



THE DRUG TREATMENT CENTRE BOARD

Annual Review

2010



providing



adapting



nurturing



developing



leading



informing

mission

To provide an integrated, person centred, specialist addiction service, supported by best practice and national leadership in academic excellence.

vision

As the largest and longest established national addiction treatment (Day) centre in the country, our aim is to continue providing a broad range of specialist treatments for a variety of drug using populations and those requiring specialist psychiatric, psychological, social and medical interventions. We also aim to:

- continue improving and developing the services we offer in the treatment of substance misuse
- contribute to drug treatment policy and
- act as a key resource and training centre for professionals working in the area of substance misuse.

As a specialist service we contribute to forward thinking policies for the treatment, prevention, education, rehabilitation, aftercare, and the development of adequate programmes of care for those affected by substance misuse.

In collaboration with educators, other statutory, voluntary and community agencies, we strive to foster a spirit of independence and choice amongst clients, developing and promoting best practice in therapeutic and clinical treatments.

Research is an integral part of assessing the effectiveness of existing practices and appropriate policy development. We support this by producing data on evidence-based research. Our specialist service also provides evidence-based practice which supports insight into the effectiveness of current treatments and best practice within the addiction field. As such, and as a hub of addiction services, we aim to lead and inform on best practice and to contribute to drug treatment policy.

about

The Drug Treatment Centre Board (DTCB)

The Drug Treatment Centre Board, formerly known as The National Drug Advisory and Treatment Centre, was established in 1969 and is the longest established treatment service in the country. It was originally located at the 'Charitable Infirmary', Jervis Street Hospital, Dublin 1, established in 1718. The current Chairman of The Drug Treatment Centre Board, Mr. Denis McCarthy, is from a family with a history of involvement since 1909. At the end of 1987, Jervis Street Hospital closed. The Drug Treatment Centre Board was set up by statutory instrument in 1988 and moved to new premises at 30 – 31 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. We receive our funding from the Health Service Executive.

We are committed to providing effective, high quality and client focused treatment. This is provided in a caring, professional manner, taking account of the individual needs of our clients within a multidisciplinary setting. We offer guidance and training to other professionals working in the area of substance misuse and contribute to policy development in addiction management.

In partnership with other statutory and voluntary agencies, The Drug Treatment Centre Board provides prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare programmes on an out-patient and in-patient basis in order to minimise the harmful effects of drug addiction and prevent the spread of HIV and other infectious diseases.

Out-patient treatment facilities are provided on-site. In-patient detoxification facilities are located at St. Michael's Ward, Beaumont Hospital, Dublin (10-bed unit) and Cuan Dara, Cherry Orchard Hospital, Dublin (17-bed unit).

In addition we provide a National Drug Analysis Laboratory service which supports treatment policy, monitors trends and supports service planning and best practice in the treatment, care and management of drug misuse. Our research supports evidence based practice in drug treatment policy and clinical developments.

Specialist Clinical Services on-site include:

General Medical and Psychiatric Assessment

- Dual Diagnosis Clinic
- Adult Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Clinic
- On site Hepatitis C Treatment Service
- Prevention and Treatment of Viral Infections
- Primary Care Services
- Sexual Health Clinic
- Liaison Midwifery Services
- Treatment Programmes – Polysubstance misuse
- Young Persons Programme (YPP) (18 years and under)
- Advisory services to other professionals

Other Services

- Counselling and Family Support Services
- Social Work Services
- Specialised groups for cocaine and alcohol misuse
- Welfare Services
- Complementary Therapies
- Outreach Services
- In-House Play Room Services
- Literacy Classes
- Research
- Central Treatment List
- National Drug Analysis Laboratory
- Occupational Health Services

