

## NDARC into the 21st century

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Medicine

National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre



#### **OUR MISSION**

To conduct and disseminate high quality research and related activities that increase the effectiveness of responses to alcohol and other drug related harm

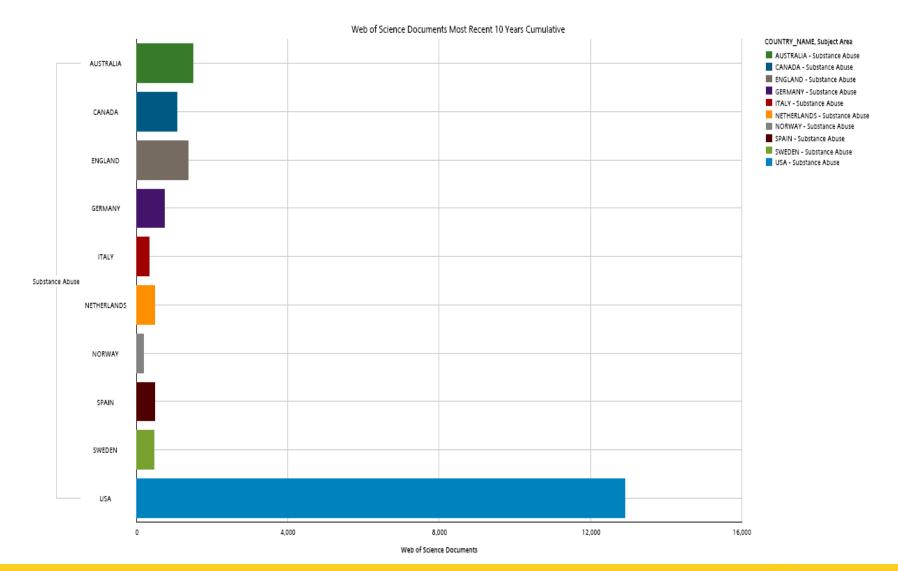
NDARC Strategic Plan 2012 - 2017





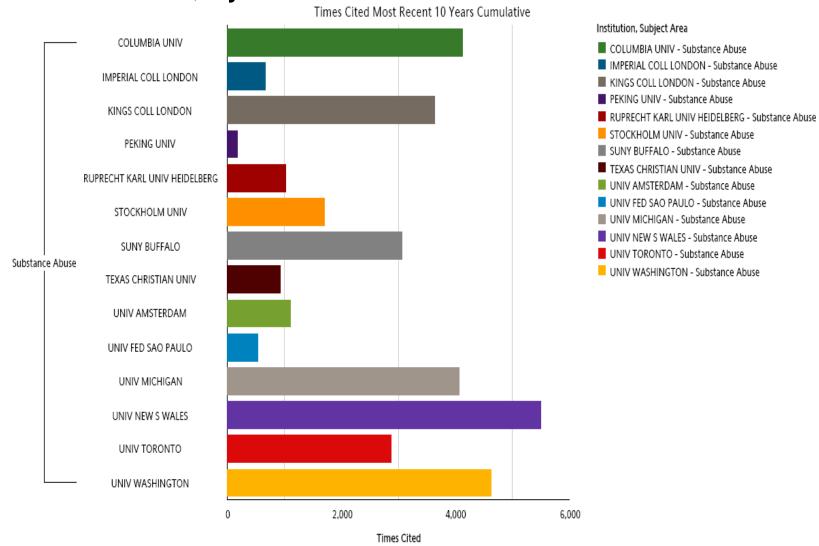


#### Publications on substance abuse in the Web of Science

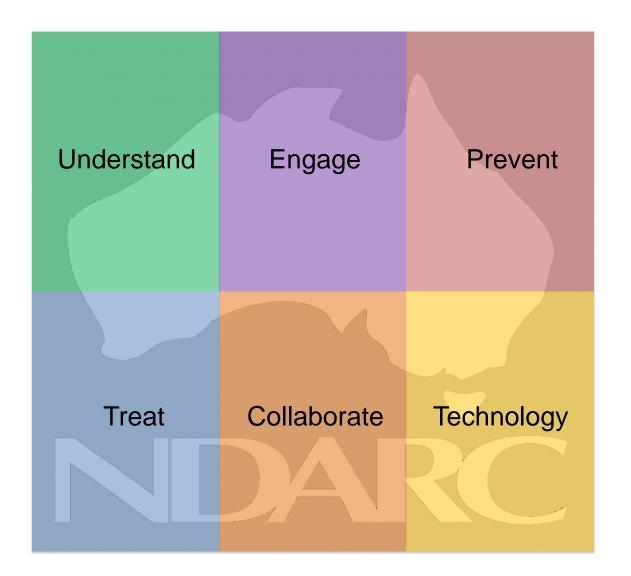




#### Times cited, by institution

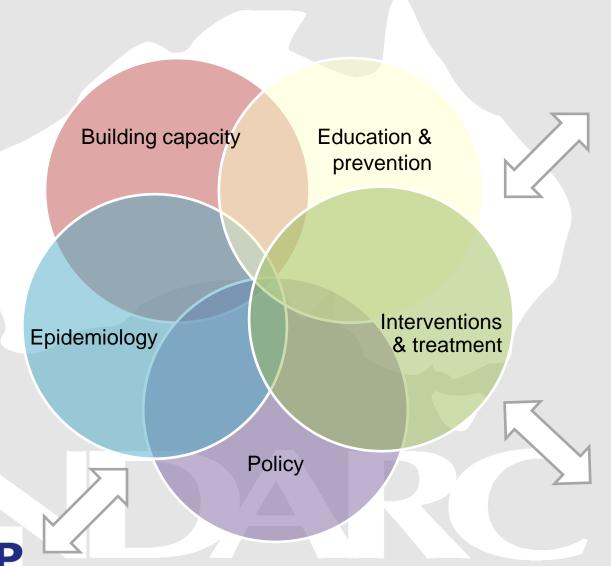




















# Epidemiology: understanding the nature and extent of AOD use and harm

International collaborations

Global Burden of Disease Project Reference Group to the United Nations on HIV and Injecting Drug Use Sentinel surveys & early warning systems

Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) Cross-sectional analysis and secondary studies

National
Illicit Drug
Indicators
Project
(NIDIP)

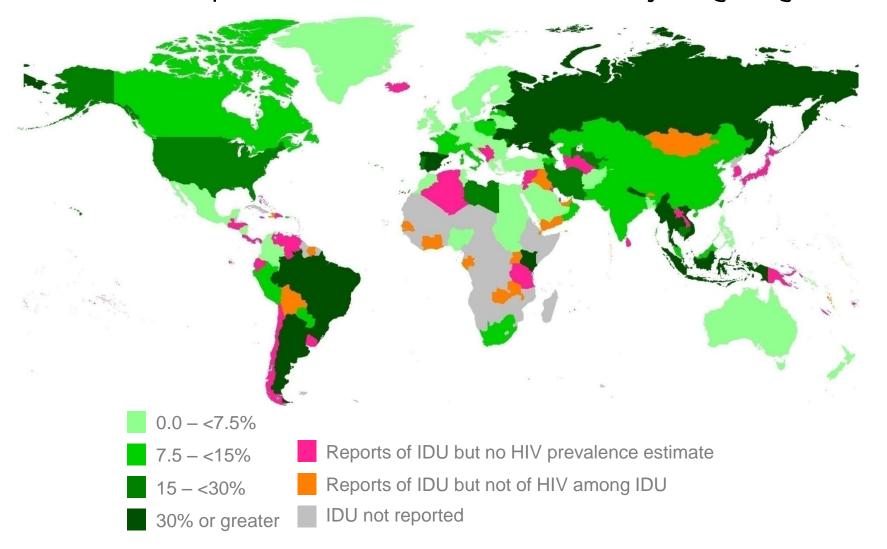
Cannabis
Cohort
Research
Consortium
(CCRC)

National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing



#### **COLLABORATE**

Reference Group to the United Nations on HIV and Injecting Drug Use





# Longitudinal studies: Large cohorts generate studies beyond the original research questions

Social development/ emotional attachment (Triple B)

Genetic determinants of

SUD (POINT)

Current longitudinal studies:

Triple B (2,000 families)

**POINT (1,500)** 

Parental supply of alcohol (PSA) study (1,800)

Epidemiology e.g. natural course of alcohol dependence symptoms (PSA cohort)

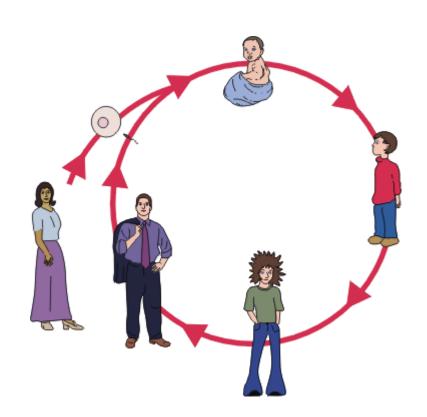
Molecular science – brain function (Triple B)

Maternal mental health (Triple B)



