs and facilities. University of Washington faculty members give research presentations, as well as lectures in experimental and clinical design, computer methods, and epidemiology of alcoholism. Fellows are funded to attend one national meeting annually, and are awarded a small amount of money for research purposes. In addition, tuition money is available should they elect to attend classes.

Originally conceived by Dr. Marc Schuckit, former Director of the Institute, and Dr. Joan Martin, Associate Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, the program is supported by NIAAA funds and is designed to be interdisciplinary. Fellows' backgrounds have included biology, anthropology, clinical psychology, experimental and physiological psychology, and sociology. Preceptors' disciplines also cover a wide range: psychiatry, psychology, biostatistics, anthropology, epidemiology, sociology, and social work.

Program Participants Focus on a Variety of Alcoholism Topics

Approximately 60 applications were received during each of the last two years for the Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Institute's postdoctoral training program. Four applicants were selected to participate last year, and three participants have joined the Institute this year.

Drug Dependency & Drug Tolerance

Lorne Parker's research is being conducted at the University of Washington's Psychology laboratory, where he is testing rats to learn how the Central Nervous System is involved in coordinating increased tolerance to addictive drugs. The body develops an increased capacity to counteract opiates and alcohol after repeated exposures, and Parker is exploring the subconscious learning and environmental conditioning that may possibly signal the brain to prepare itself to deal with drugs.

He has been working with this concept of autonomic conditioning for the past year and a half, and expects the research to contribute to a better understanding of drug tolerance and, at the same time, to help develop a clearer picture of how individuals develop drug dependencies.

Parker received his Ph.D. in physiology and psychology from the University of Washington in 1977.

Social Structures & Life Events in Relation to Alcoholism

Exploring the contributing influences of social support networks and of life events on an individual's admission for treatment is a focus of David Strug's research. He is carrying out research at the Northwest Treatment Center and is interviewing patients to better understand their social relationships and the sequence of events in their lives during the year and a half time period preceding their admission to alcoholism treatment. "Individuals admitted to treatment frequently claim that they don't know why they have a compulsion to drink," Strug comments, and he is therefore examining the environmental stress factors that may be linked with this compulsion.

Strug hopes that his research may add to efforts to improve the detection of alcoholism at earlier stages and consequently to facilitate channeling of individuals into appropriate counseling.

Strug received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Columbia University in 1975 and an M.P.H. in 1977 from the University of California, Berkeley. His previous experience has included medical and health-related research in Bolivia and Mexico, and university anthropology instruction.

Social Factors & Taste Factors Relating to Alcohol Consumption

Roger Jones's research will be examining the effect of four different factors on alcohol intake in groupings of male pig-tailed macaques. Working with six to eight groups and varying their sizes from one to three members, Jones will study, (a) social status; (b) social density; (c) taste preference; and (d) degree of noxiousness and the influence of each of these variables upon the amount of alcohol consumed. Each grouping of three macaques will consist of a dominant group member, a subordinate member, and a member whose status is somewhere in between.

Jones' study is influenced by the exploratory research that has been conducted in this subject by Robert Elton, Director of Primate Research, at Eastern Washington University. Most studies concerning the effects of social factors on alcohol intake in monkeys have (continued Page 3)

suggested that monkeys do not consume alone. A hypothesis that Jones is testing is that social density increases social pressures and possibly leads to alcohol consumption. He is working under the supervision of Dr. Douglas Bowden at the Regional Primate Center in the UW Health Sciences Center.

Jones received his Ph.D. in biology from Harvard University in 1977 and was also a teaching fellow at Harvard. His undergraduate degree is from the Physics Department at the California Institute of Technology.

Stress Management Training Effects  
On Alcohol and Cigarette Usage

Studying two different forms of stress management training and their resultant effects on alcohol and cigarette usage rates over a period of six months will be the focus of Damaris J. Rohsenow's project. She will be working with a population of 60 University of Washington undergraduate students.

Rohsenow has co-authored a review with Dr. Alan Marlatt, Professor of Psychology, that has been accepted for publication in the first Annual Review of Substance Abuse, edited by Nancy Mello. The chapter reviews the findings of a series of experiments (based on Marlatt's design) dealing with the expectancy effect of substance use. Rohsenow summarizes the findings by stating that, "the studies indicated that it is the belief that alcohol has been consumed, not actual alcohol consumption that results in craving in alcoholics as well as changes in aggression, sexual response, and social anxiety in male and female social drinkers."

