

CHECKING DRUG ABUSE

SPREADING AWARENESS

The community needs to be made aware and sensitized to its increasing susceptibility to the menace of drugs. Also, this awareness campaign must include effects of different drugs. A wrong impression prevails that the impact of all drug is similar.

INFORMATION REGARDING VARIOUS SCHEMES AND INCOME GENERATION

Information regarding various schemes and income generating programmes that have been launched by various departments of the government, need to be provided to the rehabilitation centres and youth clubs.

COORDINATION AND NETWORKING WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The department could act as nodal agency to network with various departments and NGOs regarding health service outreach programmes, income generating activities, youth club activities etc.

ACTIVATING YOUTH CLUBS

Chandigarh city has many youth clubs and these can be used as nodal points of intervention to provide health services, income generating activities, provision of life skills etc. to substance abusers and also assist in preventing the youth from substance abuse.

MONITORING AND EVALUATING OUTCOME OF INTERVENTION

It is necessary to constantly evaluate impact of the interventions in terms of desired goals. The department, therefore, will monitor the system in place vis-à-vis various activities that have been initiated.

- *Sensitise youth club members to substance abuse.*
- *Provide awareness to members regarding various facilities that government has launched for substance abusers.*
- *Availability of detoxification centres.*
- *Identifying prospective income generating ventures / micro enterprises.*
- *Information regarding government schemes that impart skills, provide health care and promote income generating ventures.*
- *Provision of recreational facilities for the youth.*
- *Train youth club members to spread awareness regarding drug abuse and assist in checking it.*
- *Provision of life skills education to the youth.*

DEVELOPING MONITORING SYSTEMS FOR SETTING TRENDS AND PATTERNS OF DRUG ABUSE

There is continuous transition of the type of drug that is being used in accordance with social placements of the person. The available instances show different usage patterns. Therefore, it will be important to monitor the changing trends and patterns of drug abuse so that this can be tackled accordingly. For instance, different drugs will need different detoxification measures.

INITIATING A DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Awareness and education capsules for different segments of population need to be initiated. This could be a part of the social marketing campaign to control drug abuse.

TARGET POPULATION-WISE PROGRAMME FOR INTERVENTION AND STRATEGIES

Intervention programmes need to be specific to the target population in accordance with its socio-cultural needs and the nature of the substance abuse. Promoting differential strategies for different groups will be the responsibility of the department.