

The National Drug Research Institute invites you to

Perth Illicit Drug Trends: 10 years of data from the IDRS and EDRS and experiences of the WA Substance Users Association

*Free public symposium and discussion with
Paul Dessauer, WA Substance Users Association (WASUA),
and Candice Rainsford and Jessica Miller,
National Drug Research Institute*

**Thursday 14 April, 2011
2pm-3.30pm**

**National Drug Research Institute Seminar Room
Curtin University Health Research Campus,
Level 2, 10 Selby Street, Shenton Park, WA**

As part of the National Drug Trends project co-ordinated by the NDARC, NDRI has run the Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) and the Illicit Drugs Reporting System (IDRS) projects for the last 7 and 10 years respectively. Collecting annual interview data from 100 regular users in Perth, along with Key-Informant and indicator data, these projects provide an insight into drug trends in Perth over this period. The presentations in this symposium will describe the projects, present summaries of drug use trends over the years, and address issues of particular interest or significance including injecting risk behaviours and mental health among regular injecting drug users and emerging trends among regular ecstasy users in Perth.

WASUA, (the West Australian Substance Users' Association), is a not-for-profit NGO, funded by WA Health and Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing as the state's only peer-based Drug and Alcohol Agency. WASUA provides Harm Reduction services and peer-education to current drug users, advocacy on behalf of drug users, and consultancy and training to other agencies in the Health, Alcohol and Other Drug, Mental Health, Welfare and Criminal Justice sectors. Paul Dessauer will discuss significant emerging trends identified by IDRS and EDRS, and also some of the strengths and limitations of this data, informed by the perspective of drug users themselves.

Jessica Miller joined NDRI in October 2010 to work on the WA EDRS. Jessica has research and public health experience in the alcohol and other drug sector and has also worked in a regional area in health promotion.

Candice Rainsford has worked at NDRI since 2007. During this time she has been involved in a number of projects including the WA EDRS, the WA IDRS and currently coordinates the 2011 WA IDRS.

Paul Dessauer has worked for WASUA for more than 11 years, and currently co-ordinates a team of outreach workers delivering services to street-level users in the Perth Metro area and in rural and regional towns throughout the southern half of WA.

OF INTEREST TO:

Drug and alcohol workers, students, academics, the general public and others with an interest in local drug use trends.

RSVP on (08) 9266 1600 or ndri@curtin.edu.au by Tuesday 12 April, 2011