

RESEARCH ROUNDUP IBR

Texas Christian University

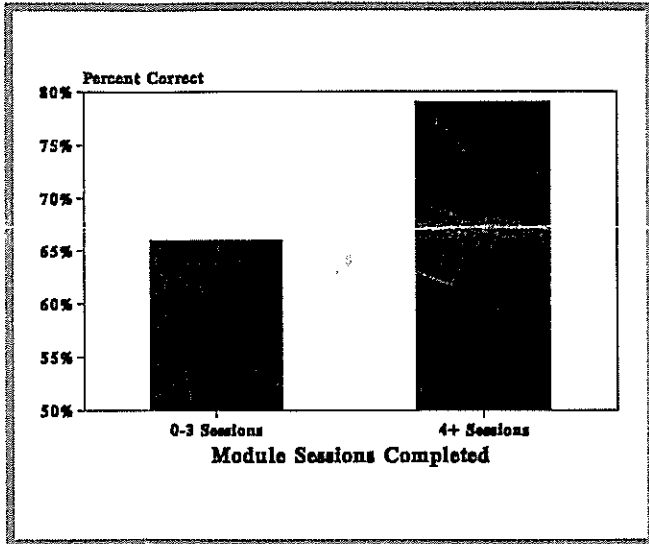
a quarterly newsletter presenting IBR research

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DATAR Data at Work

AIDS Module Proves Effective



AIDS Knowledge Scores

Early analysis of 110 cases from Corpus Christi shows the AIDS Module is successful in enhancing knowledge about HIV/AIDS and increasing understanding of HIV-related behaviors in the early months of treatment. Dr. Jeannie Boatler, Clinical Trainer for DATAR and Dr. Kevin Knight, IBR Research Associate, are pleased with what these results have to say about the effectiveness of early HIV risk reduction intervention. The authors are planning to submit their findings for publication and a paper will be submitted to the American Psychological Association's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. in August 1992. ☺

TCU Motivation Scales Predict Treatment Dropouts

Drs. George Joe and Dwayne Simpson are completing analysis of 311 initial DATAR intakes with an eye to what the Self-Rating Form reveals about treatment variables, such as time the client spends in treatment. The Motivation Scales of the Self-Rating Form, which capture readiness for treatment, desire for help, and severity of drug abuse problems are being analyzed. Preliminary findings confirm predictions that those clients scoring lowest on these scales have higher rates of early treatment dropout. Social instability and low methadone dosing were also related to early dropout. Drs. Joe and Simpson plan to submit their findings for publication. ☺

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Profile of the DATAR Client Takes Shape

An initial analysis of intake data from 322 clients across all three DATAR sites has been completed under the direction of Dr. Lois Chatham. These data reveal that DATAR's sampling goals for gender and ethnicity are, for the most part, being met. The following profile of the "average" client has emerged:

222 clients are male (69%) and 100 clients are female (31%). 38% are Mexican American; 37% are Anglo; 22% are African American and 3% are Other.

Among Mexican Americans, 81% were male and 19% female.

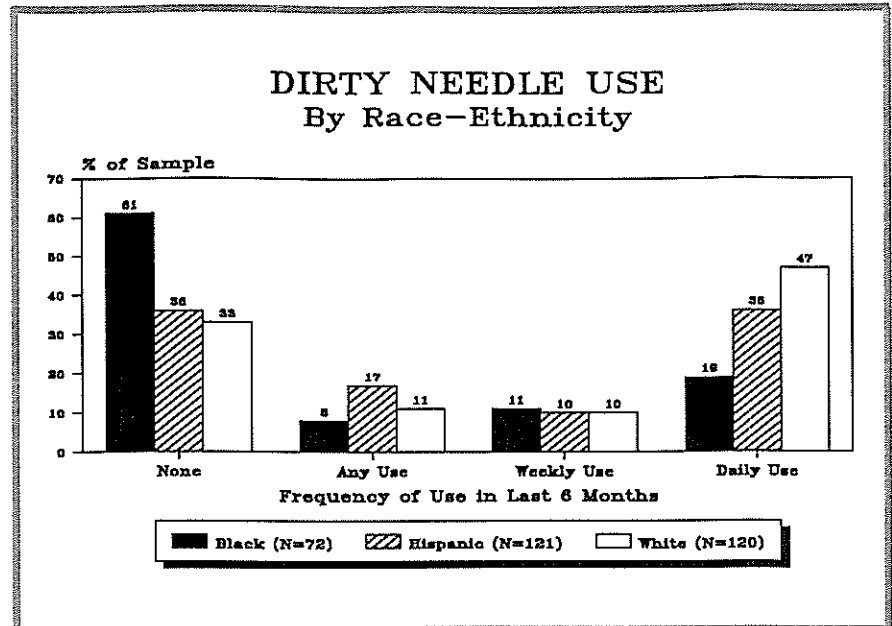
Among Anglos, 61% were male and 39% female. Among African Americans, 65% were male and 35% female.

