

# RESEARCH ROUNDUP

IBR'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

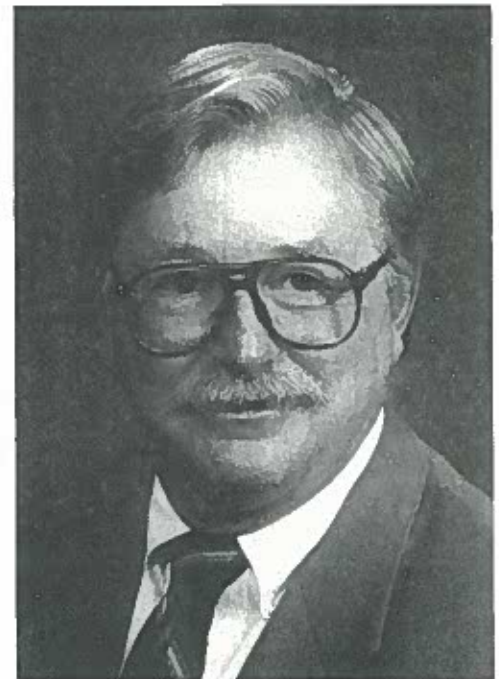
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## DATAR research continues

*Research to focus on increasing client engagement and enhancing treatment outcomes.*

IBR has received continuation funding from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to carry on work begun in 1989 aimed at finding better strategies for engaging drug abusers in treatment programs, increasing compliance, and enhancing treatment outcomes. This new 5-year research project, Improving Drug Abuse Treatment Assessment Research, dubbed DATAR-2, got underway September 1 in San Antonio, Texas. Drug Dependence Associates (DDA) of San Antonio, a private agency specializing in methadone maintenance treatment, will serve as the primary research site for data collection. DDA was founded in 1970 by **J. Thomas Payte, M.D.** and is well-recognized and respected both in Texas and the nation.



*J. Thomas Payte, M.D.*

The research design for DATAR-2, under the direction of Principal Investigator **Dr. Dwayne Simpson**, will include analyses of intake, during-treatment, and follow-up measures from an estimated total of 500 clients during the project's run. Behavioral and cognitive assessments developed and tested during the first DATAR project and found to be valuable in treatment process research will be used. Subjects will be given a full year of no-fee treatment services in exchange for their participation.

DATAR-2 will continue studies of cognitive enhancements to counseling

using the visual representation technique of node-link mapping developed by **Dr. Don Dansereau**. Earlier findings have shown that the visual portrayal of recovery issues enhances communication, commitment to treatment, and the counselor-client relationship.

New psychoeducational training manuals also will be developed to assist counselors in addressing identified special needs of drug treatment clients. These

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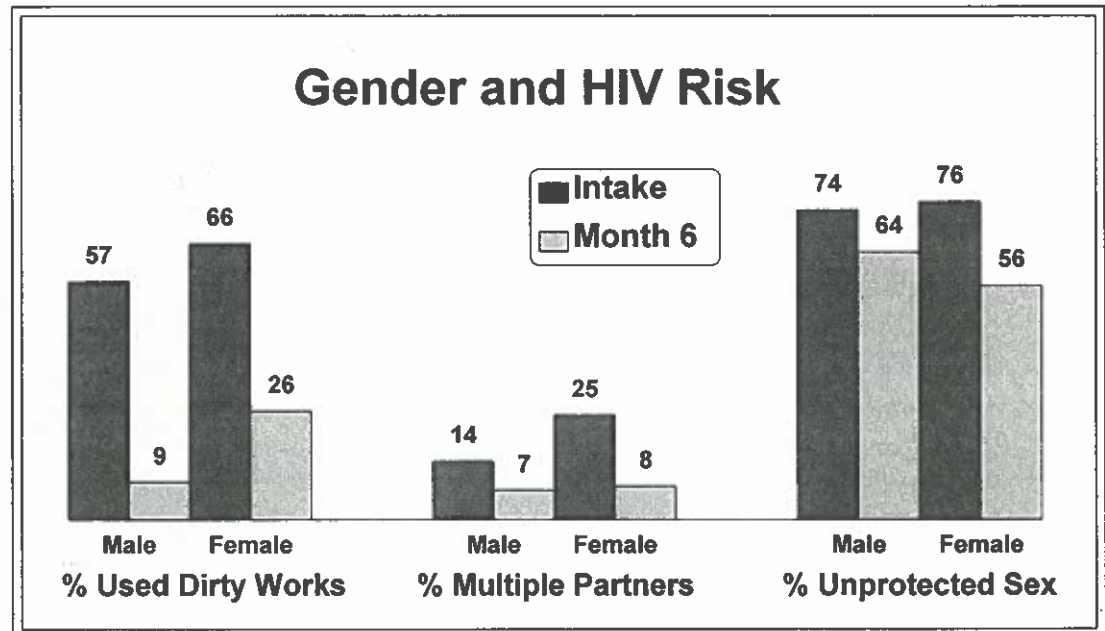
## Research highlights

### HIV-risks, gender, and cocaine

**Study shows women and cocaine users report higher risk behaviors**

Cocaine use and gender appear to be related to HIV-risk behavior among opiate users in methadone maintenance treatment. A recent study headed by IBR Associate Research Scientist **Dr. Mabel Camacho** shows that women and cocaine users report higher risk behavior than men and nonusers prior to treatment entry. However, significant reductions in both injection and sex-related risks occurred in the first 6 months of

treatment. Reduced risk-taking also was reported among a subsample of clients who continued to inject drugs during treatment. Measures of risk behavior at Month 6 of treatment showed that women used dirty injection equipment more often than men, and cocaine users injected more frequently and had more sex partners than noncocaine users.