In the past year, she has also participated in developing a model of the decision-making process involved in relapse from substance abuse treatment, and in co-authoring a paper on multi-variate personality factors affecting outcome of treatment for male alcoholics.

Rohsenow received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Washington in 1977.

Three New Fellows Bring Diverse  
Backgrounds to Training Program

McKinney Dow Lambert III received his Ph.D. in sociology from Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, in 1976. He has participated in numerous alcoholism and drug abuse training programs, has also done extensive research and publishing in alcoholism and drug abuse, and most recently instructed sociology classes at Washington University and served as Program Director for the Missouri State Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Training and Information Program.

Receiving her Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Hawaii in 1975, Katherine A. Carlson has worked since January, 1977, as a research analyst for "Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime in Tacoma" (see article in this issue of NEPENTHE). Other experience has included researching heroin addiction and treatment, chronic pain, and public drinking behavior.

She has also been involved in planning for a county-wide drug treatment network in Pierce County (Tacoma), teaching college anthropology and sociology, and writing publications on a variety of drug-related topics.

Timothy Roehrs received his doctoral degree in March, 1978, in experimental and physiological psychology from the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. His research and publishing have covered a variety of topics, including morphine effects, methadone dependence, sleep physiology and mood relationships, and hypnotic drugs. Roehrs has master's degrees in theology and clinical psychology, and has taught college psychology and statistics courses. He has also served as a consulting clinical psychologist at the Hope Haven School for Mentally Retarded in Athens, Georgia, and has worked as a research assistant at the College of Medicine at the University of Cincinnati.

The research projects of these new arrivals are still in the formative stages.

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NCALI SERVICES

The National Clearinghouse for Alcohol Information (NCALI) has been established as a supporting service of the NIAAA to distribute current information on alcohol-related subjects. Information materials available from the Clearinghouse are aimed at the scientific and professional community as well as the general public. Topics range from alcohol and highway safety to physiology of alcohol, psychological studies, and occupational alcoholism programs.

NCALI publishes a monthly newsletter, NIAAA INFORMATION AND FEATURE SERVICE, presenting articles on trends, opinions, and programs across the nation, highlighting the activities of the NIAAA and other alcoholism organizations. There is no charge for this publication.

Also from NIAAA is ALCOHOL HEALTH AND RESEARCH WORLD, a quarterly bulletin for professionals involved in the treatment, research and prevention of alcohol abuse. This is a paid subscription, available for \$6.40/yr. from the Assistant Public Printer, (Superintendent of Documents), Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

NCALI also offers a notification service to announce current literature in the area of alcohol abuse. You can choose either of two formats: Individualized Interest Cards, abstracting articles and books in specified interest areas, or bibliography booklets (Grouped Interest Guides), giving overviews of selected publications in each of 15 broad subject areas.

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The Clearinghouse is eager to share information sources with workers in the alcoholism field. Many publishers automatically provide NCALI with citations from their journals and books; however, authors are encouraged to submit pertinent materials such as research studies, conference presentations, etc., to insure reaching the widest audience.

To submit material, or to obtain more information on the services, contact: National Clearinghouse for Alcohol Information, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, Maryland 20852, telephone No. (301) 948-4450.

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RESEARCH IN PROGRESS:  
BRAIN ADENYLATE CYCLASE &  
DRUGS AFFECTING NEUROTRANSMISSION

As an analogy, nerve cells can be considered to conduct impulses along their length as wires conduct electricity. At the junctions, or synapses, between individual nerve cells, small molecules called neurotransmitters are released which stimulate the propagation of subsequent nerve impulses in other cells. There is evidence that the action of the neurotransmitters of the adrenergic nervous system is mediated by the enzyme adenylate cyclase. Upon binding of adrenergic neurotransmitters to specific extracellular receptors, brain adenylate cyclase is stimulated to catalyze the formation of the molecule cAMP. This molecule is postulated to produce the intracellular changes which reinitiate nerve impulses. Brain adenylate cyclase activity is affected by certain drugs known to modify nerve impulse conduction. These drugs are thought to act by interfering with the coupling between the neurotransmitters, the receptors and adenylate cyclase. Among these drugs are the major tranquilizers such as chlorpromazine, narcotics and some hallucinogens.

