This resource guide provides information for counselors, physical therapists, and mental health professionals about alcohol and other drug problems of individuals with physical disabilities. The guide begins with 26 listings of prevention materials, including brochures, videotapes, classroom materials, and other items. Information provided for each listing includes publication or production date, length, target audience, setting, readability, availability, and a paragraph-length annotation. The guide then presents annotations for nine government publications and journal articles and six other publications dealing with drug abuse. The guide concludes with a list of 16 groups, organizations, and programs dealing with people who have disabilities. (JDD)
Those individuals who have physical disabilities are at risk for developing alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems. Social isolation, chronic pain, increased dependence on prescription drugs, and enabling by family members, cause many people with disabilities to turn to AOD to ease their loneliness and pain. Unfortunately, due to physical complications, this population suffers even more serious adverse effects of AOD than the general public does.

This resource guide provides information to assist counselors, physical therapists, and mental health professionals in their understanding and interactions with individuals with disabilities. I hope that the resources included in this guide will help us prevent AOD abuse among this underserved population in our country.

Vivian L. Smith, M.S.W.
The listing of materials or programs in this resource guide does not constitute or imply endorsement by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, the Public Health Service, or the Department of Health and Human Services. The materials have been reviewed for accuracy, appropriateness, and conformance with public health principles.

This Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Resource Guide was compiled from a variety of publications and data bases and represents the most current information to date. It is not an all-inclusive listing of materials on this topic. This guide will be updated regularly, and your comments or suggestions are welcome. To suggest information or materials that might be included in updated editions, please write to the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI), P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345.

Produced by the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, Karen Zuckerman, editor.

For further information on alcohol and other drugs, call 301-468-2600, 1-800-729-6686, or TDD 1-800-487-4889.

Please feel free to be a "copy cat," and make all the copies you want. You have our permission!
Prevention Material for People with Disabilities

Safe Spaces: Drug and Alcohol Prevention Education for Special Needs and Drug Exposed K-2 Children
Organization: Project Healthy Choices
Year: 1992
Sponsor/Endorser: Department of Education
Format: VHS Video
Length: 27 Minutes
Topic: Alcohol and Other Drugs and Prevention
Target Audience: Educators and Elementary Youth Grades 5-7
Setting: School
Readability: Average
Availability: RADAR Network Centers. Call NCADI at 1-800-729-6686 for the Center nearest you.

This training video provides information for educators, parents, and prevention specialists who work with special needs and drug exposed children. The video discusses how these children are at risk for developing an alcohol or other drug problem later in life, and how it is necessary to create "safe spaces" for them to grow. Part one of the video addresses awareness, skills, and practice; part two covers early intervention and family collaboration.

Me, Myself and I
Year: 1990
Format: Kit includes video and teacher's manual
Length: 16 Minute Video
Context: Part of a Packet/Program Part of Me, Myself and I Curriculum
Topic: Alcohol and Other Drugs and Prevention
Mode of Delivery: Mass Media
Target Audience: Sr. High Youth and Other High School Age Educable Mentally Handicapped
Setting: School
Availability: Project Oz, 502 South Morris Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701; 309-827-0377

This program, targeted towards high school age mentally handicapped students, contains a video and teacher's manual, and focuses on the issue of self-esteem. The video, which shows a woman signing for the hearing impaired, poses several open-ended questions to encourage classroom discussion. The accompanying teacher's manual addresses the following topics: What Is Self Esteem? Where Does My Self-Esteem Come From? and What Can I Do To Improve My Self-Esteem? Role-playing, games, and other group activities make up this unique program.
A Special Message: Grades 1-3 (Volume 4)
Year: 1991
Format: Classroom Material
Length: 275 Pages
Topic: Alcohol and Other Drugs and Prevention
Mode of Delivery: Instructor-led
Target Audience: Educators--Grades 1-3 (Special Education) and Learning Disabled and Behavior Disordered 1st-3rd Graders
Setting: School
Readability: Average
Availability: Project Oz, 502 South Morris Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701; 309-827-0377

This curriculum is designed for children in grades 1-3 who have a learning and/or behavior disorder. Because these youngsters are especially vulnerable to peer pressure, this program addresses special peer-related concerns. Self concept, group skills, stress management, decision making, and basic alcohol and other drug information are just some of the topics addressed in this 13 lesson curriculum. Teachers are provided with a definition of the topic, the significance of the topic, goals, objectives, and directions for each lesson.

