

## **Methamphetamine dependence treatment rehabilitation in Thailand: a model assessment.**

Usaneya Perngparn, Bhassorn Limanonda, Apinun Aramrattana, Catherine Pilley, Chitlada Areesantichai, Surasak Taneepanichskul

Drug Dependence Research Center, College of Public Health Sciences, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand.

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**ABSTRACT** Assess the process and outcome of the treatment rehabilitation program in Thailand by comparing out-patients and in-patients from drug dependent treatment centers (DDTCs) under Matrix and FAST Models. In the DDTCs, male in-patient and out-patient volunteers aged 15-35 years were randomly selected to assess demographic characteristics, socio-economic status, history of substance use, and other behavior related to their health. Observations of the process of therapy and assessment of patients' improvement were made. After completing the rehabilitation, which lasted four months, trained field workers visited the patients at 1-, 3- and 6-month intervals. Analyses of rehabilitation focused on cognitive and behavioral changes at one and three months. Regarding the follow-up outcomes, comparison of Matrix and FAST Models relapse was analyzed by survival graph and Cox-regression of the days since stopping illegal substance use. Ninety-two in-patients and forty-three out-patients were recruited. No significant difference was found in the characteristics of the patients between the two models or in the treatment centers. After assessing patients at 1-, 3-, and 6-month, more improvement was noted among those in the FAST model than in the Matrix model. This research confirmed improvement in attendees at the in-patient treatment model and the effectiveness of rehabilitation.