

Inside this issue:

- White House Reveals Drug Strategy 2
- Drug Admissions Up Among People Over 50 2
- Deadly Heroin Arrives In U.S. 2
- Astounding Facts 2
- U.S. Ranks 1st: Cocaine & Marijuana 3
- Drugs in the News 3
- Did You Know? 3

Statistics

* Americans, comprising only 4% of the world's population, consume two-thirds of the world's illegal drugs.

* Between 1995 and 2005, treatment admissions for dependence on prescription painkillers grew more than 300%

An Addiction Expert Reveals a Drug Habit

In the "A Piece of My Mind" column in The Journal of the American Medical Association, a specialist in addiction offers a riveting tale of his own tragic drug habit. Clinton B. McCracken of Baltimore is a biomedical scientist who built a career exploring the neuroscience of addiction. He writes in the article:

"The transition from my drug use having no apparent negative consequences, to both my personal and professional life being damaged possibly beyond repair, was so fast as to be instantaneous, highlighting the fact that when it comes to drug use, the perception of control is really nothing more than illusion. Had these events not occurred as they did, it is possible, even probable, that my drug use would have escalated until it precluded a normal personal or professional life. However, it is important to note here that problems associated with drug abuse can arise with devastating effects even in the apparent absence of many diagnostic criteria, such as overt tolerance and dependence. Neither advanced education nor knowledge of pharmacology nor familiarity with the addictive process was able to prevent tragic consequences for me. It is my sincere hope that my experience may serve as a warning, help illuminate the dangers of intellectualizing drug use and abuse, and prevent similar tragedies in the lives of others."



* The full essay can now be read without a subscription at The Journal of the American Medical Association Web site.

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/303/19/1894?ijkey=kOIMRoQiLez4M&keytype=ref&siteid=amajnl>

Notes from Ray Kubacki

Dear Valued Clients and Friends,

Sadly, not only is the U.S. the largest consumer of illegal drugs in the world, but drug addiction happens in all walks in life.

The lead article above tells the story of a biomedical scientist who spent his career exploring the neuroscience of addiction, and how he became addicted. I encourage you to read the entire article. As sad as it is, it is also very educational for us all, and helps explain how drugs could affect anyone at anytime.

*Best Personal Regards,
Ray*



Raymond Kubacki, Chairman & CEO,
Psychemedics Corporation



White House Releases National Strategy to Reduce Drug Use

The 2010 Strategy establishes five-year goals to reduce drug use and its consequences, including:

- Reduce the rate of youth drug use by 15%
- Decrease drug use among young adults by 10%
- Reduce the number of chronic drug users by 10%
- Reduce the incidence of drug-induced deaths by 15%
- Reduce the prevalence of drugged driving by 10%

President Obama released the Administration's inaugural National Drug Control Strategy, which establishes five-year goals for reducing drug use and its consequences through a balanced policy of prevention, treatment, enforcement, and international cooperation.

In addition, the Strategy outlines three significant drug challenges on which the Administration will specifically focus this year: prescription drug abuse, drugged driving, and preventing drug use. Prescription drug abuse is the nation's fastest growing

drug problem, driving significant increases of drug overdoses in recent years. Drugged driving poses threats to public safety, as evidenced by a recent roadside survey which found that one in six drivers on weekend nights tested positive for the presence of drugs. Preventing drug use before it starts is the best way to keep America's youth drug-free.

"In following President Obama's charge to seek a broad range of input in the Strategy, I gained a renewed appreciation of how deeply concerned Americans are about drug use," said

Director Kerlikowske. "It touches virtually all of us, whether we know a family member, a friend, or a colleague who suffers from addiction or is in recovery, a police officer working to protect the community, or a parent striving to keep a child drug free," said Director Kerlikowske.

For more information about the 2010 National Drug Control Strategy, visit: www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov.

Psychemedics tests include the most commonly abused prescription pain killers:
Codeine, Oxycodone (OxyContin)
Hydrocodone (Vicodin)
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)

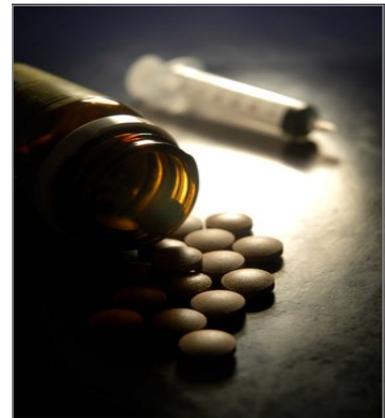
Drug Admissions Up Among People Over 50

As a follow up to the article "Baby Boomers Still Doing Drugs" in the Q1 2010 Newsletter, here are the highlights from recently released study from SAMHSA:

The proportion of admissions among the age group 50 and above due primarily to:

- Heroin abuse more than doubled -- from 7.2 percent to 16.0 percent.
- Cocaine abuse quadrupled -- from 2.9 percent to 11.4 percent.
- Prescription drug abuse rose from 0.7 percent to 3.5 percent.
- Marijuana abuse increased from 0.6 percent to 2.9 percent.

Source: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1006153959.aspx>



Deadly Ultra Pure Heroin Arrives in U.S.

