

Piloting of a Standardized Data Collection Instrument for Drug Treatment Facilities - The Jamaican Experience




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Treatment Facilities Selected

- Addiction Treatment Services Unit
- Richmond Fellowship Jamaica Patricia House
- Teen Challenge Jamaica
- **William Chamberlain Salvation Army**
- Issue re inclusion of mental health facilities
 - Psychiatry units (UWI & CRH), psychiatric hospital, community mental health clinics
 - Not specialized drug treatment facilities
 - Not included for pilot



Sensitization of 4 Treatment Centers

- Letters and brief report on pilot training (Trinidad – Oct 2012)
 - Purpose, timelines, benefits
- Meetings – detailed review of data collection form
- Secured Buy-in – Institutional heads and intake officers
 - Inclusion of 2 agencies at pilot training was beneficial



Issues Raised - I

- Use of data – concerns about agency relevance
- Intake patterns – low in Nov to Jan & high in Feb to April
- Considered an MOU – Established a confidentiality agreement (based on past methodology with NCDA data collection)



Issues Raised - II

- Duplication of information gathering – more work
- Discomfort with signature – created unique id for staff
- History of psychiatric illness and contagious disease history – likely to be under reported at intake



Issues Raised III

- Ensure feedback is given on analysis
- Capacity building for agency staff –
PROCCER initiative to address that
- Why external initiation & not NCDA led
 - regional cooperation to improve and standardize data gathering and comparability
- Would improve their intake form to include disease history & judicial information



In-house Preparation prior to Pilot

- Printing of forms
- Assignment of Center codes
- Numbering of forms
- Develop tracking system – distribution and collection of forms



Data Collection

- Initial weekly calls to track progress
- Frequent collection of completed forms
 - Issued small amounts at a time
- Debriefing to address concerns and provide clarification

Data Collection by Agency

Agency	No.	%
Addiction Treatment Services Unit (Detox)	78	65
Richmond Fellowship Patricia House	23	19
Teen Challenge	15	13
William Chamberlain	4	3
TOTAL	120	100



Data Entry

- Ongoing as forms were collected
- Calculation of completed years of education
- Error recognized re Q 9 – ethnic group omission of categories on form
- Minor issues
 - Response options not visible beyond a point on data set
 - Errors for entry of question 14



Conclusion

- Process was smooth
- Regular updates were useful
 - Feedback → Clarification → Action
- Agencies prepared to continue data collection
- Sharing analysis will be useful - not comprehensively undertaken at agencies

Thank you

