



ISAP Helps the Media Change Views on Substance Abuse

By Patricia Marinelli Casey, Principal Investigator

Movies, television, and advertisements can reinforce images and stereotypes that glamorize drinking and drug use or they can inform audiences about the realities and consequences of substance abuse.

For many years, researchers and clinicians at ISAP and its partner, the Matrix Institute, which provides substance abuse treatment, educational, and training services (see www.matrixinstitute.org), have worked with writers, producers, directors, studios, and networks to accurately portray the use and consequences of alcohol, illicit drugs, and tobacco in the media.

Addiction Experts

The director of ISAP, Walter Ling, has taken the lead in working with the entertainment industry. He has brought scientific information to the creative process through his work for the Entertainment Industries Council (EIC), an organization that provides education and resources to the entertainment industry.

In 1998, Dr. Ling served on the inaugural nomination review committee for the PRISM Awards, an annual event cosponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

The PRISM Awards honor accurate depictions of drug, alcohol, and tobacco use and addiction in the media. Dr. Ling has continued to serve on the review committee, as well as work as an adviser to film school students and young writers. Other ISAP staff who have served on the PRISM Awards nomination committee and prescreening specialist team include Maureen Hillhouse, Nena Messina, Patricia Marinelli Casey, Valerie Pearce, and Lorie Williams.

ISAP Associate Director Richard Rawson has worked extensively with the entertainment industry since the 1980s. In the past year, Dr. Rawson served as an expert speaker on methamphetamine for Mediascope, a group sponsored by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy that encourages responsible media portrayals of issues of social relevance.

In September, Dr. Rawson spoke to a Los Angeles group of creative personnel on the accurate portrayal of methamphetamine issues in fictional TV programming (for example, *ER*, *CSI*, *Law and Order*).

ISAP Principal Investigator Patricia Marinelli Casey has provided script consultation and production technical assistance for First Draft, a service provided by EIC to link the entertainment industry's creative community with the nation's leading experts on health and social issues.

She has also contributed to *Spotlight on Depiction of Health and Social Issues*, a widely distributed resource encyclopedia for the creative community.

In addition, Dr. Marinelli Casey has conducted industry briefings for EIC on the "Science of Addiction and

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Bay Area Addiction Research and Treatment, Inc., Joins the Clinical Trials Network

www.uclaisap.org/ctn/index.html

By Albert Hasson, CTN Pacific Node Coordinator
(alberthasson@earthlink.net)

Bay Area Addiction Research and Treatment, Inc. (BAART), has become the newest Community Treatment Program of the Pacific Node of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, Clinical Trials Network (CTN). Owned and operated by Evan and Jason Kletter, who are brothers, BAART is one of the largest providers of narcotic treatment in California.

BAART La Puente, will be their first facility to participate in a CTN protocol, "Safer Sex for Women." In preparation for the launching of this most recent CTN project to be implemented in the Pacific Node, BAART La Puente Clinic Director Daniza Orellana, counselors Nicki Griswold and Deborah McCloskey, along with Director of Research Allan Cohen attended a four-day counselor training at Columbia University in New York.

This project will utilize a five-session intervention designed to teach women in treatment for substance abuse the various aspects of introducing and negotiating safer sex techniques into their relationships.

Developed by Susan Tross, of New York University, this project will be implemented in 12 community treatment programs nationwide.



From left, Daniza Orellana, BAART La Puente clinic director, Nicki Griswold and Deborah McCloskey, BAART counselors, and Vanessa Tudela, BAART research associate.

"Safer Sex for Men," the companion project to the women's protocol, will be implemented in the Matrix Institute's Rancho Cucamonga office, under the direction of Deborah Service. Both projects will be underway and recruiting subjects by mid 2004.

CTN Steering Committee Meetings

CTN Steering Committee meetings are scheduled for May 10-12 in Gaithersburg, MD, at the Marriott Washingtonian, and Sept. 27-29 in Detroit.

