

First course: Use of Alcohol and other Drugs: Evidence-Based Prevention

Topic	Title	Content	Author
1	Epidemiology of drugs in Latin America and the Caribbean: prevalence and use trends	Prevalence by type of substance use; main drugs used; patterns of use and meanings associated with the use; new emerging uses; new substances available; territorial displacements in use; and the need for prevention.	Orlando Scoppetta, MSc.
2	Drug addiction: The neurobiological roots of risk and protective factors	Neurobiological fundamentals of the brain; epigenetic as an adaptation mechanism; from the biology of the brain to the influence of the environment.	Rubén D. Baler, PhD.
3	Psychosocial risk and protection factors associated with the use of psychoactive substances	Basic concepts about risk and protection factors of a psychosocial nature; contributions of epidemiology; experimental designs applied to the evaluation of different preventive models; challenges for research on risk and protection factors.	Gabriela Olivera, MSc.
4	Foundations and objectives of preventive activity	Reasons supporting the need for prevention; principles and basic evidence-based quality criteria to make good prevention; cost-efficiency of prevention; case-study; review of evidence-based quality criteria agreed within the framework of COPOLAD.	Elisardo Becoña Iglesias, PhD.
5	Evolution of research on theoretical models of prevention	Aetiological model underlying drug prevention; main theories and explaining models of drug use; informative models; affective models; bio-psycho-social model: screening, diagnosis and applicability, advantages and disadvantages; the most adequate models for prevention based on the current evidence.	Elisardo Becoña Iglesias, PhD.
6	Levels of preventive Interventions	Historical evolution of the preventive model: limitations of the primary, secondary and tertiary prevention model; environmental, universal, selective and indicated prevention; implication of these levels for work with populations in different situations of vulnerability; and case study –example of a universal programme: <i>activa tu desarrollo</i> (activate your development).	Milton Rojas Valero, MSc.
7	Area of preventive intervention: review of the effectiveness in each area	Preventive interventions at the communitarian, family, educative and occupational level; penitentiary environments; and case study – example of a school programme: <i>a tiempo</i> (on time)	Milton Rojas Valero, MSc.
8	Needs assessment, selection of the population, objectives and estimation of feasibility	Gathering relevant data, diagnoses and information; main sources of information; problem tree; definition of target populations; vulnerability criteria; focalisation of supply; and evaluation of available resources: internal and external, which allow formulating achievable objectives.	Juan Carlos Mansilla MSc.
9	Formulation of objectives and indicators	Formulation of achievable, measurable and verifiable objectives; and construction of indicators, processes, product, result.	Juan Carlos Mansilla, MSc.
10	Selection of the theoretical model and design of a strategy for working with customers	Adoption or approach to the theoretical model to start from for the intervention; design and selection of specific intervention strategies with the target populations: intervention plan	Augusto Pérez Gómez, PhD.



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11	Monitoring system, instruments for evaluation and presentation of results	Design of monitoring mechanisms and control of the implementation of the programme or projects; types of evaluations: process, implementation, results and impact; evaluation instruments; presentation and dissemination of results.	Augusto Pérez Gómez, PhD.
12	The future of drug dependence prevention	Explanation of the need to unite research and preventive practices; and efficiency and sustainability of prevention.	Elisardo Becoña Iglesias, PhD.