A study recently funded by the ADAI employs an approach to the elucidation of the action of drug mechanisms that is biochemical in nature. Keith R. Westcott, graduate student, and Associate Professor Daniel R. Storm (Department of Pharmacology) are attempting to isolate, in pure form, the catalytic component of brain adenylate cyclase and have made considerable progress. With this activity, work will be undertaken to isolate the other components involved in neurotransmitter action. By using a technique known as reconstitution, the mixing of purified components to approximate the living system, the investigators can perform controlled experiments designed to understand neurotransmitter action. Even with a partially purified system, they have had encouraging results concerning the mechanism of action of the major tranquilizers. Through their biochemical studies they hope to achieve a molecular understanding of drug effects, tolerance and addiction, and methods by which better, safer drugs might be designed.

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SUGGESTIONS INVITED FOR  
NEW FILM ACQUISITIONS

At the University of Washington, an extensive film library of alcoholism and drug abuse educational films is maintained by the Instructional Media Services. These films, available to on- and off-campus educators as well as those doing training in clinical settings, have proven to be a very valuable resource over the years. Many community agencies routinely borrow certain of these educational films for purposes of client and staff education. They are extensively used on campus, as well.

A committee of on- and off-campus individuals has been established to advise Instructional Media Services on the purchase of new films in the drug and alcohol fields. Serving on the committee are: Harry Dawson, Bob Groesehell, Bill Albert, Nada Estes, Roger Messner, Mary Nelson, and Roger Roffman.

The committee invites recommendations from any interested party as to new acquisitions that might be of use if purchased by Instructional Media Services.

Funding for this program is made possible in part by the Education and Training Division of the Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Institute. Suggestions for new purchases should be forwarded to Roger A. Roffman at the Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Institute.

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RESEARCH IN PROGRESS:  
A NEW LOOK AT THE MACROCYTIC  
ERYTHROCYTE IN ALCOHOLISM

Alcohol abuse has long been associated with alterations in red cell size and shape. Increased mean red cell volume (MCV) or macrocytosis is a well-recognized marker of alcoholism. There appear to be at least three types of macrocytosis: 1) the first is associated with malnutrition; 2) the second appears to be related to a direct action of alcohol on the developing red cell, and; 3) the third does not appear to correlate with either factor. Since all cell membranes contain lipids as major components and alcohol significantly alters lipid metabolism, alcohol may influence cell size by alterations in lipids.

Attempts to identify and study macrocytes have been hampered by the fact that the instrumentation for measurement of MCV in automated laboratories of the past decade has lacked sufficient refinement to detect cell alterations and cell size and deformability. Newer instruments have recently been designed by Dr. W.E. von Behrens, Acting Associate Professor of Laboratory Medicine, to permit enhanced resolution of cell size.

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A study recently funded by the ADAI has been designed to better characterize the macrocytic erythrocyte in alcoholics. The first goal will be to more rapidly and accurately diagnose macrocytosis employing the automated techniques recently introduced into the research laboratory. The second goal is to characterize the lipid profiles of the altered macrocyte including an assessment of the polyunsaturated fatty acids of the erythrocyte membrane. Efforts will be made to correlate morphometric observations with serum and erythrocyte lipid profiles. Included also will be an assessment of those parameters already known to contribute to or affect the expression of macrocytosis, including Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, folate, iron and reticulocytosis.

Dr. Martha L. Hutchinson of the Department of Laboratory Medicine is the Principal Investigator. Also participating in the research are Peggy V. Hamernyk, Dr. von Behrens, and Dr. Robert F. Labbe.

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NEW BOOKS RECEIVED  
IN ADAI LIBRARY

Andrews, Theodora. A Bibliography of Drug Abuse, Including Alcohol & Tobacco. Littleton, CN: Libraries, Unlimited, 1977.

Bachman, Jerold G., & R.C. Khan. Youth in Transition, Vol. 1.: Blueprint for a Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Boys. Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, 1970.

Blum, Kenneth. Alcohol and Opiates: Neurochemical and Behavioral Mechanisms. New York: Academic Press, 1977.

Homiller, Jonica. Women and Alcohol: A Guide for State and Local Decision Makers. Washington, DC: Alcohol and Drug Problems Assoc., 1977.

Jacobson, George R. The Alcoholisms: Detection, Assessment, and Diagnosis. New York: Human Sciences Press, 1976.

Orford, Jim & Griffeth Edwards. Alcoholism: A Comparison of Treatment and Advice, with a Study of the Influence of Marriage. New York: Oxford University press, 1978.

