LINKING NATIONAL DRUG COMMISSIONS WITH THE HEALTH SECTOR TO ADDRESS THE DRUG PROBLEM FROM A PUBLIC HEALTH PERSPECTIVE: THE EXPERIENCE IN EL SALVADOR

HOWARD COTTO, ANTIDRUG NATIONAL COMMISSION
Linking National Drug Commissions with the Health Sector to Address the Drug Problem from a Public Health Perspective: The Experience in El Salvador

Commissioner Howard Augusto Cotto
Executive Director
National Antidrug Commision
The Approach to the Drug Phenomenon is Based on 4 Basic Elements

Execution of Integrated and Balanced Actions under the Principle of Shared Responsibility
Policy Coordination Body: National Anti-Drug Commission

Executing Bodies

- Ministry of Justice and Public Safety
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of National Defense
- Superior Council of Public Health – National Bureau of Medicines
Background

Fragmented Care Services for People with Problems Related to Drug Consumption

National Anti-Drug Commission

National Health System

Users and Family

Service Providers

Universities
The National Anti-Drug Commission Assumed the Role of *Active Companion* in Changing the Model of Care

- Clear definition of institutional roles.
- Approach to institutions through "face to face“ contact.
- Coordination of the development process for the National Anti-Drug Strategy and other legal and regulatory instruments.
- Managing the strengthening of existing capacities.
First and Foremost Ally in Demand Reduction: Ministry of Health

Minister of Health is a member of the CAN.

Chief agency on the care of people affected by the use of drugs according to the Law Regulating Activities Relating to Drugs.

National Coverage.

Health Reform Process underway.

Strengthening of the existing coordination is now oriented to search for common interests. The integrated work has become commonplace.
**FUNDAMENTAL Support of CICAD / OAS through PROCCER Program**

*“The cement that has allowed the uniting of efforts”*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Update of the current regulations.</th>
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<td>Formation of the Technical Evaluator Team represented by the Superior Council of Public Health, Ministry of Health, NGOs, Universities, and Executive Director of the CNA.</td>
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<td>Common vision of the training and certification of operators specialized in drug addiction.</td>
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<td>Prestige of CICAD / OAS.</td>
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Some Achievements

The theme of drugs is included in National Health Policy since 2009 as part of the Mental Health Component.

There are trained personnel (including 128 certified operators).

Public institutions give firm steps in the specialization of services (Ministry of Health, ISNA and FOSALUD).

Preparation and updating of regulations and regulatory documents.

More recognition of the role CNA.
HEALTH APPROACH TOWARD PERSONS AFFECTED BY DRUGS

Dr. Víctor Odmaro Rivera.
Legal Support for Care

National Health Policy
Official Journal No. 33
Volume 386,
February 17, 2010

National Mental Health Policy
Official Journal No.
207, Volume 393,
November 7, 2011
Objective of Mental Health Policy

A National Integrated Health System supports the public system

Access to promotion, prevention, care and rehabilitation of health

Guarantee the Right to Health to the Entire Salvadoran Population by:

A healthy and safe environment

An efficient, effective system with equitable access to quality services
Health Reform

- Comprehensive and Integrated Health Services Delivery Networks
- Medicines and Vaccines
- National Emergency Medical System
- Single Information System
- Social Participation. National Health Forum
- National Health Institute
- Inter- and Intra-Sector work
- Human Resource Development
Comprehensive and Integrated Health Services Delivery Networks (RIISS):
Results in Coverage and Access Based on Universality, Law and Equity.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Establecimiento</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>UCSF</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOSPITALES</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
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Organization of:
74 Micro Networks
16 Departmental Networks
5 Regional Networks
1 National Network

ECOS Establecimiento 2009 2013
UCSF 377 692
HOSPITALES 30 30

ECOS 519
Ecos F: 481
Ecos E: 38
Organization of the Comprehensive and Integrated Health Services Delivery Network (RIISS)

First Level of Attention

Second Level

Third Level

Reference and Return
**Strategy 14:** Addiction, violence and mental health.

**Action Line 1:** Promote mental health and the prevention, early detection, treatment and rehabilitation of people affected by mental health problems.

**Strategic Line 1:** Governance and social management; literal i) Systematize the legal framework governing the mental health field.

**Strategic Line 2:** Determinants of mental health; literal h) Develop and implement programs that foster psychosocial rehabilitation and social reintegration of persons with disabilities or addictive behaviors in the RIISS of NHS.

**Expected indicator:** Number of psychosocial rehabilitation programs for persons with drug addictive behaviors in the RIISS of NHS.
Legal Support for Care

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR PREVENTION AND COMPREHENSIVE CARE OF PEOPLE WITH PROBLEMS FOR PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE USE. Made official in December 21, 2012.

- Limited management attention to clinical complications, derived or not derived from consumption of these substances.
- Joining forces, working together and inter-sectoral coordination, facilitating social participation in health.

TECHNICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE CARE OF PEOPLE WITH PROBLEMS FOR PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE USE, Made official in February 7, 2014.

Objective: To define the operational aspects for the implementation of comprehensive health actions in promotion, prevention and health education about the use of psychoactive substances in RIISS, to strengthen protective factors and reduce risk factors in the population.
Activities Developed for Persons with Drug Addictive Behaviors

- Active coordination with the National Anti-Drug Commission.
- Territorial approach of people affected by drugs.
- Operational follow up at community level by *Ecos Familiares*.
- Creation of Mental Health Units in 8 hospitals of the Ministry of Health.
- Training of health personnel for the comprehensive approach to treating people affected by drugs.
Threats and Challenges for the Care of People Affected by Drugs

- Implementation of the care model across the country.
- Comprehensive inter-sectoral approach to the problem of social violence linked to illicit drugs.
- Definition of the mental health scope, taking into account the approach of people affected by drugs.
- Getting resources for the execution of actions aimed at caring for people affected by drugs.