Board Members - 2010

Mr. Denis McCarthy	Chairman – <i>RIP May 2010</i>
Mr. Dan McGing	Chairman
Mr. Frank Fagan	Board Member
Prof. Joseph Barry	Board Member
Dr. Íde Delargy	Board Member
Prof. Kieran Taaffe	Board Member
Mr. Liam O'Brien	Board Member
Dr. John O'Connor	Board Member
Dr. Siobhan Rooney	Board Member
Ms. Alice O'Flynn	Board Member

Services

Treatment Services	2010
Number of individuals who received services	1,808
Number of related attendances	103,846

Number of Clients who Received in-patient Medical Management in 2010

In-Patient Facility	No. of Clients
St. Michaels Ward, Beaumont Hospital	134
Cuan Dara, Cherry Orchard Hospital	137
Total	271

Gender profile for cases assessed or treated in At The Drug Treatment Centre Board in 2010

	2010	
	Count	%
Gender		
Male	654	69
Female	291	31
Total	945	100

Source: National Drug Treatment Reporting System, Alcohol and Drug Research Unit, Health Research Board

Age Profile for cases assessed or treated in 2010

	2010	%
17 years and under	12	1
18-19	20	2
20-24	91	10
25-29	232	24
30-34	246	26
35-39	192	20
40-44	84	9
45-49	52	6
50 years and over	16	2
Total	945	100

Source: National Drug Treatment Reporting System, Alcohol and Drug Research Unit, Health Research Board

Living status of cases assessed or treated in 2010

Living status	2010	
	Count	%
Stable accommodation	571	60.4
Institution (prison, residential care, halfway house)	13	1.4
Homeless	277	29.3
Other unstable accommodation	70	7.4
Not known	14	1.5
Total	945	100

Source: National Drug Treatment Reporting System, Alcohol and Drug Research Unit, Health Research Board

Main problem substance for cases assessed or treated in 2010

Main Problem substance	2010	
	Count	%
Cocaine	7	1
Opiates	932	99
Alcohol	2	0
Cannabis	1	0
Other substances	3	0
Total	945	100

Source: National Drug Treatment Reporting System, Alcohol and Drug Research Unit, Health Research Board

Number of new cases* treated in 2010

(new cases)	2010
Total	66

Source: National Drug Treatment Reporting System, Alcohol and Drug Research Unit, Health Research Board

* New cases are clients who have never previously been treated anywhere for drug or alcohol problem use.

Age profile for cases aged 19 years and under assessed or treated 2010

Age	2010
17 & Under	12
18-19	20
Total	32

Source: National Drug Treatment Reporting System, Alcohol and Drug Research Unit, Health Research Board

Central Treatment List

The Central Treatment list (CTL) is a highly confidential database managed by the Drug Treatment Centre Board. In October 1998, specific legislation was introduced making it a requirement for clients in receipt of methadone treatment to be on the national register. The maintenance of the list complies with the provisions of the Data Protection Acts, 1998 & 2003.

In 2010 a total of 10,787 clients were in receipt of methadone treatment in Ireland.

Over the years we continue to enhance the IT system. This helps with identifying and addressing gaps in service provision having regard to evidence available. The List is also a valuable resource providing information to the National Drug Related Death Index (NDRDI). It continues to be a key mechanism to other agencies as a resource for professionals in the treatment, care and management of drug misuse nationally.

Number of Clients Receiving Methadone in Ireland Central Treatment List

Year	Total No of Clients	% +/-
2001	7107	
2002	7596	+6.88%
2003	8155	+7.36%
2004	8364	+2.56%
2005	8962	+7.15%
2006	9428	+5.20%
2007	9760	+3.52%
2008	10,213	+4.65%
2009	10,668	+4.46%
2010	10,787	+1.1%

Source: Central Treatment List, The Drug Treatment Centre Board

National Drug Analysis Laboratory

The DTCLB laboratory is the leading centre for drugs of misuse testing in Ireland. With over 40 years experience, we are the largest specialist provider of drugs of abuse screening for drug treatment services nationally. We provide a nationwide service to the HSE Addiction Services, hospitals, General Practitioners, voluntary organisations, Department of Education (juvenile detention centres), the Probation Service, the Courts Service, the Medical Council, an Bord Altranais and various occupational health departments.