A Special Message: Grades 4-5 (Volume 5)
Year: 1991
Format: Classroom Material
Length: 300 Pages
Topic: Alcohol and Other Drugs and Prevention
Mode of Delivery: Instructor-led
Target Audience: Educators--Grades 4-5 and Learning Disabled and Behavior Disordered 4th-5th Graders
Setting: School
Readability: Average
Availability: Project Oz, 502 South Morris Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701; 309-827-0377

This curriculum is designed for children in grades 4-5 who have a learning and/or behavior disorder. The program contains 17 lessons and focuses on six distinct topics: 1) Communication and group skills; 2) Self-concept; 3) Drugs; 4) Peer pressure; 5) Decision making; and 6) AIDS. Information regarding children of alcoholics and fetal alcohol syndrome is also provided.

Substance Abuse Resources and Disability Issues
Year: 1993
Format: Newsletter
Length: 2 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention Professionals, People with Disabilities
Availability: Wright State University, SARDI Project, School of Medicine, Dayton, OH 45435: 513-259-1384 (V/TDD)

Substance Abuse Resources and Disability Issues Training Manual
Year: 1992
Format: Training Manual
Length: 254 Pages

For further information, write to NCADI, P.O. Box 2345 Rockville, MD 20847-2345
This training manual is designed to assist AOD prevention and treatment professionals who work with people with disabilities. The manual reviews AOD prevention, identification, and intervention skills, and lists a host of relevant support groups. Eight appendices contain resources, a bibliography, assessment and diagnosis suggestions, and additional information.

J.R.’s Story: The Disability of Chemical Dependency
Year: 1992
Format: Video
Length: 26 Minutes
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals, People with Disabilities
Readability: Fairly Difficult
Availability: Aimsmedia, 9710 Desoto Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311-4409; 818-773-4300 or 1-800-367-2467

J.R., a young man who became paralyzed in an alcohol related injury, tells his story of what it is like to be both chemically dependent and physically disabled. J.R. describes his AOD problem before and after the injury, and several friends share their perspectives on J.R.’s situation. Eventually J.R. gets into an AOD treatment plan specifically designed for people with disabilities, and at the video’s conclusion J.R. shares his excitement at being drug-free.

Project S.A.V.E.S.: Substance Abuse Video Educational Series for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons
Organization: Project S.A.V.E.S.
Year: 1988
Sponsor/Endorser: Goodwill Industries
Format: Communications Package
Context: Part of a Packet/Program
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Mode of Delivery: Self-Instructional and Instructor-led
Target Audience: Disabled and Hearing Impaired
Setting: Community Organization and Workplace
Readability: Average
Availability: Project S.A.V.E.S. c/o MADHS, 724 Abbott Road, Lansing, MI 48823; 517-337-1646; TDD 517-337-1649

The kit, which contains a video and a resource guide, discusses the problem of alcohol and other drug abuse among the hearing impaired population. The video is divided into three segments. The first segment, entitled "Signs of a New Beginning," tells the story of an individual’s struggle with alcoholism and the help he receives through an employee assistance program. The second segment, entitled "Breaking Sound Barriers," dramatizes a support group session with both hearing and deaf participants. The third segment, entitled "Enabling: Helping or Hurting," discusses the importance of attending ALANON and NARANON, and examines the concept of enabling.
About Therapeutic Recreation
Organization: National Therapeutic Recreation Society
Year: 1989
Format: Booklet
Length: 15 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Health Care and Recreation/Sports
Readability: Fairly Difficult
Availability: National Therapeutic Recreation Society, 2775 South Quincy Street, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22206; 703-820-4940