National Survey on Drug Abuse: 1977, Vol. 1. Main Findings. By Herbert I. Abelson, Patricia M. Fishburne & Ira Cisin. DHEW Publication No. (ADM) 78-618.

Drugs and Minorities. Gregory A. Austin, ed. NIDA Research Issues No. 21. DHEW Publication No. (ADM) 78-507.

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DRUG ABUSE &  
ALCOHOLISM NURSING PROGRAM:  
POSITIVE REACTIONS & NEW PROJECTS

Along with a renewed three-year grant from the NIAAA comes an expanded program and a few changes for the UW School of Nursing's Alcohol and Drug Abuse program.

The grant specifies that the program concentrate on four major areas. First, it will enable the program to continue its master's and post-master's training for nursing specialists in the fields of drug abuse and alcoholism. Stipends will be available for several master's students. A second focus is to continue integrating drug abuse and alcoholism training into the undergraduate nursing program, although stipends are no longer available to undergraduates as they have been in the past.

Thirdly, substance abuse study is to be integrated more thoroughly into the curriculum at all levels--an addition that has been evolving informally over the years, even though the original program focus was alcoholism.

A fourth area involves the development of a training program for faculty members of schools of nursing from throughout the country. This program will be initiated in the summer of 1979, with a goal of providing enough background in the study and treatment of alcoholism/drug abuse to enable participants to establish educational programs in their home schools. Ten participants are anticipated for the first summer, with possible expansion in the following years.

Established with an NIAAA grant in 1972, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Nursing program was the first of its kind in the country. Approximately 150 nurses have been trained in the area of alcoholism during the last six years. These professionals have gone on to work in a variety of settings, including general hospitals, specialized alcoholism treatment centers, detoxification units, intermediate and extended care facilities, and alcoholism clinics.

Response from these agencies and clinics as well as from former students has been more than enthusiastic. Edith Heinemann, Program Director and Professor with Alcohol and Drug Abuse Nursing, comments that, "regardless of where nurses are functioning, they will need knowledge of alcoholism." She adds that "teachers, nurse practitioners, and specialists who have participated in our program all tell us their learnings were important to their practice." Those who have entered generalist positions have reported to the teaching staff that their training gave them a solid background, while those who are specializing in alcoholism work have expressed a desire and need for even more training.

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Nursing students have been motivated to specialize in alcoholism for a variety of reasons. Many have an intense interest in the field as a result of personal experiences with alcoholism in their own families. Others have sought extra training after their professional practice brought them into contact with situations for which they felt unprepared.

Although the program's major focus is currently specialist training for master's and post-master's nursing students, other professionals (social workers, occupational therapists, pharmacists, etc.) have also enrolled in the courses to supplement their own training (see September Issue of *NEPENTHE* for course listings).

Heinemann emphasized the association between general physical health and effective treatment of alcoholism. Nurses specializing in alcoholism have the expertise to assess an alcoholism problem in a patient who may have entered medical care because of some other ailment. Conversely, an individual's physical well-being may affect their ability to complete a treatment program and they may leave a program early. A nurse may be in the position to be able to detect this linkage between health and treatment completion.

The relationship between general health and alcoholism treatment may also be manifested in motivation. If a person is not feeling well, their desire and ability to seek treatment may be greatly decreased. Heinemann would like to research this area further and comments that "we need to know more about what motivates people to seek alcoholism treatment."

Other research areas which she views as important are prevention, withdrawal, and new content for nursing courses. Along with research, Heinemann names development of continuing education and prevention programs as high priority needs for the future.

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AMERICAN LEGION & SAAETP  
JOIN HANDS IN PEER COUNSELING PROGRAM

The American Legion announced at their 60th National Convention in New Orleans August 23rd to the 25,000 members attending the launching of a peer counseling program in conjunction with the Southern Area Alcohol Education & Training Program, Inc., (SAAETP) of Atlanta, Georgia. Legionnaires through their 16,000 posts nationwide will distribute free of charge to every high school and middle school in the nation five copies of The Complete Handbook of Peer Counseling with Update on Alcohol, by Mimi and Don Samuels.

Peer counseling, that process in which trained and supervised students offer listening support, alternatives and other verbal and non-verbal interaction, but little or no advice to other students who approach them for counsel, is being reported as highly successful from throughout the nation. Programs in Pennsylvania,

Maryland, New York, California and Florida have learned that these adolescent peer counselors are succeeding where experienced adult counselors have failed. Teenagers may not be conscious of the traditional techniques of counseling, but they do know how to talk to each other.