### Predicting recidivism among probationers

**Rearrest rates linked to client mental health and treatment intergration**

Two recently completed IBR studies examined the impact of mental health problems and treatment process on probationers' recidivism rates. In the first study, Research Assistant **Matthew Hiller** looked at the relationship between mental health status and rearrest rates in probationers remanded to 4 months of residential substance abuse treatment. Subjects completed the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory-II (MCMII-II) at admission. Fifty-one percent were classified with DSM-III-R Axis I disorders

(clinical syndromes) and 79% with Axis II disorders (personality disorders). Probationers with passive-aggressive personality disorder, clinical symptoms of depression (dysthymia), and higher drug dependence levels were more than twice as likely to be rearrested at 18-month follow-up compared to those without these diagnoses.

The second study by Research Assistant **Kirk Broome** examined the impact of

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## Conference presentations

### Workplace reports on studies of municipal employees

**Dr. Wayne E. K. Lehman**, Research Scientist and Principal Investigator of IBR's Workplace Project, participated in a plenary session at the recent NIDA-sponsored National Conference on Marijuana Use, Prevention, Treatment, and Research in Arlington, Virginia. Lehman reported on findings from his recent study of 4,500 municipal employees showing that workers who report use of marijuana have higher patterns of deviance, negative job performance, and tolerance for drug use than do nonusers.

Associate Research Scientist **Dr. Joel Bennett** presented posters at the recent American Psychological Association conference on Work, Stress, and Health '95: Creating Healthier Workplaces in Washington, DC. Bennett's presentations dealt with the interrelationship between job stress, work teams, and drinking climates based on surveys from two large municipal workforces, and with the introduction of a conceptual map linking the roles of management, EAP services, human resources, and

#### *(PROBATIONERS— continued from page 2)*

several elements of treatment process on recidivism rates among probationers assigned to a residential treatment program. The rearrest rate at 2-year follow-up was 36% and analyses showed it was directly related to poorer during-treatment ratings by probationers of self-esteem, counselor competence, and peer support. These were found to be better predictor measures than background and demographic characteristics, suggesting the need for more effective integration of clients into the treatment environment. ■

researchers in the development of a wellness and total quality oriented workplace.

### IBR Director presents in Jerusalem, London, New York, and Washington

IBR Director **Dr. Dwayne Simpson** made several presentations based on DATAR treatment strategies and research findings in recent months, including the Middle Eastern Conference on Drug Use and Treatment held in Jerusalem, a lecture at The Maudsley's National Addiction Center in London, a symposium on treatment motivation at the American Psychological Association Convention in New York, and a NIDA-sponsored scientific review meeting on treatment efficacy in Washington, DC.

### IBR researchers take part in AMTA annual conference in Phoenix

Additional DATAR findings will be presented by IBR researchers at the upcoming American Methadone Treatment Association (AMTA) Annual Conference being held November 1-4 in Phoenix, Arizona. **Dr. Dwayne Simpson** will take part in workshops on "Treatment Process and Outcomes" and "Improving Treatment," and **Dr. Lois Chatham** and **Norma Bartholomew** will conduct a workshop on "Sexuality and Assertiveness Groups for Women." Poster presentations by other staff members will include "Heavy Drinking by Methadone Patients," "Effectiveness of a Specialized Women's Intervention," "Node-link Mapping as a Visualization Tool for Drug Abuse Counseling," "Incentive Procedure for Increasing Early Engagement," and "Node-link Mapping and Attentional Factors." ■

**Presentations report findings from the Workplace and DATAR projects.**

**Project  
continuation  
recognizes  
DATAR  
contributions  
to the  
treatment  
field**

*(DATAR—continued from front page)*

include a parenting skills training module designed to help strengthen family bonds and reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect; an intervention module for women clients who desire help in addressing and resolving traumatic sexual experiences (incest and rape); and a communication skills and sexual health module for men, based on a similar program for women developed during the first DATAR project.

Because favorable behavioral outcomes have been found to be linked to clients' participation in treatment and the development of recovery-oriented perceptions, DATAR-2 will continue examining the dynamics of client engagement and retention in treatment. This includes the role of client motivation, psychosocial

functioning, and history, and the interrelationship of client factors with service delivery, induction into treatment, counseling contacts, and therapeutic environment. Behavioral and contingency management approaches will be used to increase therapeutic contacts, motivation, and other aspects of client engagement.

"Continuation of the DATAR project is tangible recognition of its past contributions and future potential for the treatment field," notes Dr. Simpson. "The experience and outstanding clinical reputation of Dr. Tom Payte and his staff in San Antonio offer exceptional opportunities as our new field site for this project, not only in terms of the scientific integrity required, but also in the eventual transfer of our findings to other programs." ■

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