Analysis and optimisation of substitution treatment in Belgium (SUBANOP)

Funding country: Belgium
Project starting year: 2011
Project ending year: 2012
Area(s) of research:
  - Prevalence, incidence and patterns of drug use
  - Treatment responses
  - Harm reduction responses
  - Mechanism of drug use and effects

Objectives:
Since the Belgian Federal Drug policy note in 2001, a legal framework has been developed for the prescription and administration of opioid substitution treatment (OST). However, until today policymakers and fieldworkers point at various gaps in the knowledge on substitution treatment in Belgium, in particular regarding substitution treatment in settings outside specialized centres, on the characteristics of clients receiving substitution therapy and on challenges and obstacles in the provision of this type of treatment. This research tries to answer these questions by providing an extensive and up-to-date overview of key elements of substitution treatment in Belgium. How is the provision of OST organized in Belgium (availability, types of providers, spread, referral and psychosocial support)? How do the clients receiving OST experience substitution treatment? Which obstacles can be identified and which recommendations can be made to overcome these obstacles? The answers to these questions can be found in this book.

Scientific discipline(s) involved: Criminology, Psychology
Initial identified needs: Enhance the knowledge on substitution treatment in Belgium
Performed by:
  - IRCP-University of Ghent
  - department of special education-University of Ghent
  - clinical science, medical psychiatry and psychology
Funded by:
  - Federal Science Policy, Federal Department of Health
Summary references:
Website:
Published reference(s):