

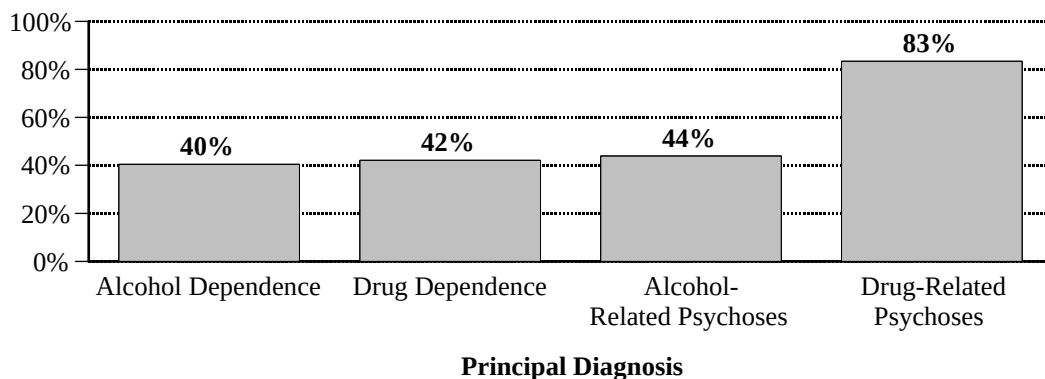
## A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

### ***Forty Percent or More of Youths Admitted to U.S. Hospitals for Alcohol or Drug Dependence Do Not Receive Treatment During Their Stay***

Forty percent or more of the youths ages 20 or younger admitted to U.S. hospitals for substance dependence or related psychoses in 2000 had no documentation of receiving alcohol or drug treatment during their stay, according to an analysis of data from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Some of these substance abuse admissions were transferred to other facilities which may have provided substance abuse treatment.\* It is also possible that patients received brief interventions during their stay. However, the authors assert that “even given these possibilities . . . there appears to be opportunity for improvement in treatment,” especially since “[o]ther adolescent patients with chronic disorders subject to bouts of acute hospitalization, for example diabetes, receive intensive disease education and interventions during their inpatient admissions.” They note that the low rates treatment may be due to “a lack of access to capable therapists with adolescent expertise” as “severe shortages of specialty-certified and trained providers are reality in most of the U.S.”

#### **Percentage of Youth Admissions to U.S. Acute Care Hospitals for Substance Abuse Who Did Not Receive Alcohol and/or Drug Treatment During Their Stay, 2000**



\*Admissions transferred to another facility: alcohol dependence (6.5%); drug dependence (7.1%); alcohol-related psychoses (12.9%); drug-related psychoses (9.1%).

NOTE: Data are from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project Kids Inpatient Database (HCUP-Kid) which provides information on pediatric discharges from short-term general and specialty hospitals. Principal diagnosis is based on ICD-9-CM principal diagnosis codes of 291, 292, 303, and 304.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Chisolm, D.J. and Kelleher, K.J., “Admission to Acute Care Hospitals for Adolescent Substance Abuse: A National Descriptive Analysis,” *Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy* 1(17), 2006. Available online at <http://www.substanceabusepolicy.com/content/1/1/17>.

#### **Historic Drug Czar Conference DVD Now Available!**

On June 17th, 2006, CESAR and the Institute for Behavior and Health sponsored a Drug Czar Conference at the University of Maryland. The one-day meeting featured seven of the eleven men who have served as heads of the White House drug abuse prevention office. An unedited 6 DVD set of this historic meeting is now available for \$95, including shipping.

Ordering information is available online at <http://www.cesar.umd.edu>.

•• 301-405-9770 (voice) •• 301-403-8342 (fax) •• CESAR@cesar.umd.edu •• [www.cesar.umd.edu](http://www.cesar.umd.edu) ••  
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