Have Heroin and Cocaine Mentions in Baltimore Emergency Rooms Peaked?
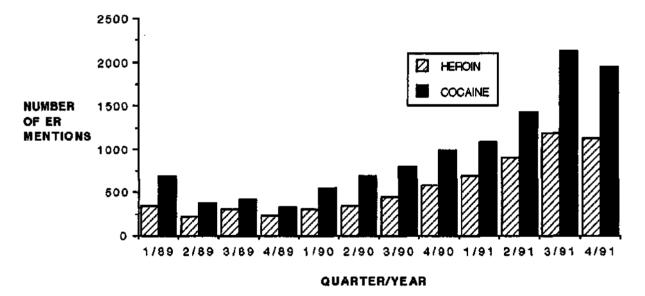
Data from the national Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN), which is administered by NIDA, show a slight decrease in emergency room (ER) mentions for heroin and cocaine in reporting hospitals in Baltimore in 4th quarter 1991. Nevertheless, compared with the 4th quarter of 1990, current estimates for both heroin and cocaine mentions have doubled. Heroin episodes increased from 575 in 4th quarter 1990 to an estimated 1,128 for 4th quarter 1991. This rise in heroin-related episodes parallels reports of the availability of higher purity heroin on the street, which may create more serious health-related consequences for users. Time will tell whether the 2 year increase in these statistics has ended.

ESTIMATES OF HEROIN AND COCAINE RELATED EMERGENCY ROOM (ER) MENTIONS IN THE BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA
(FIRST QUARTER 1989 - FOURTH QUARTER 1991)

SOURCE: NIDA, Drug Abuse Warning Network (estimates for 1991 are preliminary).

1992 CESAR SPEAKER SERIES: NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, OCTOBER 16th

CESAR is proud to announce the opening presentation of the 1992 Speaker Series. Scheduled panelists for the discussion on needle exchange programs are Dr. Don DesJarlais, Director of Research at the Chemical Dependency Unit of Beth Israel Medical Center; The Honorable Stuart Simms; State's Attorney for Baltimore City; and Dr. David Vlahov, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine at The Johns Hopkins University. The discussion is scheduled for October 16, 1992 at the Center for Adult Education, Room 0105 from ten a.m. to twelve noon. The Speaker Series is open to the general public.