The average age of admission was 33.5 years for females and 37.8 years for males.

69% of all clients were unemployed at admission (74% of females and 66% males).

66% of women and 60% of men reported some illegal income at admission.

29% of males and 17% of females reported being on parole.



IBR researchers also analyzed *Dirty Needle Use by Race-Ethnicity*.

33% of women and 26% of men reported they were entering treatment for the first time.

Assessment of daily drug use at admission revealed that 95% of males and 97% of females used heroin daily in the 30 days before admission.

32% of males and 23% of females used alcohol daily.

29% of females and 22% of males used speedballs daily and 13% of women and 7% of men used cocaine daily.

In addition, 25% of both sexes reported weekly marijuana use and 13% of males and 11% of females reported crack use.

About 8% of both sexes reported using tranquilizers weekly.

At admission, 39% of males and 42% of females reported no dirty needle use in the last 6 months. In the 30 days prior to admission, 80% of women and 75% of men were injecting three or more times per day.

14% of women and 8% of men reported always using condoms when they had sex in the 30 days prior to admission. Men reported a greater overall frequency of unprotected sex with 41% of males and 36% of females reporting no condoms used during sex in the previous month. ☞

DATAR Women Take "Time Out"

DATAR's assertiveness and sexuality module for women entitled "Time Out! For Me"

**Module
Makes
Debut in
Corpus**

premiered in Corpus Christi in October. The module, which was devel-

oped by Norma Bartholomew, was well received by both clients and staff. Women attending the six "Time Out" sessions were "receptive, enthusiastic and they partici-

pated a lot," say CCDAC counselors Pam Vickers and Kenna Roberts.

The module is now underway at DARCO in Dallas where counselor Frances Feist will facilitate two "Time Out" groups a week through January. Copies of the manual have been distributed to interested professionals across the country. ☞



IBR Shares DATAR with Other Researchers

Numerous requests have been received for materials and data collection procedures developed as part of the DATAR project. These have been shared freely with prominent research groups from coast to coast, and Dr. Dwayne Simpson reports that they are now being used in many other research efforts. The DATAR Data Management System (DMS), developed by Dr. Grace Rowan-Szal and her staff in conjunction with the data coordinators at the DATAR sites, has also been recognized as a "model program." For instance, Dr. Stanley Sacks and other research staff working with Dr. George De Leon, Director of the new NIDA-funded Center for Therapeutic Community Research in New York City, have scheduled a visit to the IBR in early January to get a first-hand look at the DMS before they begin their large treatment evaluation project. ☞

Search for Follow-Up Data is On

A critical phase of the DATAR research project begins soon in Corpus Christi and Dallas. Preparation and training are underway for collecting follow-up interviews and related data from past DATAR clients. Teams at both sites will be sending letters and using other tracing techniques to locate as many former clients as possible.

These follow-up data are of national importance and will assist researchers to better understand treatment effectiveness and changes in AIDS risk behaviors over time among injection drug users. Juan Cantu is DATAR Field Supervisor at DARCO in Dallas. Will Brown will coordinate the follow-up activity at Corpus Christi. ☞

Relapse Prevention Module Available This Spring

The development of DATAR's Relapse Prevention Module is almost complete. The module, adapted from materials developed by Dr. William McAuliffe at Harvard, is designed to teach decision-making skills and strengthen clients' resolve to achieve and maintain abstinence. A prototype of this approach for both mapping and standard counseling approaches was field tested this summer with the probation department in Fort Worth. Module developer, Dr. Kevin Knight, anticipates a Spring 1992 kick-off for the module in all DATAR treatment sites. ☞

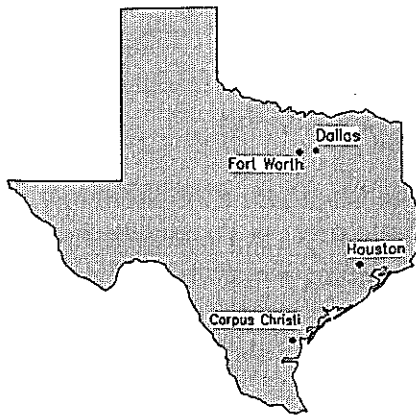
Staff Notes

Fort Worth

Dr. Grace Rowan-Szal is expecting the birth of her first child in January.

Corpus Christi

Intake Counselor, Dennis Campbell, has resigned to take a job as a drug abuse specialist at the Corpus Christi Army Depot. Welcome to Robbye P. Floyd who has replaced Dennis.



Dallas

Mapping counselor Justin Corder has left to complete work on his MSW. Welcome to Debra White who has replaced Justin.

Dayvid Griggs, data coordinator at DARCO, is recovering from injuries from an automobile accident. Sathya Arjunji is serving as data coordinator in the interim. ☞

Houston

Lara Hulin has joined the staff as a standard counselor and Fay Miles is a new mapping counselor.

Research Roundup
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IBR RESEARCH STAFF

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