We are a highly efficient laboratory currently carrying out over 1 million immunoassay screening tests and circa 10,000 drugs screened for using confirmatory analyses in 2010. We also actively participate on the Early Warning and Emerging Trends (EWET) Committee of National Advisory Committee on Drugs.

We are accredited by the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) to ISO/IEC 17025 standard. The scope of our Accreditation covers toxicology screening by immunoassay of Opiates, 6-AM (Heroin Metabolite), Cocaine, Cannabinoids (Cannabis), Amphetamine and its derivatives, Benzodiazepines, EDDP (Methadone Metabolite), Alcohol, pH and Creatinine. (INAB scope 169T).

Analytical techniques used include Immunoassay, Liquid Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS), Gas Chromatography- Mass (GC-MS) and Enzyme-Linked ImmunoSorbent Assay (ELISA).

Our range of routine confirmatory analysis in urine includes Opiates, Zopiclone, Benzodiazepines and Buprenorphine. A method to screen for “Head Shop” drugs and Amphetamines was developed. Methods are also in place for the analysis of, Crack Cocaine, Mirtazepine and Olanzapine.

Analyses performed by the National Laboratory during 2010

Screening	Sample Numbers 2010
Total no. of urine samples screened by immunoassay	161,842
Total tests (screens by immunoassay)	1,049,039
Blood Methadone levels (ELISA)	114
Total Screens	1,210,995

Analyses performed by the National Laboratory during 2010

Confirmatory Analysis	Sample Numbers 2010
Opiate differentiation by LCMS (4 drugs)	232
Benzodiazepines differentiation by GC-MS (5 drugs)	442
Zimovane identification by LCMS	1,244
Buprenorphine identification by LCMS	502
Headshop Drug Screen (up to 25 drugs included - approx 5,900 drugs screened for in total in 2010)	628
Total Samples Confirmatory Analysis	3,048

Recent Key Achievements:

- Following the success of the pilot in 2009, our web-based system of Laboratory Electronic Reporting (LER) was made available to more of our customers in 2010. The system provides customers with an option to access their results more speedily since results are viewable in the system as soon as they have been authorised and saves on printing of reports and post etc.
- A review of IT was carried out and a program of improvements was commenced. As part of this program and in order to enhance and streamline our IT systems, the connection from our Labware LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) system to DAIS was upgraded and a project to directly connect our analysers to Labware LIMS was commenced.
- Following the ban on the drug Benzylpiperazine (BZP) in March 2009, many other products appeared for sale in co-called "Head shops". As these drugs were attracting much attention due to serious concerns about their adverse effects a screening method for "Head Shop" drugs was developed.
- Using our screen we conducted a study to examine the extent of the usage of the drugs Mephedrone, Methylone and BZP amongst attendees of Methadone maintenance programs at the DTCC. 209 samples in total were tested. The results showed significant usage of these compounds amongst this cohort of drug users, with 29 (13.9%) of samples tested being positive for mephedrone, 7 (3.3%) positive for methylone and 1 (0.5%) positive for BZP. The study was published in The Irish Medical Journal, May 2010 and received much interest in the media. The study has since been widely referenced in literature.
- The Laboratory contributed to the report: "Europol-EMCDDA Joint Report on a new psychoactive substance: 4-methylmethcathinone (mephedrone)"
- The Laboratory analysed 'Head Shop' products for the "Irish Mail on Sunday" in January and identified constituents including Mephedrone, Flephedrone and Lidocaine in a variety of products.
- The Laboratory collaborated with Dr Pierce Kavanagh and associates from Trinity College Dublin in the identification of "Headshop" drug constituents which gave rise to a series of "Head Shop" 'Legal Highs' Active Constituents Identification posters. The first poster in the series which was posted at Pharmacy conference in Belfast 29/03/10