*From UCLA ISAP and The California Department of
Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP):*

The California Treatment Outcome Project (CalTOP) Final Report

is available on the ISAP Web site at:
<http://www.uclaisap.org/caltop/index.htm>.

The goal of CalTOP was to develop, implement, and pilot test an outcome monitoring system for the statewide alcohol and other drug system of care and to enhance California's existing management information system.

Outcomes have shown the effectiveness of community-based substance abuse treatment programs.

By Thomas Freese, PSATTC Director
(tefreese@ix.netcom.com)

The Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center (PSATTC), in collaboration with Northwest Frontier ATTC, initiated a training series entitled "Best Practices in Addiction Treatment" on Nov. 6 and 7, 2003, in Los Angeles.

Best Practices Training

On the first day, a "Best Practices Training" exposed practitioners to empirically based treatments and helped them explore the potential utility of these intervention strategies for their patients.

The program focused on evidence-based addiction treatment models and practices supported by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and other research centers.

Participants developed definitions of evidence-based practice and identified research-based principles of treatment. Participants also became familiar with evidence-based interventions that have improved retention/recovery rates in community treatment settings.

We also reviewed and helped participants understand the *NIDA Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research Based Guide* (available at www.nida.nih.gov/PODAT/PODATindex.html). Three treatment models were chosen to be reviewed:

- Cannabis Youth Treatment: Motivation Enhancement Therapy and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Cannabis Youth Treatment: Adolescent Community Reinforcement
- Matrix Model of Outpatient Treatment

Ninety-five community treatment providers participated in this training. The topics chosen were based on requests by attendees at past PSATTC

presentations. Participants selected which of the models they would review more closely during the training.

Training of Trainers

A pre-selected group of 12 community providers were invited to participate in the second day of the training—a training of trainers.

Participants discussed the materials in more detail and were given guidance for implementing trainings in their local communities. A complete review was conducted of the training materials, followed by a discussion of the typical problems encountered during trainings and strategies for overcoming them.

This event helped us develop a group of trainers from across the PSATTC region, which includes Arizona, California, and New Mexico.

Strategies are currently being developed for conducting these Best Practices trainings across the three-state region.

One of the advantages of this format is that the specific content can be adapted to a variety of contexts. For instance, by simply changing the models that are presented in the training, focused trainings could be conducted on women, adolescents, residential treatment, outpatient treatment, patients with co-occurring disorders, or any other special population or group.

Announcements will be distributed as these trainings become available across the region. Also, please check the PSATTC Web site at www.psattc.org for these and other upcoming training events.

ISAP News by E-mail? To receive your copy of the *ISAP News* by e-mail, or to make other subscription changes, please visit our Web site at www.uclaisap.org and click on *ISAP News*.

By Suzanne Spear, LAPIC Project Director

The National Survey on Drug Use & Health (NSDUH; formerly the National Household Survey on Drug Use) reports that from 1999-2001, American Indians reported higher rates of illicit drug use in the previous month compared to other ethnic groups.

In addition, American Indians interviewed in 2001 by NSDUH reported the highest rates of dependence on alcohol and illicit drugs in the previous year. Contrast this with the fact that American Indians represent only 2.5% of those individuals receiving treatment in the United States.

In an effort to better identify substance abuse problems among American Indians in California, the California Area Indian Health Service (CA-IHS) has contracted with a local health care agency, United American Indian Involvement, Inc. (UAIL), and ISAP researchers—Richard Rawson and myself—to establish procedures for substance abuse screening for all IHS primary health care clinics in California.

In the first year of the project, staff at six primary health care clinics across California will screen only pregnant women and adolescents. The next step involves broadening the screening effort to all patients at all IHS clinics in California.

Individuals coming into the initial six clinics will complete the Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST), a screener developed by the World Health Organization.

The ASSIST asks about lifetime and recent use for nine drug categories of substances (see box).

Adolescents (ages 12-18) will also complete the CRAFFT, a short seven-question screener adapted from the CAGE (“Cut down, Annoyed, Guilty, and Eye-opener”) screener and designed for adolescents.

