

# **DRUG ABUSED MONITORING SYSTEM (DAMS)**

## **INTRODUCTION :**

At present there is no system in the country to monitor drug use. Though some studies in the past have been carried out to provide the necessary data about drug use in the country, yet no effort has been made so far to streamline the process of data collection on a scientific basis. Further, it is essential to collect the data for a number of years, to be able to discern the trends of drug use, both in terms of the profile of drug users and the types of drugs being used, and any shifts therein. The source from where the data could be collected is crucial in providing the authentic insights. The treatment and counseling centers are the only sources, which interact with a large number of drug users in the country on a regular basis, and where some form of records are maintained about the drug users and the drugs being used.

The present effort is meant to set up a system of monitoring drug abuse trends in the country, on the basis of data from the treatment and counseling centers being funded by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Health Welfare, besides other centers which may be carrying out similar activities with drug addicts. The purpose is to be able to know how many persons generally use the services, whether the numbers are increasing or decreasing, to identify the users, their age group, sex, social status, employment status and so on. The second important objective of monitoring is the kind of drugs being used and the method of use. The data would help us in gaining useful insights about the types of drugs being used, and the mode of drug use. It would help us in knowing the type of drug use prevalent in different parts of the country. The quality of the data is crucial importance in this existence. It is therefore, requested that the person responsible for collecting data may carefully read the instructions to fill in the simple data format enclosed.

## **METHODOLOGY:**

All treatment centers funded by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, besides other centers, which may be carrying out similar activities with drug addicts, would be responsible for collecting the data in the format designed for the purpose. The data would be collected for a period of three months in a year, for all new drug users seeking your help. However, for the first month, in case of de-addiction centers, all the persons already admitted in your center shall be included.

The format should be filled in on the first day of the contact itself, though the information can be subsequently revised, if the person remains in contact with you for a longer duration. The period of data collection would be specified each year. For example, during the current year, the data has to be collected from the 1<sup>st</sup> August to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2000. The data would be sent immediately at the end of the period, to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment or any other address, which may be notified for the purpose. After the data collection is over information about the services and the staff and other facilities at the center would be provided on an information sheet developed for the purpose. The data about the users would be sent along with the information about the services at the center.

### **IMPORTANT GUIDELINES FOR NGOS:**

**Duration:** Please collect information with respect to the items given in the format from all new drug users, clients coming to your center for the first time, seeking help, beginning from 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2000 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2000.

- For the month of August, in case of de-addiction centers, all the persons already admitted in your center shall be included.

You are requested to familiarize all your staff members dealing with the drug users with the code sheet and the manual to fill in the data. Refer to the manual in case of any difficulty.

The identity of the drug being used would require greater attention and detailed information has been included. A list of common names used for different drugs is also being enclosed to help you in identifying the drugs.

Please appoint one person as the contact person-in-charge for data collection in your organization. He/she should be sent for the training for DAMS. He/she in turn would train all other staff involved in data collection.

Please send the filled in formats for all new users, clients coming to your center for the first time during the month of August, September, and October 2000. If possible, please send them by courier, to ensure prompt delivery. Do not forget to fill in the information sheet about the services at the center, and enclose it with the data about the users.

### **COLLECTING OF DATA:**

The data has to be collected from all new cases reporting to seek help from your center,, during the month of August, September, and October, 2000. The term new case here refers to the person who is coming to your center for the first time. It is

possible that you are providing both counseling and treatment. The person first goes to the counseling unit and is subsequently admitted for treatment. You are requested to treat the case as one, since the information about the case has already been collected. This information should not be repeated, even if he/she is being admitted for the first time.

The information has to be collected on first contact, though it can be revised subsequently, if the person remains in contact for a longer period. It will help in collecting information from all cases. It is always advisable to recheck the information regarding all entries, particularly income, employment status, pattern of drug use, method of use, crime record and family violence etc. If possible, try to get information from others sources e.g. visiting relatives and friends, to authenticate the information provided by the person.

The format is pre-coded and is accompanied by a code sheet to facilitate you.