The first of a number of Peer Counseling Workshops have been scheduled at Duke University, July 22-27, 1979, to provide training for school personnel desiring to implement programs on their school campuses, or just to learn more about peer counseling. This workshop will be conducted by Don Samuels. Trainers wishing to be considered by SAAETP, Inc., to conduct other workshops throughout the nation should plan to attend this week-long workshop.

Carl and Elaine Matthews of SAAETP, working with the National Commission on Children and Youth of the American Legion have laid careful plans to guarantee the success of this program. Don Samuels is no stranger in the education field. He holds a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling, and has served as a Drug Abuse Prevention and Education Consultant to the U.S. Office of Education, the National Institute of Mental Health and the Florida State Drug Abuse Program. Currently, Mr. Samuels is the coordinator of the Dade County (Florida) Schools Substance Abuse Education program known as "Project PRIDE". He also serves as an adjunct professor at both Florida International University and Biscayne College where he specializes in human relations.

The American Legion, through their thousands of volunteers, work continuously year-round to serve the needs of children and youth. During the 1976-77 year, over \$14-1/2 million were expended by the American Legion and its Auxiliary on behalf of children and youth. The American Legion has long been concerned with the problems of drug/alcohol abuse and was among the first, if not the first, volunteer organization to adopt a national policy for helping to cope with the problem.

Anyone wishing to obtain additional information concerning this project, wishing to order The Complete Handbook of Peer Counseling with Update on Alcohol, or wishing to register for the Workshop at Duke University, should contact SAAETP, Inc., 4875 Powers Ferry Road, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30327, Tel. No. (404) 252-6811.

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PROFILE OF A COMMUNITY AGENCY:  
TASC IN TACOMA

Tacoma Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) is one of 46 TASC projects throughout the country, all of which have the same basic goals: a) to provide access to drug abuse treatment as an alternative to incarceration for criminally-involved drug abusers, and b) through treatment, to reduce the criminal recidivism of drug offenders. Each project varies in the manner in which it works with its community to achieve this, depending on the local criminal justice and treatment

environments, and the directions of program management. Principal funding is provided by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration for the first two years, after which other funding sources must be found if the project is to continue. Tacoma TASC became operational in January, 1977, and is currently seeking continuation funding from several State and local sources.

Tacoma TASC's principal functions are to screen clients, place them in treatment, monitor treatment progress for the criminal justice authorities involved. A potential client comes to the program through referral from the criminal justice system, other service providers, or personal contacts. The principal referral source is the criminal justice system, accounting for 75% of TASC's 1977 clients.

Individuals are interviewed by a case manager either in the office or in jail, if incarcerated, to determine TASC eligibility. All TASC clients must have some current criminal justice involvement, which includes persons in both pre-trial and post-trial/probation/parole situations. Drug abuse, either opiate or polydrug, must also exist for TASC eligibility, although a past history of substance abuse and the risk of return to use qualifies for TASC inclusion. At this time, primary alcohol abusers are not accepted in the Tacoma project, but alcohol referrals are included in other projects and may be added in Tacoma under new funding sources.

If eligibility requirements are met, and the person is well-motivated and willing to be involved in treatment and in TASC, the case manager will develop a treatment plan and recommend a placement. In many cases, this results in an immediate referral to outpatient drug treatment or in-office urinalysis screening, but in others, it is only the beginning of a negotiation process involving the individual's attorney, the prosecutor, a probation or parole officer, several treatment facilities, and the court itself before the person is placed in treatment and begins as an active TASC client. Selection of treatment modality and a specific facility is determined primarily by the client's motivations and needs, and by the restraints of the criminal justice system. Treatment placements range from urine screening only to outpatient drug or mental health counseling, to combinations of outpatient counseling and halfway house residency, to short- or long-term residential treatment. Residential placement may be located in King County, through the Center for Addiction Services, or in other counties throughout the state where there is an appropriate residential program.

Once active, clients are continuously monitored by their case manager. For outpatient clients, this monitoring consists of urinalysis at least once a week, weekly in-person contact, and phone contact with their treatment counselor, also done weekly. Residential clients are monitored by weekly phone contact with the residential counselor, and a monthly in-person visit.