This pamphlet, through cartoons and captions, promotes therapeutic recreation as a tool for treating various limiting conditions. Physical activity is encouraged as a means of helping the mentally, emotionally, and physically disabled, as well as those dependent on alcohol or other drugs, and juvenile offenders. The pamphlet asserts that therapeutic recreation helps build confidence, ease fear, improve physical abilities, manage stress, and more.

Facts About Alcohol, Other Drugs and Development Disabilities
Organization: Wisconsin Clearinghouse
Year: 1989
Format: Booklet
Length: 16 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Community Organization and Health Care
Readability: Difficult
Availability: Wisconsin Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 1468, Madison, WI 53701; 800-322-1468

This booklet provides information about alcohol and other drug use and how it affects those with disabilities. Why this population is at an increased risk for the potential abuse of AOD, how the effects of AOD vary with each particular disability, and how professionals can help with the prevention and treatment of AOD problems are all discussed. Additional sources of help and information are also included.

An Overview of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and Disability
Year: 1991
Sponsor/Endorser: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
Format: Brochure
Length: 8 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Health Care
Readability: Average
Availability: Resource Center on Substance Abuse Prevention and Disability, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20004; 202-783-2900; TDD 202-737-0645

This brochure discusses the Americans with Disabilities Act and explores the reasons why people with disabilities are at a higher risk for developing alcohol or other drug problems. Several different disabilities are discussed and a "What is Needed" section offers suggestions for future research, prevention, and treatment advances.
A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Traumatic Brain Injury
Year: 1991
Format: Brochure
Length: 4 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Community Organization and Health Care
Readability: Average
Availability: Resource Center on Substance Abuse Prevention and Disability, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20004; 202-737-2900; TDD 202-737-0645

This brochure describes the implications of alcohol and other drug abuse for a person with a traumatic brain injury (TBI) and states that alcohol abuse is associated with over half of all TBI occurrences. Prevention tips are provided along with a resource list for more information.

A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Mental Retardation
Year: 1991
Format: Brochure
Length: 4 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Community Organization and Health Care
Readability: Average
Availability: Resource Center on Substance Abuse Prevention and Disability, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20004; 202-737-2900; TDD 202-737-0645

This brochure looks at the problem of alcohol and other drug use among those with mental retardation. While the mentally retarded tend to use AOD at lower rates than the general population, when they do use these substances problems may occur more quickly. Suggestions are made for future prevention efforts, and a list of resources is also included.

A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Mobility Limitations
Year: 1991
Format: Brochure
Length: 4 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Health Care and Community Organization
Readability: Fairly Difficult
Availability: Resource Center on Substance Abuse Prevention and Disability, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20004; 202-737-2900; TDD 202-737-0645

This brochure discusses the implications of alcohol and other drug use among people with mobility limitations, such as cerebral palsy, amputation, or muscular dystrophy. Solutions are offered to solve the problem of physical access to prevention or treatment facilities for those confined to a wheelchair. A resource list is also included for further information.
A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Learning Disabilities

Year: 1991
Format: Brochure
Length: 4 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Community Organization and Health Care
Readability: Fairly Difficult
Availability: Resource Center on Substance Abuse Prevention and Disability, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20004; 202-737-2900; TDD 202-737-0645

This brochure looks at the problem of alcohol and other drug use among individuals with learning disabilities. Suggestions for improving education and prevention materials are offered, and a list of resources is included.

