

*Global Burden of Disease*

**Mental Disorders and  
Illicit Drug Use Expert Group**



**Illicit Drugs Methodology Part 3:  
Data Extraction**

7 October 2008

## **Illicit Drugs Methodology Part 3: Data Extraction**

### **Data extraction**

The references of articles identified from the systematic review were compiled in Endnote<sup>®</sup>. PDFs were sourced from the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre's library and the University of New South Wales library. As PDFs were read, relevant information was highlighted using Adobe Acrobat 8 Professional<sup>®</sup> and entered into a Microsoft Access database<sup>®</sup>.

A tri-level Microsoft Access<sup>®</sup> database was designed to accommodate the illicit drugs data. Parameters to be included in the database were influenced by the mental disorders Microsoft Access<sup>®</sup> database, although additional variables related to illicit drug data were also included (see Appendix I for screen shots of database). As well as allowing for multiple parameters to be entered for a single data source the Illicit Drugs database has an added feature that allows computerised cross-checking of data entered by two researchers for the same data source. The cross-checking feature highlights and keeps count records of differences in entries by two researchers. These differences may then be consolidated. A random sample of data sources was cross-checked to ensure consistency and accuracy of data extraction.

Quality assurance is also built into the database by using drop down boxes and forced entry of characters when relevant. Data entry was standardised by use of a manual, containing data entry rules.

Queries were written to export complete datasets from the database into Microsoft Excel<sup>®</sup>.

## Appendix I

Illicit Drug Use/Dependence Microsoft Access<sup>®</sup> database for collation of data

The 'Data Source Detail' form contains the following fields:

- ID: (New)
- Author: [Text Box]
- Year: [Text Box]
- Title: [Text Box]
- Journal: [Text Box]
- Volume: [Text Box]
- Pages: [Text Box]
- Organisation: [Text Box]
- Abstract: [Text Area]
- Drug Type: [Dropdown Menu]
- Language: English [Dropdown Menu]
- Other, please specify: [Text Box]
- Literature Type: [Dropdown Menu]

Buttons: Save, Cancel

The 'Study Details | Case-control study' form contains the following sections and fields:

- Study Detail Section1 | Study Detail Section2
- ID: (New) | Study Type: [Dropdown Menu] | Data Source: [Dropdown Menu]
- Location: [Text Box] | Urbanicity: [Dropdown Menu] | Ethnicity: [Dropdown Menu]
- Region: [Dropdown Menu] | Country: [Dropdown Menu]
- Quality Index
  - Case Ascertainment: [Dropdown Menu]
  - Measurement: [Dropdown Menu]
  - Diagnosis: [Dropdown Menu]
  - Completeness: [Dropdown Menu]
  - Representativeness: [Dropdown Menu]
  - Age/Sex: [Dropdown Menu] | Estimate: No [Dropdown Menu] | Num/Den: No [Dropdown Menu] | Duration FU: [Text Box]
  - Num/Den Area/Epoch: No [Dropdown Menu] | Total: [Text Box] | Quality: [Text Box]
  - Quality Index Notes: [Text Area]
- Estimate Type: All [Dropdown Menu] | Entry:  1st Entry  2nd Entry  Final Entry
- Table Headers: Year, Type, Specific Estimate, Lower Age, Upper Age, Female Estimate, Male Estimate, Total Estimate
- Table Body: [Empty Table]
- Final Estimates. Double click to view
- Buttons: New Estimate, Save, Cancel

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Study Details | Case-control study

Study Detail Section1 | Study Detail Section2

Sample

Epoch Start  Population

Epoch End  Sampling Strategy

N  Sampling Strategy Other

Minimum Age At Intake  Minimum Age At FU  Male N

Maximum Age At Intake  Maximum Age At FU  Male Percent

Age Mean At Intake  Age Mean At FU  Person Yrs FU

Age Median At Intake  Age Median At FU  Lost To FU

Response Rate (%)  Attrition Rate (%)

Age  Person Yrs

Comments

Comments

Estimate Type  Entry  1st Entry  2nd Entry  Final Entry

Year	Type	Specific Estimate	Lower Age	Upper Age	Female Estimate	Male Estimate	Total Estimate
Final Estimates. Double click to view							

New Estimate

Save Cancel

Estimate Details

Estimate ID  2845 Estimate Type  Entry  1st Entry  2nd Entry  Final Entry

Specific Estimate Type

Entry ID  8498 Estimate Comments

Cause Of Death

Summary

Drug  Year  Age Lower  Age Upper

Female

Estimate  Numerator

CI Confidence  Denominator

CI Lower  Standard Error

CI Upper  Radix

Standardised

How Standard

Male

Estimate  Numerator

CI Confidence  Denominator

CI Lower  Standard Error

CI Upper  Radix

Standardised

How Standard

Total

Estimate  Numerator  Standardised

CI Confidence  Denominator  How Standard

CI Lower  Standard Error

CI Upper  Radix

Copy 1st To Final Save Cancel