### **How to use the format:**

**Center code:** All centers have been allotted a code, e.g. the center code for Navjoyti, Delhi is

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- These codes would be the same for all DAMs format filled at your center code shortly.

**Type:** It refers to whether you are providing counseling center use code 1, De-addiction 2 and for both 3 e.g. Counseling Center

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### **Funded by:**

If you are funded by ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment use code 1, for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, use code 2 and in case you are funded by some other source other than the one's mentioned above, use code 3.

### **1. Date of reporting:**

For example, if the date is 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2000 

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**2. Sex:** There are three categories in this item- Male-1, Female-2 and common gender-3. Put the appropriate code in the box, e.g. If the client is a male,

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**3. Age:** Please record the actual age. Some illiterate persons may not be sure of their age. Help them ascertain the same by using different methods, e.g. the date of birth of any younger sibling, and so on. In case of nay doubt, use code 99. For example, if the client is 25 years old,

2 | 5

**4. Marital Status:** The item 7 categories. There is a category, which reads as divorced because of addiction. In case of divorced cases do probe and record accordingly, using the code 6. If the divorce has nothing to do with addiction, use code 4. I am sure you are aware of the difference between the ‘divorce’ meaning legal separation, and ‘separation’, where the legal formality has not been completed; though it may have been initiated. Please use the appropriate code 4 or 5 respectively.

**5. Education:** The item has 9 categories in all. If a person has passed class IX but failed in Xth, his/her educational status should be recorded as ‘middle’-code 4. The same rule at all stages. Passing a particular stage exam is the criteria for determining the level.

**6. Employment status:** The item has 9 categories. All categories are self-explanatory.

**7. Occupation:** There are 11 main categories in this item. A number of occupational activities are listed under each. You may red the details carefully and can consult the code-sheet for choosing the appropriate code. For example if a person were employed in restaurant/hotel, his/her occupation would be service worker-code 05. However, if you are not able to classify or if the occupation does not fit in any of the categories given, use the code-11 and specify the occupation along side.

## **Code: DIVISION AND GROUPS**

### **01 Professional, Technical and related Workers**

- Physical Scientist
- Physical Science Technician
- Architects, Engineers, Technologists and Surveyors
- Engineering Technicians
- Aircrafts and Ship Officers
- Life Scientists
- Life Science Technicians
- Physicians and Surgeons (including dental and Veterinary surgeons)

- Nursing and other Medical and Health Technicians
- Scientific, Medical and Technical Persons, Others
- Economist and Related Workers
- Accountants, Auditors and Related Workers
- Mathematician Statisticians and Related Workers
- Social Scientist and Related Workers
- Jurists
- Teachers
- Poets, Authors, Journalist and Related Creative Artists
- Sculptors, Painters, Photographers and Related Creative Artists
- Composers and performing Artists
- Professional Workers

## **02 ADMINISTRATIVE, EXECUTIVE AND MANAGERIAL WORKERS**

- Elected and Legislative officials
- Administrative and Executive officials, Government and local Bodies
- Working Proprietors, directors and Managers, Wholesale and retail trade
- Directors and Managers, Financial institutions
- Working Proprietors, Directors, and Managers, Mining, Construction, Manufacturing and related concerns
- Working Proprietors, Directors, Managers and related Executives, Transport, Storage and Communication
- Working Proprietors, Directors, and Managers, other services
- Administrative, Executive and Managerial Workers

## **03 CLERICAL AND RELATED WORKERS**

- Clerical and other Supervisors
- Village Officials
- Stenographers
- Typist and card and Tape Punching Operators
- Book keepers, Cashiers and related WORKERS.
- Computing Machine Operators
- Clerical and Related Workers
- Transport and Communication Supervisors
- Transport Conductors and Guards
- Mail Distributors and related workers
- Telephone and Telegraph Operators

## **04 SALES WORKERS**

- Merchant and Shopkeepers, Wholesale and Retail Trade
- Manufacturers, Agents

- Technical Salesman and Commercial Travelers
- Salesman. Shop Assistance and Related Workers
- Insurance, real Estate, Securities and Business Service Salesman and Auctioneers
- Money Lenders and Pawn Brokers
- Sales Workers