A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Hidden Disabilities

Year: 1991
Format: Brochure
Length: 4 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Community Organization and Health Care
Readability: Fairly Difficult
Availability: Resource Center on Substance Abuse Prevention and Disability, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20004; 202-737-2900; TDD 202-737-0645

Individuals with hidden disabilities appear to be physically nondisabled, but have "hidden" conditions such as cancer, lung disease, or the early stages of AIDS. The implications of alcohol or other drug use within this population are the focus of this pamphlet. Long-term use of medications, lower resistance to peer pressure, and overprotection by family members are some of the reasons why this group is at high risk for developing AOD problems.

A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Deafness and Hearing Loss

Year: 1991
Format: Brochure
Length: 8 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: AOD Prevention and Treatment Professionals and People with Disabilities
Setting: Community Organization and Health Care
Readability: Fairly Difficult
Availability: Resource Center on Substance Abuse Prevention and Disability, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20004; 202-737-2900; TDD 202-737-0645

General facts about deafness and hearing loss are given in this brochure. The paucity of treatment and prevention programs accessible for the deaf is noted, and suggestions are offered for improving the situation. A listing of other resources on this subject is also included.

For further information, write to NCADI, P.O. Box 2345 Rockville, MD 20847-2345
Problems associated with alcohol and other drug use among the blind or visually impaired population are generally associated with isolation, excess free time and underemployment. This brochure explores the implications of AOD use within this group, clarifies myths, and offers a listing of other resources for additional information.
As pity and guilt, enabling of AOD abuse can be particularly problematic for those with disabilities. This brochure discusses the issue of enabling and provides a "Myths and Facts" section to clarify popular misconceptions.

A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Disability and Enabling

For people with disabilities, the health implications of using alcohol or other drugs can be more serious than for those of the general public. This brochure discusses this concept using specific case examples to illustrate the point. A short resource list is also included.

A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Symptoms Checklist

This fact sheet includes several questions to assist with a general screening for alcohol and other drug abuse problems among people with disabilities. If a person exhibits several of the symptoms listed, it is advisable to consult with an AOD specialist.

A Look at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and...Disability and the Family

When family members, friends, co-workers, and others do not attempt to confront an individual with an alcohol or other drug problem, it is referred to as "enabling." Due to inappropriate reactions to people with disabilities, such
This brochure addresses the impact on the family when a family member is diagnosed as having a disability. When that person is also abusing alcohol or other drugs the reactions and issues are compounded. Prevention guidelines for families to follow are listed, and resources for further information are included.

Programs and Resources for Deaf Alcoholics and Substance Abusers
Organization: National Information Center on Deafness, Gallaudet University
Year: 1990
Format: Resource List
Length: 11 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: Hearing Impaired
Readability: Average
Availability: National Information Center on Deafness, Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002

This resource provides names, addresses, phone numbers, and brief descriptions of organizations that offer services to deaf alcoholics and other drug abusers. Organizations are listed according to State, and national resources are also included.

Alcoholism and Deafness
Organization: National Information Center on Deafness, Gallaudet University
Year: 1987
Format: Article
Length: 2 Pages
Topic: AOD Prevention for People with Disabilities
Target Audience: Hearing Impaired
Readability: Average
Availability: National Information Center on Deafness, Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002

This fact sheet addresses the problems associated with the treatment of the hearing impaired addict. Barriers to treatment and recent modifications to treatment programs are explored.
The purpose of Public Law 101-336, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, is to provide clear enforceable standards addressing discrimination against individuals with disabilities and to ensure that the Federal Government plays a central role in enforcing these standards. Within the Act, the term "disability" means a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities, a record of such an impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment. The law provides protection against job discrimination in the private sector for alcoholics and recovered drug abusers, although current users of illegal drugs are excluded from the definition of disabled. Titles within the Act include: 1) Employment; 2) Public services, prohibition against discrimination and other generally applicable provisions; 3) Public accommodations and services operated by private entities; 4) Telecommunications, including relay services for hearing-impaired and speech-impaired individuals and closed-captioning of public service announcements; and 5) miscellaneous provisions.