The CRAFFT doesn’t ask directly about current

Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST)

(Note: Each question is asked for nine drug categories: tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, cannabis, cocaine, amphetamine-type stimulants, inhalants, sedatives or sleeping pills, hallucinogens, opiates, and “other”)

1. In your life, which of the following substances have you ever used? (go through list of nine drugs)
2. In the past three months, how often have you used the substances you mentioned (drugs 1, 2, 3...)?
3. During the past three months, how often have you had a strong desire or urge to use...(drugs 1, 2, 3...)?
4. During the past three months, how often has your use of (drug 1, 2, 3...) led to health, social, legal, or financial problems?
5. During the past three months, how often have you failed to do what was normally expected of you because of your use of (drugs 1, 2, 3...)?
6. Has a friend or relative or anyone else ever expressed concern about your use of (drugs 1, 2, 3...)?
7. Have you ever tried to control, cut down or stop using (drugs 1, 2, 3...)?
8. Have you ever used any drug by injection (non-medical use only)?

use of alcohol and drugs, but has questions about riding in a car driven by someone who has been using alcohol or drugs, using alcohol or drugs to relax or fit in, forgetting things because of alcohol or drug use, and getting into trouble as a result of use.

In addition, the teens will complete a short screener for depression and a one-question screener for domestic violence.

For More Information on the Screeners:

ASSIST

See *Addiction*, 2002, Vol. 97, pp. 1183-1194

CRAFFT

Visit www.alcoholcme.com/mh/sa/alcohol/cme/resource/practice/screeningtoolp/default.htm

By *Desirée Crèvecoeur*, LACES Project Director

The main task of the Los Angeles County Evaluation System (LACES) is to assess the outcomes of those who seek treatment for alcohol and drug use in programs funded by L.A. County.

In order to collect the necessary information to conduct this assessment, LACES has been involved in training and data collection for several months. Below is a brief overview of some of the information that is available in the LACES Status Report—Phase I, which can be downloaded from our Web site at www.laces-ucla.org.

Short-term outcomes data (changes in problems reported for the 30 days prior to admission versus the 30 days prior to discharge) for substance abuse treatment, which include rates of substance use, employment status, and medical and psychiatric problems, indicate promising results. For example:

- The mean number of days of drug and alcohol use for women was reduced by 75%, or 8-10 days, depending on the drug. Days of psychiatric problems were cut in half.
- For the homeless, the average number of days of drug and alcohol use was reduced by approximately 80%, or 11-14 days, again depending on the drug in question. Most impressive, however, was the improvement in employment. At admission, less than 2% reported either full- or part-time employment. At discharge, over 12% were employed either full-time (9.8%) or part-time (2.7%).
- For those alcohol and other drug treatment participants who reported co-occurring disorders (mental health disabilities), there was a decrease of 63%, or 9.2 days for methamphetamine use, and 98%, or 12.5 days, for marijuana use. These individuals, like the homeless group, also showed improvement in the area of employment.

- General Relief participants reported decreases of 83%, or 11.1 days, for heroin use and 99%, or 13.8 days, for methamphetamine use. They also reported decreases in the number of days of psychiatric problems.
- California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program participants reported declines in the number of days of drug and alcohol use, specifically 90%, or 13.4 days, for alcohol use to intoxication and 83%, or 13.3 days, for methamphetamine use. This group also reported a decrease in family conflict while in treatment.

These initial outcomes illustrate the benefit of treatment in reducing substance abuse problems. For more information on the decreases found in other problem areas, as well as a more in-depth examination of the information, please see the LACES Web site at www.laces-ucla.org.

Register Early

California Addiction Training and Education Series

Methamphetamine

(Southern California Regional Meeting)

March 30, 2004

Pasadena Hilton

Topics Include:

Methamphetamine and the Brain, Drug-Endangered Children, Adolescent Treatments, Current Behavioral Treatments, Methamphetamine Psychosis

Earn Six Hours of Continuing Education Units
CEUs will be provided for CAADAC (Approval #2N-00-445-1102) and Board of Behavioral Sciences (Provider #PCE 2001).