# UNDERSTANDing impact of environment and genetics on long terms trajectories

Triple B study will follow 2,000 families over four years





### Interventions: prevention and treatment

AARC: rigorous evaluation of community based interventions

Capacity building

Clinical trials e.g.
Sativex for
management of
cannabis
withdrawal;
Suboxone film

Intervention studies:

Alcohol Action in Rural Communities (AARC)

CLIMATE Schools and CAP (2,500 school children)

Web-based interventions

Vulnerable groups

Interventions for vulnerable groups: Aboriginal communities; homeless youth; prison populations; mothers on OST

Schools based prevention:
"universal" and tailored to at-risk personalities

Web- based interventions in for complex populations such comorbid depression and opioid dependency



#### Schools based PREVENTion





### Early intervention and PREVENTion

### Alcohol Action in Rural Communities (AARC)





## Strategic Research Network

Continued and close collaboration with National Research centres and maximise use of joint resources to achieve good impact of research on policy and practice



## Fitting it all together: technology transfer

- Engage government responsivity
- Engage community responsivity
- Connect research, clinical policy communities
- Promote national and international research collaboration



## Research challenges

➤ Increase the balance of current research from descriptive to measured interventions

> Be responsive and adaptive to new problems

> To ensure strategic and focussed approach to key priorities enabling and fostering creativity



- ➤ Centre of Research Excellence New Centre on Mental Health and Substance use.
- ➤ More Clinical Trials (CRC application pending).
- ➤ Harnessing the power of the internet (treatment) and understanding how best to link this to other AOD treatment.