Substance abuse among mentally retarded persons, first described 55 years ago, has received little or no attention by specialists in mental retardation. With deinstitutionalization, this problem has reappeared, often followed by victimization (i.e., assault, rape, robbery). In this study the demographic characteristics, family and childhood history, substance use patterns, and substance-related problems of 40 mildly mentally retarded persons are compared with those of 40 mildly mentally
retarded persons without substance abuse problems. Similarities with substance abusers who are not mentally retarded are noted. Recommendations for alleviating this serious problem among mentally retarded persons are made. 15 Ref.

Hearing-Impaired Alcoholics: An Underserved Community  
Kearns, G. A.

Alcohol Health and Research World  
13(2):162-166, 1989
(Available from Gladys A. Kearns, Union County Council on Alcoholism, 300 North Avenue East, Westfield, NJ 07090.)

The hearing world, including those in the treatment community, exhibit strong insensitivity to the special needs of hearing-impaired persons. Hearing-impaired persons may withdraw from the hearing world or deny the existence of a hearing loss. These behaviors at the least lay the groundwork for isolation, and it has been suggested that a high level of frustration may increase the incidence of alcohol abuse among the hearing-impaired population. Treatment professionals recognize that these traits decrease the likelihood of identifying problems, minimize a client's acceptance of special needs, and reduce the probability of a positive treatment outcome. Alcoholism treatment service providers forge a critical link in the service delivery and recovery chain for the hearing impaired alcoholic.

Alcohol Abuse and Traumatic Brain Injury  
Jones, G. A.

Alcohol Health and Research World  
13(2):104-109, 1989

Alcohol consumption is a strong predisposing factor in traumatic brain injury. Traumatic brain injury can mean many long-term psychological and behavioral difficulties, including impairment of memory, decreased self-awareness and insight, impairment of abstract reasoning, deficits of attention and concentration, inappropriate social behavior, changes in mood and effect, language and communication deficits, sensory deficits, vocational/educational problems, and impact on the family and community. Brain injury survivors present unique problems for counselors and other professionals because the psychosocial and functional consequences of brain injury complicate the already difficult tasks of evaluation and treatment. Cognitive and neurobehavioral problems may have an impact on assessment, diagnosis, intervention, treatment, and case management. 26 Ref.

Diagnosing Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Learning Disabilities with Chemically Dependent Adolescents  
Ralph, N., and Barr, M. A.

(Available from Norbert Ralph, Ph.D., 3550 Pacific Avenue, #306, Livermore, CA 94550.)
The diagnosis and treatment of chemically dependent adolescents with a second diagnosis of learning disabilities (LD) or an attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) poses a challenge. Like other so-called dual diagnoses, these conditions must be assessed against the background "noise" of the adolescent chemical dependency syndrome. This syndrome is coincident with the onset and cessation of chemical dependence and abuse. A diagnostic framework for assessing chemically dependent adolescents is presented, with specific reference to the differential diagnosis of LD and ADHD from other conditions. The role of LD and ADHD is assessed with regard to being a risk factor for chemical dependence in adolescence. Treatment approaches, on both an inpatient and outpatient basis, with the chemically dependent adolescent who also has an LD or ADHD are discussed. 51 Ref.

Drug Abuse among Mentally Retarded People: Overlooked Problem?

Delaney, D., and Poling, A.


Few studies examining the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs by mentally retarded people have appeared. Although some mentally retarded people experience alcohol, and to a lesser extent drug problems, prevalence rates appear to be relatively low. Reasons are speculative. Subsequently, little is known concerning the kinds of treatment likely to benefit mentally retarded people with drug-related problems. 22 Ref.

Needs of Deaf Substance Abusers in Illinois

Whitehouse, A.; Sherman, R. E.; and Kozlowski, K.

(Available from Adelaide Whitehouse, M.D., The Center for the Rehabilitation and Training of the Disabled, Chicago, IL 60614.)