#### **05 SERVICE WORKERS**

- Hotel and Restaurant Keepers
- House Keepers, Matron and Stewards (Domestic and Institutional)
- Cooks, Waiters, Bartenders and related workers (Domestic and Institutional)
- Maids and other House Keeping Service Workers
- Building care takers, Sweepers, Cleaners and related workers
- Launderers, Dry- Cleaners and Pressers
- Hair Dressers, Barbers, Beauticians and related workers
- Protective Service Workers
- Service Workers

#### **06 FARMERS, FISHERMEN, HUNTERS< LOGGERS AND REALTED WORKERS**

- Farm Plantation, Dairy and other Mangers and Supervisors
- Cultivators
- Farmers other than Cultivators
- Agricultural Laborers and related workers
- Forestry workers
- Hunters and related workers
- Fishermen and related workers

#### **07 PRODUCTION AND RELATE WORKERS**

- Miners, Quarrymen, Well Drillers and related workers
- Metal Processors
- Wood Preparation Workers
- Chemical Processors and related workers
- Spinners, Weavers, Knitters, Dyers and related workers
- Tanners, Fellmongers and Pelt Dressers
- Food and beverages Processors
- Tobacco Prepares and Tobacco Product Makers
- Tailors, Dress Makers, Sewers Upholsterers and related workers
- Shoemakers and Leather Goods Makers
- Carpenter, Cabinet and related wood workers
- Stone Cutters and Carvers

- Blacksmiths, Toolmakers and Machine Tool Operators
- Machinery Fitters, Machine Assemblers and Precision Instrument Makers (except Electrical)
- Electrical Fitters and related Electrical and Electronics Workers
- Broadcasting Stations And Sound Equipment Operators and Cinema Projectionist
- Plumbers, Welders, Sheet Metal and Structural Metal Makers and Erectors
- Jewelry and Precious Metal Workers and Metal Engravers (except printing)
- Glass Formers, potters and related workers
- Rubber and Plasters product makers
- Paper and paper board product makers
- Printing and related workers
- Painters
- Production and Related Workers
- Brick Layers and other Construction workers
- Stationary engines and related Equipment operators, Boilers and Greasers
- operators.

## **08 TRANSPORT OPERATORS, WORKERS**

## **09 NOT KNOWN**

## **10 LABOURERS**

## **11 WORKERS NOT CLASSIFIED BY OCCUPATIONS**

- New Workers seeking employment
- Workers reporting occupations, unidentifiable or inadequately described

**8. Income:** In this item the actual figure is to be recorded. Income refers to the income of the person seeking help per month from all sources. Round up the figure e.g.: if the monthly income is 1005, it should be recorded as 1000. Many a times, people are not aware of their monthly income. In that case, ascertain the average daily income and the number of days they are able to get work. Multiply the daily wage by the average number of days a person is able to get work in a month, to get your figure of monthly wage. Record the actual figure thus arrived.

**9. Place of Residence:** This item has just two categories- rural and urban. You may ascertain where the person generally lives and then classify the place as rural and urban. The definition of rural area is where the majority of population is engaged in agriculture or agriculture related activities.

**10. Pattern of Drug Use:** This item is meant to get information about all the drugs including tobacco and alcohol, being used by the person or ever used by him/her. At first glance it appears somewhat complicated, but if you look at it

again, it is very simple. It is a list of all-probable drugs a person may be using. Still, if you come across a drug, which is not listed here, you may list the name in the last row of the table, and go on adding rows depending on the number of unlisted drugs being used. Make sure that you record all the drugs. So, in the first column, you may tick as many as drugs as he/she may have used even once. In the next column, identify the age at which the drug was used for the first time. In the third column identify and record only those, which he/she may have used in the last one month (counting from the day of reporting). Again, make sure that you record all the drug or drugs he/she is using almost daily. In the last column, record the time period of daily or near daily usage of the drugs. To help you in the identification of the drugs, their street names are given below:

**POPULAR NAMES OF DRUGS:**

<b>Types of Drug</b>	<b>Commonly known as</b>
<b>Heroin</b>	Brown Sugar, Samck, No.4, Gard, Samaan, pudia, Junk, Mall etc.
<b>Opium</b>	Afeem, Amar, Bhukki, Doda, Post, Amlī, Amlī, Amal, Reta, Poppy, etc
	Morphine, etc
<b>Buprenorphine</b>	Norphine, TDX, Tidigesic, Adnok, etc
<b>Propoxyphene</b>	Proxxyvon, Spasmoproxyvon, Butaproxyvon, etc.
<b>Other Opiates</b>	Pethidine, Pentazocine, Fortwin, Codeine, Methadone etc.
<b>Alcohol</b>	Sharab, Daru, Desi, Angrezi, Tharra, Sura, Guttu, Thaili, Arrack, Todi, etc
<b>Cannabis</b>	Bhang, Ganja, Charas, Hashish, Grass, Sulfa, etc
<b>Barbiturates</b>	Phenobarbitone, Pentobarbitone, Gardenal, Seconal etc
<b>Minor Tranquilizers</b>	Valium, Diazepam, Librium, Nitravart, Das Number Ki Goli, Alprax, etc
<b>Other Sedatives/Hypnotics</b>	Sedyn, Carisoma, Mandrax etc
<b>Cocaine</b>	Crack, Cocaine, etc

<b>Amphetamine</b>	Speed, Amphetamine, Dextroamphetamine, Ecstasy etc
<b>Hallucinogens</b>	PCP, Angel Dust, LSD etc
<b>Inhalants</b>	Glue, Petrol, Kerosene, thinner, Solvetn, paints, Araldite, Quickfix, Spirit, etc
<b>Cough Syrup</b>	Bendryl, Corex, Phensydyl, Gathi, etc
<b>Others Specify</b>	Avil, Vrufen, Voveran, Laxative, Lodex, Boot Polish etc

- Some of the street names may be the trade name of various drugs. However, this does not reflect on the drug manufacturers.

**11. Intravenous Drug Use:** This item is self-explanatory. Please note that the intravenous use in the last one month or ever, are to be recorded by simply using the codes i.e. Yes-1, No-2, and in case of no response, code-9

**12. Sharing of Needles, Syringes and other paraphernalia:** Similar codes are to be used as mentioned in the data item above. Please specifically ask and record, if they are sharing needles, cleaning them with a gauze/cloth/water if any related item is being used for preparing an injection with fellow users/others.

**13. Average Expenditure on Drugs per month:** Record the actual figure of average monthly expenditure on drug use. Identify the drug/s being used, the quantity of daily use and its cost, and then multiply by 30 to arrive at the figure of average monthly expenditure.

**14. Police Record:** Simply record Yes-1, No-2, and No Response-9

**15. Any Previous Attempts at Treatment:** Simply record Yes-1, No-2, and No Response-9

- (a) If Yes, Number of Attempts: Record the actual number of attempts using numbers 1-5. If there are more than 5 attempts, use code-6. Incase of no response, use code- 9.
- (b) Duration since last treatment: Self explanatory, see the code sheet

**16. Family Violence:** Family violence here refers to physical and mental torture inflicted by drug users on any or all the family members. Three possible answers are given with definition. Record the appropriate code. If you think the information may not be correct or if there is no response, use code-9

**17. Sexual Practices:** There are four possible answers given in the code sheet, which are self-explanatory. In case there is no response or you think information provided may not be true use code-9.

**18. Safe Sex:** This item refers to four possible answers given in the code sheet, which are self-explanatory. In case there are no responses or you think the information provided may not be true use code-9.

**19. Family History of Drug Use:** This item refers to the possibility of a family history of drug use. If the father is or has been drug user, use code-1, for the mother use code-2, brother code-3, sister code 4, father and mother code 5, and for the father and brother code 6. In case any other person is found to be a drug user use code 7, and mention the specific relationship besides the box.

**20. Father and Mother's Education and Occupation:** Please collect information about the parent's education and occupation as given above, for Education (5) and for occupation (7)