

# Overview of drug dependence treatment in Thailand

Charas Suwanwela<sup>1</sup>, Vichai Poshyachinda<sup>1</sup>, Chitr Sitthi-Amorn<sup>1</sup>, Prida Tasanapradit<sup>1</sup> and Ayut Dharmkrong-Ait<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Health Research, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

<sup>2</sup> Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

## ABSTRACT

Overview of drug dependence treatment in Thailand was prepared in 1978, comprising the contents of existing treatment programmes, methodology for assessment of treatment outcome and a community approach to treatment. Concerning to treatment programmes, they are available both in the scientific medical services and in the traditional healing institutions. The methods available can be arbitrarily grouped as follows: a. Inpatient treatment with methadone detoxification for heroin dependent persons. b. Outpatient methadone for heroin dependent persons. c. Traditional treatment programme for narcotic addicts. d. Opium detoxification programme for the hill tribes. In conclusion, it is not proper to think of drug as a problem. Human being is the more important element. One of the human being's greatest ability, i.e. the adaptability is very essential when the treatment of drug dependent patient is considered.

**Key words :** Drug Dependence, Treatment

---

Technical Report No. DD-1/78. 1978.