A summary is presented of available information regarding the special characteristics and needs of hearing-impaired alcoholics and drug addicts. The obstacles to this population receiving treatment are even more formidable by the minimal adherence in the chemical dependency field to the legal mandate that agencies and institutions receiving Federal funding must provide services accessible to disabled persons. The Illinois Task Force on Substance Abuse Among the Hearing Impaired was established to examine the needs of this population in Illinois. The results of a needs assessment conducted by the Task Force are summarized. The conclusion is reached that the minimal accessibility of hearing-impaired individuals to substance abuse treatment reported in the literature extends to Illinois as well. The concerns of agencies in attempting to meet the needs of this population are cited. Specific recommendations are made to program changes to improve the level of substance abuse services accessible to hearing-impaired individuals. 17 Ref.
Disabilities, Developmental Handicaps, and Substance Misuse: A Review

Moore, D., and Poisgrove, L.

(Available from Dennis Moore, SAIP, School of Medicine, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45401.)

Although increased attention has been directed toward the special risks for substance misuse of persons with disabilities, there continues to be a paucity of epidemiologic data detailing prevalence and potential etiologies for use. This review describes the research problems contributing to the limited findings in the field. The risk factors of special relevance to persons with disabilities are discussed, and the data related to specific disabilities are presented. A hierarchy of research needs is suggested, along with several working hypotheses concerning substance use/misuse and persons with disabilities. Finally, current issues affecting intervention and treatment services in this field are discussed. 87 Ref.

Alcohol and Diabetes

Crane, M., and Sereny, G.

British Journal of Addiction 83(12):1357-1356, 1988

The relationship between diabetes and alcohol consumption is discussed. It is noted that alcohol abuse is causally related to the development of diabetes and that once diabetes has developed in the chronic alcoholic, it may be very difficult to control. The following facts are stressed: 1) sudden loss of blood sugar control or fluctuations in sugar levels may indicate alcohol abuse and not diabetes; a glucose tolerance test should be preceded by 4 weeks of abstinence; 2) regular daily alcohol intake of 50 to 60 g of absolute alcohol is not compatible with good diabetes control; 3) physicians treating diabetics should use available screening methods to identify alcohol abusers. It is concluded that unless the clinician is aware of the alcohol-insulin effect on glucose metabolism, diabetes may be diagnosed in many problem drinkers who, in fact, do not have diabetes. 12 Ref.

Other Publications

Frequency of Substance Abuse and Antisocial Behaviors: Epidemiological Characteristics of Spinal Cord Injured Patients.

Kreutzer, J. S.; Barth, J.; Ellwood, M. S.; Gideon, D.; Stutts, M.; Wegner, S. T.; and Leininger, B. E.

Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 69(9) :765, 1988

Alcohol is a causal factor in as many as 50 percent of traumatic injuries such as head injury. Anecdotal evidence and recent research suggest spinal cord injured patients (SCIPts) differ from the general population on incidence of antisocial behavior and substance abuse. Pre-injury psychosocial and cognitive characteristics of SCIPts may complicate treatment and the recovery process. Yet treatment implications of substance abuse in SCIPts have been neglected. The purpose of the study was to iden-
tify pre-injury behavioral patterns of SCIPts. A structured interview was administered 2 to 8 weeks post-injury to 30 consecutively admitted SCIPts (24 male and 6 female) in acute care medical settings. Psychosocial, educational and employment information was compiled. Additionally, interviewers rated SCIPts' post-injury behavior using the Neurobehavioral Rating Scale. Thirty-three percent of the SCIPts were unemployed at the time of injury. Thirty-two percent had been convicted of crimes other than driving violations. Finally, 7 percent of SCIPts had received treatment for alcohol abuse, and 10 percent had been in substance abuse programs. Additional data analysis will focus on relationships among pre-injury patient characteristics and post-injury behavioral ratings. Implications for treatment of SCIPts with histories of chronic unemployment, substance abuse, and a variety of anti-social behaviors will be discussed.