Visit www.psattc.org for more information.

Information on the July 2004 Northern California Regional Methamphetamine meeting will be available soon.



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By Christine E. Grella, Principal Investigator

The number of incarcerated women has increased dramatically over the past 15 years in both state and federal correctional facilities.

This increase has been attributed to changes in sentencing policies and laws related to drug offenses. In particular, there have been rapid increases in the rate of incarceration for drug-related offenses among women (see box).

The incarceration of substance-abusing mothers has dramatic effects on their families, including their parental rights to their children and the problems they face in re-establishing parenting relationships with their children upon their release from prison.

In response to the needs of female offenders in California, in 1998, the California State Legislature established the Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program (FOTEP), administered by the Office of Substance Abuse Programs (OSAP), of the California Department of Corrections (CDC).

The goal of the project is to enable the successful reintegration of substance-abusing women parolees into the community, particularly in regard to reducing their criminal behavior, substance use, and welfare dependence, and improving their parenting skills so that they may successfully reunite with their dependent children.

FOTEP programs provide residential drug treatment and comprehensive case management services, along with supportive family, vocational, and other services. FOTEP programs have been established in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties, the San Francisco Bay area, and the Central Valley.

ISAP is conducting an evaluation of FOTEP through a contract with OSAP/CDC. Recruitment of the study sample (500 women) was completed in 2002, and 12-month follow-up interviews were recently completed.



Christine Grella

The profile of FOTEP participants is similar to that of other incarcerated substance-abusing women: The majority are African American

(42%) or Hispanic (19%), and they have an average of three children under the age of 18.

About half had graduated from high school. Most were unemployed in the year prior to incarceration and close to half had received public assistance. About one-third had evidence of serious mental health problems, with high rates of childhood abuse and adult victimization.

The most frequently committed criminal behaviors were drug dealing, theft,

and prostitution. The most frequently used drugs reported were cocaine/crack, marijuana, amphetamines, and opiates.

One-half of the participants had had at least one child removed from their care by children's protective services, and one-third had lost parental rights to at least one child.

Thus far, the study has conducted follow-up interviews with 85% of the participants. Outcome analyses are currently underway, with the goal of using study findings to improve the services provided to substance-abusing women offenders as they transition from prison to the community.

Female Offenders in California

- California has the largest population of female inmates of any state—over 11,000
- The number of women sentenced to prison from 1986-1995 in California increased from 2,409 to 5,992, an increase of 149% (compared to an increase of 108% for men)
- Incarceration for drug-related offenses increased by 316% for women (compared with 223% for men)
- Three-quarters of incarcerated women are mothers of dependent children; most of them lived with at least some of these children prior to their incarceration

*ISAP and the Media**(Continued from Page 1)*

the Science of Recovery" for numerous media groups including CBS, NBC, and 20th Century Fox.

The executive director of Matrix Institute, Jeanne Obert, worked as a creative consultant for Diane Keaton in her role as a drug abusing mother in *On Thin Ice*, a movie that recently aired on Lifetime Television. Although the script was originally written with a cocaine storyline, it was changed to methamphetamine based on Ms. Obert's input and expertise.

Information based on science can lead to accurate portrayals of substance abuse, addiction, and recovery in the media and can help abolish misconceptions.

ISAP's collaborative work with the media is an important part of our mission of advancing the empirical understanding of substance abuse and promoting its prevention and treatment.

Save the Date

**Western Conference
on Addictions:
Best Practices in Treatment
and Community Interventions**

November 11-14, 2004
Universal City, California

Hear from leading professionals on:

Best Practices in Addiction Treatment, Methamphetamine, Adolescent Treatment Issues, Buprenorphine Treatment for Opiate Addiction, and more.

Continuing Education Units will be offered.

Sponsored by:

UCLA ISAP, Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center, Matrix Institute on Addictions, and Los Angeles Practice Improvement Collaborative

Visit www.psattc.org, or contact Suzi Spear at sspear@ucla.edu.

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