During the course of treatment, clients may also have court appearances and the need for further TASC intervention and advocacy which the case manager provides. If employment or educational assistance is necessary, clients are directed to TASC's Re-Entry Specialist, who will assist them directly and by referral to other appropriate resources. Throughout their treatment commitment, both positive and negative progress information on clients is conveyed to the criminal justice authorities involved.

The length of a client's commitment to TASC varies with treatment placement and criminal justice requirements. If acceptable to the criminal justice authorities, an outpatient client who has made substantial progress and abided by the TASC contract may be terminated successfully at the end of three months. Residential clients are not considered successful completions until they have fulfilled the expectations of their specific treatment placement, ranging from 6 to 18 months. Clients who do not meet their obligations to TASC and/or their treatment placement are closed unsuccessfully, and their case closure is promptly reported to their supervising authorities.

In Tacoma, the provision of treatment alternatives to incarceration has resulted in multiple benefits to the client, the community, and both the drug treatment and criminal justice systems. For the client, TASC acts as an advocate and a channel to achieve drug freedom, or to demonstrate drug freedom to skeptical criminal authorities. TASC has also opened up previously unavailable treatment options for Pierce county residents at minimal cost to the community. The community further benefits from a reduction in drug-related crime insofar as TASC is effective in meeting this goal. It is in its position as an independent intermediary between the criminal justice and drug treatment systems that TASC may have its greatest benefits, bridging the philosophical differences which often make effective communication difficult. TASC attempts to serve the interests of both systems, and those of the client, through honest and accurate assessment of the client's drug and criminal history, his/her motivation for change, and the restrictions imposed by the commission of a crime. In doing this, TASC maintains credibility with the criminal justice system by rejecting referrals of individuals who are not sufficiently motivated for change, and provides a service for drug treatment by advocating for the diversion of those who are. Because of the intensive monitoring performed by TASC, the criminal justice system retains informational access to clients released to treatment, thus reducing the loss of control associated with such incarceration alternatives.

In June, 1977, Tacoma TASC implemented a juvenile component to serve the youthful counterparts of its adult clients. Although juvenile client numbers are low, TASC is filling a previously unmet service need

in its provision of evaluation, treatment placement, and monitoring functions for juvenile offenders, and these services have received strong support and praises from juvenile justice personnel.

For further information, contact TASC, 1201 South 11th, Tacoma, WA 98405, or call at (206) 572-4750.

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KING COUNTY ADVISED TO KEEP DIVISION OF ALCOHOLISM SERVICES WITH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

"Stay where you are" is the recommendation concerning the possibility of moving King County's Division of Alcoholism Services (DAS) out of the Department of Public Health. Suggested alternatives included moving to the Department of Rehabilitative Services as a separate division or becoming an office within the Division of Human Services.

In an issue analysis completed in August, the King County Department of Budget and Program Development reported that such an organizational change would not facilitate any significant improvements in terms of accessibility to clients, available funding, or efficiency of operation. The three and one-half month analysis began in May and was executed through a variety of approaches, including interviews with King County Health Department personnel, judges, council members, staff members in the DAS, and representatives of the Division of Human Services. The requirements of funding agencies were reviewed and Federal and State representatives were completed in order to clarify applicable laws and regulations. Representatives from Spokane, Yakima, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties (all in Washington) and Multnomah County in Oregon were interviewed in order to assess and compare their alcoholism service delivery system with King County's.

The issue analysis was mandated by the King County Council in its 1978 annual budget. Sam Hubbard, Supervisor of the Evaluation and Monitoring Section for the Department of Budget and Program Development, says that he does not yet know the Council's reaction to the report. The analysis has not yet been scheduled for a Council hearing, but Hubbard expects one to be held within the next six weeks.

A concern addressed in the report is the need for coordination of alcoholism services with other county services, especially for those clients with multiple drug and alcohol misuse problems. Although DAS has no formal policy coordinating efforts with other agencies, its individual agencies and their staff members participate freely in the informal referral network.

Formal linkage with mental health or drug abuse services has, in fact, been actively resisted by DAS. The report finds both of these mergers inadvisable because: a) alcoholism is considered a physical disease and therefore a medical problem rather than a mental health

problem, and b) King County alcoholism services are based entirely on the abstinence model which contrasts philosophically with drug abuse program philosophy where occasionally methadone maintenance is involved rather than abstinence.