Substance Abuse among Youth with Disabilities: Prevention Research Update No. 7
Prendergast, M.; Austin, G.; and deMiranda, J.

(Available from Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, 101 SW Main Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97204.)

Prevention implications of new research on substance abuse among youth with disabilities are abstracted and reviewed. This new information is placed in the context of past findings. People with disabilities have been identified as one of the Nation's largest special populations at high risk for alcohol and other drug abuse problems. Information about AOD use and prevention among people with developmental, learning, hearing, visual, and mobility impairment is examined. This review is divided into four sections: 1) limits of information; 2) nature and extent of the problem; 3) correlates of use; and 4) prevention and intervention issues. The paucity of information available on AOD use among disabled youth hampers efforts to draw precise conclusions. People with disabilities experience the same psychological and social pressures to use and abuse alcohol and drugs as people who are nondisabled; however, many also experience additional psychological, emotional, and social problems associated with their disability that increase the risk for substance abuse. The evidence indicates that it is essential that persons with disabilities receive AOD prevention and intervention services as part of their regular educational or rehabilitation programs. 159 Ref.

Blindness and Visual Impairment: Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention & Treatment
Burns, L. F., and deMiranda, J.

(Available from Leonard F. Burns, M.A. 3121 Park Avenue, Suite 1, Soquel, CA 95073.)

The relationship between blindness and visual impairment (BVI) to alcohol and other drug-related problems is explored. It is contended that the unique psychosocial stressors experienced by the blind or visually impaired, combined with cultural factors unique to this population, are responsible for
higher rates of AOD abuse. The handicaps that result from visual impairment can be divided into three categories: 1) difficulty obtaining information; 2) difficulty in mobility; and 3) personal isolation. The unemployment rate among BVI persons who wish to work is high. This results partially from discrimination in employment and partially from a mixture of poor job skills, negative self-concept, and lack of motivation. The differences in those BVI persons whose condition is congenital and those whose condition is adventitious are discussed. Treatment issues are examined for BVI persons. Successful outreach efforts also are discussed.

Alcohol Use among Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury

Kreutzer, J.S.; Doherty, K.R.; Harris, J.A.; and Zasler, N.D.

Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation, 5(3):9-20, 1990

Alcohol use by persons with traumatic brain injury (TBI) was evaluated. The research sample included patients who were recruited from a brain injury rehabilitation clinic. Information regarding patterns of alcohol use were obtained from patients (N=7) and primary caretakers (N=87), who responded to the Quantity-Frequency-Variability Index (QFVI), a General Health and History Questionnaire and the brief Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (MAST). When compared to controls of similar ages, a slightly higher proportion of persons with TBI were abstinent and a significantly higher proportion were heavy drinkers before their injury, while after their injury, fewer persons with TBI were classified as heavy drinkers than were the uninjured controls. However, the number of problem drinking patients was still significant following injury. 26 Ref.

Substance Use by Persons with Recent Spinal Cord Injuries

Heinemann, A.W.; Mamott, B.D.; and Selmoll, S.


(Available from Allen W. Heinemann, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Northwestern University Medical School, 448 E Ontario Street, Suite 650, Chicago, IL 60611.)

The use of alcohol and drugs by persons with recent spinal cord injuries was investigated. The research sample included 103 persons with spinal cord injuries, who gave lifetime histories of substance use. The following results were seen: 1) 39 percent reported intoxication at the time of injury; and 2) a greater rate of exposure to or recent abuse of substances was seen in those who reported intoxication at the time of injury. It is suggested that intoxication at the time of spinal cord injury may be a marker of preinjury substance use. The following conclusions are drawn: 1) it is important to screen for substance abuse in patients with spinal cord injuries; and 2) timely assessment of and intervention for substance abuse may help improve treatment and rehabilitation outcomes. 24 Ref.
This article reviews the Americans with Disabilities Act bill with an emphasis on the provisions affecting alcoholics and addicts. The bill protects only those individuals who are recovering alcoholics or drug addicts; those applicants or employees who are currently using drugs are excluded from protection. The Legal Action Center and the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence hailed the final bill's protections for alcoholics and recovered addicts, but expressed concern that current addicts were not included.
Groups, Organizations, & Programs on People with Disabilities