Mexican drug smugglers are increasingly peddling a form of ultra-potent heroin that sells for as little as \$10 a bag and is so pure it can kill unsuspecting users instantly, sometimes before they even remove the syringe from their veins.

The greater potency allows more heroin users to snort the drug or smoke it and still achieve a sustained high - an attractive alternative for teenagers and suburbanites who don't want the HIV risk or the track marks on their arms that come with repeated injections.

"That has opened up heroin to a whole different group of users," said Harry Sommers, the agent in charge of the Drug Enforcement Agency office in St. Louis.

Authorities are concerned that the potency and price of the heroin from Mexico and Colombia could widen the drug's appeal, just as crack did for cocaine decades ago.

Full Article At: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jN7RPNccYLoZCrXM8cKX2uRXi25gD9FTBP200>

ASTOUNDING FACTS

Some South American drug cartels have incomes equivalent to Britain's yearly defense budget, about 56 billion U.S. dollars. These large incomes have led to the cartels being able to purchase, build and use submarines for drug smuggling.

NOT A POLL YOU WANT TO RANK FIRST IN!

U.S. Ranks First in Lifetime Use of Cocaine & Marijuana

Among 17 nations surveyed by the World Health Organization, the United States ranks first in lifetime use of three substances - cocaine, marijuana and tobacco - and occupies sixth place for alcohol use. Rates are reported as percentages and only a sampling of the nations are reported below.

Other Findings: The higher a person's income, the more likely he or she is to use each of the four substances surveyed.

Percentage of Those Surveyed Who Reported Use in Their Lifetime				
Country	% Cocaine	% Marijuana	% Tobacco	% Alcohol
US	16.2	42.4	73.6	91.6
New Zealand	4.3	41.9	51.3	94.8
Spain	4.1	15.9	53.1	86.4
Colombia	4.0	10.8	48.1	94.3
Mexico	4.0	7.8	60.2	85.9
Germany	1.9	17.5	51.9	95.3
France	1.5	19.0	48.3	91.3

* Findings from the WHO World Mental Health Surveys 2008

Coming Soon:
New Psychemedics Website

We are redesigning our website! The finished site should go live later this summer.

DRUGS IN THE NEWS

15 Goodyear Employees Arrested

Narcotics agents arrested more than a dozen employees at the Goodyear tire plant in Fayetteville as a result of an undercover sting operation. Since last August, undercover narcotics agents have been able to purchase marijuana, cocaine and numerous prescription drugs from employees inside the Ramsey Street plant, investigators said. Fifteen employees were arrested and charged.

A Goodyear employee for 18 years said Tuesday that he has seen drug use at the plant.

"Managers do let it go," he said. He said drug dealing on the job was well known. "You tell the supervisors, 'You need to get this guy outta here.' And you tell the union, 'You need to get this guy outta here, because he is going to get somebody hurt.'"

<http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/7332815/>

Prescriptions Create a "Heroin High"

A Texas Department of Public Safety tracking system shows that Harris County doctors rank at the top of the list in writing prescriptions for three highly addictive drugs that officials say give users a "heroin high" when taken together.

The three drugs include: hydrocodone, a narcotic known by brand names such as Vicodin; alprazolam, an anti-anxiety drug known as Xanax; and carisoprodol, a muscle relaxant known as Soma.

Dr. C.M. Schade, a former president of the Texas Pain Society, said he knows of no legitimate medical reason for a doctor to prescribe all three together.

"It's a red flag that can be seen across the country. Sometimes they hire security officers to handle the crowd. I'm not kidding," said Schade, who said such clinics can easily earn \$1 million to \$3 million a year.

http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/texasouthwest/stories/DN-addictive_01tex.ART.State.Edition.1.2942985.html

Sanitation Driver Causes Fatal Crash

The sanitation truck driver who ran down eight motorcycles on March 25, killing four people, had illegal drugs in his system at the time of the crash, Phoenix police said.

Toxicology results confirmed initial testing that showed illegal drugs were present in the drivers system at the time of the collision, Phoenix police Sgt. Trent Crump said. The illegal substance is believed to be methamphetamine.

On the day of the crash, the group of motorcyclists had stopped at a red light on Carefree Highway when the sanitation truck hit them from behind, police said. The truck then caught on fire.

He was booked into jail on four counts of manslaughter, five counts of aggravated assault and seven counts of endangerment.

<http://www.kpho.com/news/23070288/detail.html>

Did You Know ??

When hair and urine results were compared in "side-by-side" evaluations, 5-10 times as many drug users were accurately identified with Psychemedics' testing technology!

*Superior Detection
of Drug Abuse*

**PSYCHEMEDICS
CLIENT SERVICES INFO:**

Client Services hours:
6:00 AM—5:30 PM PST
Monday – Friday

5832 Uplander Way
Culver City, CA 90230

Phone: 800.522.7424
Fax: 800.643.2354



About Psychemedics

Psychemedics was established in 1987 to provide testing for drugs of abuse using hair analysis, and has been successfully operating for over 20 years. Thousands of corporations currently rely on Psychemedics' patented hair analysis technology for their pre-employment and employee drug screening. Psychemedics is headquartered in Boston and has offices in Dallas, Chicago, Los Angeles and Las Vegas. Our Laboratory is located in Culver City, CA. Psychemedics is a publicly-held corporation listed on NASDAQ under the ticker symbol PMD.