The report indicates that funding would not be either significantly increased or decreased by an organizational move for DAS. In addition, the suggested advantage of increasing management efficiency by housing DAS in the Division of Human Services (DHS) seems invalid because of the contrast in the two agencies' service delivery systems. DAS works through direct delivery, while DHS is based primarily on contracted delivery. Overlapping managerial and supervisory functions could save the county an estimated \$20,700, but this saving would likely be depleted by the need to hire direct service specialists for alcoholism services.

The conclusion reached as a result of the analysis is that an organizational move for DAS would create more opposition than it would be worth. The report states that advocacy in favor of the change is minimal, while opponents of the change "include not only community groups but management of all organizations involved." In addition, the summary explains the position of the alcoholism community, that "alcoholism is a health problem, that alcoholism is a unique disease requiring special means of treatment, and that only through separation from other services can alcoholism retain visibility and support." Recommended, instead, is emphasis on increased coordination and cross-referral between agencies.

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JOURNAL OF ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY

A new interdisciplinary journal, the *JOURNAL OF ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY*, is being launched in Lausanne, Switzerland, edited by Dr. Laurent Rivier and Dr. Jan G. Bruhn. The journal is intended to satisfy "the growing need of research scholars interested in indigenous drugs throughout the world for an interdisciplinary forum for the publication of their results." The editors state that the journal will publish papers concerned with "the observation, description, and experimental investigation of the biological activities and the active substances of plants and animals used in the traditional medicine of past and present cultures."

Subscription information may be obtained by writing to: *JOURNAL OF ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY*, Elsevier Sequoia SA, Post Office Box 851, CH-1001, Lausanne 1, Switzerland.

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TAMARC OPENS NEW FACILITY  
THURSDAY, NOV. 16  
1625 MOTTMAN RD., S.W., TUMWATER, WA

The Thurston & Mason Alcoholism Recovery Council (TAMARC) invites everyone to its Nov. 16 open-house. The new building was specifically designed for alcoholism treatment, having detoxification facilities, outpatient treatment, and a 22-bed rehabilitation unit all under one roof. Open house will be ongoing all afternoon. For more informa-

ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE  
CONFERENCES

Meeting of American Association for the  
Study of Liver Disease

November 6-8, 1978  
Chicago, Illinois  
Contact: Dr. M.A. Rothschild  
VA Hospital  
408 First Avenue  
New York, NY 10010

"Alcoholism, the Family Illness"  
Conference

November 13-17, 1978  
Manhasset, New York  
Contact: Freedom Institute, Inc.  
174 E. 74th Street  
New York, NY 10021  
Sponsored by the Freedom Institute &  
the Johnson Institute in cooperation  
with NCA's Family Program

Conference on Alcoholism in Industry

November 14-15, 1978  
Binghamton, New York  
Contact: Broome County Council on  
Alcoholism  
89-91 Court Street  
Binghamton, NY 13901

National Conference on Medical Education  
in Alcoholism & Drug Abuse

November 16-17, 1978  
Washington, D.C.  
Contact: Dr. Charles Buchwald  
Downstate Med. Ctr.  
450 Clarkson Ave./Box 32  
Brooklyn, NY 11203

Third Southeastern Conference on Alcohol  
and Drug Addiction

November 29-December 3, 1978  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Contact: Conway Hunter, Jr., M.D.  
Medical Director  
Addictive Disease Unit  
Peachford Hospital  
2151 Peachford Road  
Atlanta, GA 30338

Sponsored by the Peachfold Hospital  
and the American Medical Society on  
Alcoholism

Alcoholism--the Search for the Sources

January 24-26, 1979  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
Contact: Elaine Woody  
Center for Alcohol Studies  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Cruising Medical Seminar on Alcoholism

March 2-13, 1979  
"Statendam" Sailing from Florida  
Contact: John A. Ewing, M.D.  
Director  
Center for Alcohol Studies  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Alabama School of Alcohol Studies

March 20-23, 1979  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
Contact: Dr. Peter Balsamo  
Director  
Continuing Education in Human  
Services  
University of Alabama  
P.O. Box 2967  
University, AL 35486

14th Meeting--Association of Halfway  
House Alcoholism Programs

June 3-7, 1979  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
Contact: AHHAP  
786 East 7th Street  
St. Paul, MN 55106

International Commission for the Prevention  
of Alcoholism & Drug Dependency

August 26-31, 1979  
Acapulco, Mexico  
Contact: ICPA  
6830 Laurel Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20012

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