Advocates for Deaf and Disabled Alcoholics
P.O. Box 2136
Garden Grove, CA 92642
714-537-7551, Voice and TDD

Al-ANON Family Groups, Inc.
World Service Office
P.O. Box 862, Midtown Station
New York, NY 10018
1-800-344-2666

Alcoholics Anonymous
World Service Office
475 Riverside Drive
New York, NY 10115
212-870-3400, TDD 212-870-3199

Center for Empowerment of Deaf Alcoholics in Recovery (CEDAR)
3041 University Avenue
San Diego, CA 92104
619-293-3820
TDD 619-293-3746

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
Drug Abuse Information and Treatment Referral Hotline
1-800-662-HELP

Congress on Chemical Dependency and Disability (CCDD)
15519 Crenshaw Boulevard
Suite 209
Gardena, CA 90249
310-679-9126, 310-679-9126

Hazelden Educational Materials
P.O. Box 176
Center City, MN 55012
1-800-328-9000

Institute on Alcohol, Drugs, and Disability
P.O. Box 7044
San Mateo, CA 94403
707-644-2677
TDD 707-664-2958

Minnesota Chemical Dependency Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals
2450 Riverside Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55454
512-337-4402
TDD 512-337-4114
1-800-282-DEAF Voice and TDD

National Center for Youth with Disabilities University of Minnesota
Box 721
420 Delaware Street, SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455
1-800-333-6293, 612-626-2825, TDD 612-624-3939

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information
P.O. Box 2345
Rockville, MD 20847-2345
1-800-729-6686, 301-468-2600
TDD 1-800-487-4889
Pacific Research and Training Alliance  
2165 Bunker Hill Drive  
San Mateo, CA  94402  
415-578-8047 Voice and TDD

Project Oz  
502 South Morris Ave.  
Bloomington, IL  61791  
309-827-03777

Rational Recovery Systems  
P.O. Box 800  
Lotus, CA  95651  
916-621-2667

Resource Center on Substance Abuse  
Prevention and Disability  
1331 F Street, NW  
Suite 800  
Washington, DC  20004  
202-783-2900  
TDD 202-737-0645

Substance Abuse Resources and  
Disability  
Wright State University  
School of Medicine, SARDI  
Dayton, OH  45435  
513-873-3588  
TDD 513-873-3579
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Resource Guides

MS442 AIDS
MS459 African Americans
MS449 Alcohol and Other Drug Related Periodicals
MS419 American Indians/Native Alaskans
MS408 Asian and Pacific Islander Americans
MS448 Child Abuse
MS463 Children of Alcoholics
MS418 College Youth
MS460 Community Action
MS445 Curriculum
MS421 Elementary Youth
MS439 Employee Assistance Programs
MS457 Faith Communities
MS447 Foundations
MS441 Hispanic Americans
MS434 Impaired Driving
MS450 Intervention
MS443 Older Americans
MS461 People with Disabilities
MS420 Pregnancy: Women, Teenagers, and Their Infants
MS409 Preschool Children
MS453 Prevention in the Workplace
MS416 Rural Communities
MS423 Secondary School Students
MS433 Women
MS451 Violence
MS446 Youth in Low Income Urban Environments

Other topics you would like to see as Resource Guides:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Do you have any suggestions for making future Resource Guides more useful?

_____________________________________________________________________________________

To order, fill out and return to the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345 or call 1-800-729-6686. 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. e.s.t.

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