Drugs and Young People

URL of this page: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/drugsandyoungpeople.html

Drug abuse is a serious public health problem that affects almost every community and family in some way. Drug abuse in children and teenagers may pose a greater hazard than in older people. This is because their brains are not yet fully developed. As a result, the brains of young people may be more susceptible to drug abuse and addiction than adult brains.

Abused drugs include

- Amphetamines
- Anabolic steroids
- Club drugs
- Cocaine
- Heroin
- Inhalants
- Marijuana
- Prescription drugs

There are different types of treatment for drug abuse. But the best is to prevent drug abuse in the first place.

**NIH: National Institute on Drug Abuse**

**Start Here**
  Also available in Spanish [http://kidshealth.org/teen/en_espanol/drogas/know about_drugs_esp.html]

**Overviews**
  Also available in Spanish [http://kidshealth.org/teen/en_espanol/mente/addictions_esp.html]

**Latest News**
More News on Drugs and Young People
[http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/alphanews_d.html#drugsandyoungpeople]

Diagnosis/Symptoms

Treatment
- What Is Substance Abuse Treatment? A Booklet for Families [http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA08-4126/SMA08-4126.pdf] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) - PDF
  Also available in Spanish [http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA08-4098/SMA08-4098.pdf]

Prevention/Screening
- Talking to Your Child about Drugs [http://kidshealth.org/parent/emotions/behavior/talk_about_drugs.html] (Nemours Foundation)
  Also available in Spanish [http://kidshealth.org/parent/en_espanol/padres/talk_about_drugs_esp.html]

Specific Conditions
- Cough and Cold Medicine Abuse
  [http://kidshealth.org/parent/h1n1_center/h1n1_center_treatment/cough_cold_medicine_abuse.html] (Nemours Foundation)
  Also available in Spanish
  [http://kidshealth.org/parent/h1n1_center/h1n1_center_esp/cough_cold_medicine_abuse_esp.html]
  Also available in Spanish [http://teens.drugabuse.gov/mom/mom_ha1_spanish.php]

Related Issues
- Consequences of Drug Abuse [http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/identify/consequences.html] (Drug Enforcement Administration)
- Get Smart About Drugs - What Kinds of Things Are Paraphernalia?
  [http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/identify/what_kinds_of_things_are_paraphernalia.html] (Drug Enforcement Administration)
- Substance Abuse: Fact Sheet for Parents
Pictures & Photographs
- Get Smart About Drugs - Can You Identify? [http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/identify/can_you_identify.html] (Drug Enforcement Administration)

Health Check Tools
  Also available in Spanish [http://drugfactsweek.drugabuse.gov/iqchallenge_spanish.php#quiz]

Tutorials
- Get Smart About Drugs - Your Home [http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/identify/your_home.html] (Drug Enforcement Administration)
- Time to Act!: Teen Drug and Alcohol Intervention [http://timetoact.drugfree.org/] Partnership for a Drug-Free America

Videos

Games
- Test Your Knowledge [http://teens.drugabuse.gov/activities/test-your-knowledge] NIH (National Institute on Drug Abuse)

Clinical Trials

Research

Journal Articles
References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)
Dictionaries/Glossaries

Directories
- Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Locator [http://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/TreatmentLocator/faces/quickSearch.jspx] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

Organizations
- Drug Enforcement Administration [http://www.justice.gov/dea/]
- National Institute on Drug Abuse [http://www.drugabuse.gov/] NIH
- Also available in Spanish [http://www.drugabuse.gov/es/inicio]
- Partnership at Drugfree.org [http://www.drugfree.org/] (Partnership for a Drug-Free America)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [http://www.samhsa.gov/]

Statistics
- 12 Year Olds More Likely to Use Inhalants Than Cigarettes or Marijuana [http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2K10/inhalents/Spotlight001AdolInhalant.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Adolescent Substance Abuse and Mental Health Issues by State [http://www.samhsa.gov/statesinbrief/] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- CDC Vital Signs: HIV Among Youth in the US [http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/HIVAmongYouth/] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- Day in the Life of American Adolescents: Substance Use Facts [http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k10/185/185TypicalDay.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Emergency Department Visits Involving Drug Misuse or Abuse by Children Aged 12 to 14 [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k12/DAWN_Short_Report_058/DAWNSR058EDAges12to142012.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Monthly Variation in Substance Use Initiation among Adolescents [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k12/NSDUH080/SR080InitiationSubstanceUse2012.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Nearly One Third of College Student Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions with Co-Occurring Mental Disorders Abuse Prescription Drugs [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/spotlight/Spot094-College-Prescription-Drug-Use.pdf] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) - PDF
- Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Aged 15 to 17 [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k12/TEDS_061/TEDS_061_LateAdolescents_2012.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Substance Use among 12th Grade Aged Youths by Dropout Status [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k13/NSDUH036/SR036SubstanceUseDropouts.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Substance Use among Asian Adolescents [http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k11/006/WEB_SR_006.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Substance Use among Black Adolescents [http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k11/004/WEB_SR_004.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Substance Use among Hispanic Adolescents [http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k11/007/WEB_SR_007.htm] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Trends in Adolescent Substance Use and Perception of Risk from Substance Use [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k13/NSDUH099a/sr099a-risk-perception-trends.pdf] (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) - PDF

**Children**
- What You Need to Know about Drugs [http://kidshealth.org/kid/grow/drugs_alcohol/know_drugs.html] (Nemours Foundation)
  Also available in Spanish [http://kidshealth.org/kid/en_espanol/sano/know_drugs_esp.html]

**Teenagers**

**Patient Handouts**
- Toxicology screen [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003578.htm]
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/003578.htm]

You may also be interested in these related encyclopedia pages:
- Toxicology screen [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/003578.htm]

You may also be interested in these related MedlinePlus topics:

The primary NIH organization for research on *Drugs and Young People* is the National Institute on Drug Abuse [http://www.nida.nih.gov/]

Date last updated: 19 July 2013
Topic last reviewed: 29 January 2013