- won best poster at the conference and another prize for the best poster at the launch of the Trinity Student Medical Journal (TSMJ) on 29/04/10.
- On 11th May 2010 the Irish Government controlled certain specified “Headshop” drugs under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1977. However numerous other drugs soon replaced them for sale in “Head Shops”. As new “Head Shop” drugs emerged and as reference standards became available, the DTCLB Laboratory “Head Shop” screen was expanded to include these drugs to meet clinical requirements and the Laboratory continued to monitor their usage.
 - The Laboratory presented two posters at the ACBI (Association of Clinical Biochemists of Ireland) Conference and a poster at the UKIAFT (UK and Ireland Association of Forensic Toxicologists) meeting in Glasgow in September 2010
 - Our Laboratory was represented on the Early Warning and Emerging Trends (EWET) Committee of National Advisory Committee on Drugs (NACD).
 - Our Laboratory was represented at meetings of The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT) and at the UK Ireland Association of Forensic Toxicology (UKIAFT).
 - Our Principal Biochemist is the Irish Regional Representative for T.I.A.F.T. (The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists)
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Ethics Committee

	2010
Number of proposals considered by the Ethics Committee	12

General/Psychiatric Assessments

	2010
Number of Psychiatric Assessment Appointments	346

Cocaine /Stimulant Clinic

	Jan – Jun 2010
Number of Attendances	42

We developed a cocaine / stimulant service in 2008 for non-opiate users who were not accessing existing treatment centres and who are not opiate dependent. This approach was in alignment with the relevant actions of the National Drug Strategy.

The treatment model utilised was evidence based and focused on meeting the needs of clients and their families. Referrals were accepted from a wide range of sources. The service was provided at no direct cost to the service user. However, in 2010 there was a marked decrease in demand for this service and we ceased operating a satellite clinic and merged clients in treatment into our main clinics at Pearse Street.

Walk in Initial/Emergency Services

	2010
Number of walk-in initial assessments	127

Children's Play Room

	2010
Number of visits to the play room	1,746

Student Placements

	2010
Number of student placements	138

Nurse Prescribing

	2010
Number of Nurse prescribers*	2

**The Drug Treatment Centre Board was first to qualify a nurse prescriber in the field of addiction.*

Counselling

	2010
No of attendances for Counselling services	3,024

Social Work

	2010
No of attendances for Social Work services	7,746

Welfare Service at the Drug Treatment Centre Board

	2010
Housing /Accommodation	658
Med Cards/Travel	135
Special/Dietary AI	123
Gen Services	976
Total	1,892

Finance

The finance department manages the annual allocation of HSE funding on behalf of the Board. The department ensures the timely payments to suppliers and monthly payroll to staff. The department is also responsible for procurement of supplies in line with best practice. Finance ensures accurate reporting and cost control are maintained by production of reports including monthly accounts, annual financial statements and budgets. Variance analysis and commentary is periodically provided to the Chief Executive Officer and the DTCCB Board of Management.

Financial Statements

The financial statements for the year ended 2010 show a total income of €9,461,492 of which €8,733,376 was the grant allocation from the Health Service Executive (HSE).

The 2010 Financial Statements show a surplus of €498,989 in the year.

Prompt Payment of Accounts Act (1997)

It is the policy of our Board to comply with the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act (1997). The Drug Treatment Centre Board has systems and procedures to ensure full implementation of the provisions of the Prompt Payments of Accounts Act (1997). Specific procedures are in place to enable the tracking of all transactions and payments in accordance with the terms of the Act and the relevant outputs from the accounting system are kept under continuous review. The Board's procedures, which conform to accepted best practice, provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance, against non-compliance with the Act. It is also our practice to review and to take appropriate action in relation to any incidents of non-compliance that may arise. In 2010 the Board fully complied with the provisions of the Act and we are pleased to report that the Board was not liable for any interest payments to creditors.