# Substance Abuse and Addiction in Thailand

Sorrasaporn Joowong, MD, MSc 19 July 2023



## Drug Situation

2019 - 2020 Yaba Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

Year	Cases	Tablets
2019	873	353,254,513
2020	791	319,638,602

2019 – 2020 Crystalline Methamphetamine – ICE Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

Year	Cases	Kilograms
2019	148	16,883
2020	197	22,489

2019 – 2020 Cannabis Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

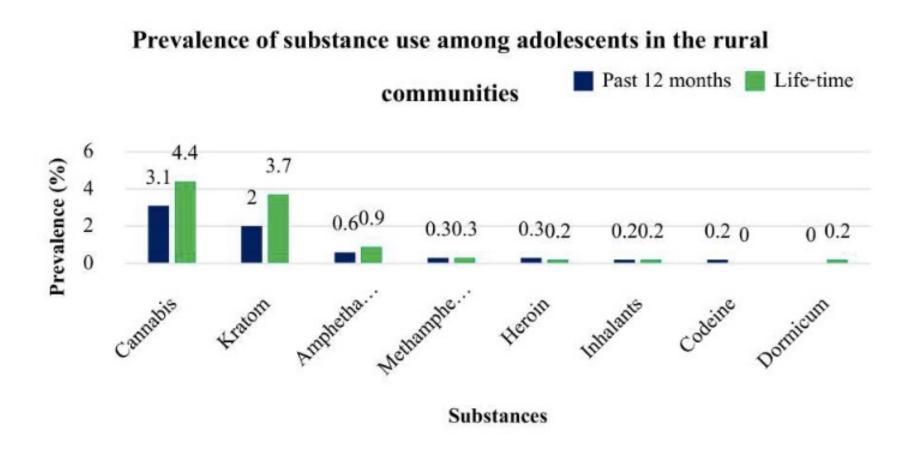
Year	Cases	Kilograms
2019	47	9,025
2020	131	31,196

#### 2019 – 2020 Heroin Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

Year	Cases	Kilograms
2019	35	530
2020	25	1,891

#### 2019 – 2020 Ketamine Arrest Cases and Seizure Amounts

Year	Cases	Kilograms
2019	31	1,359
2020	29	2,590

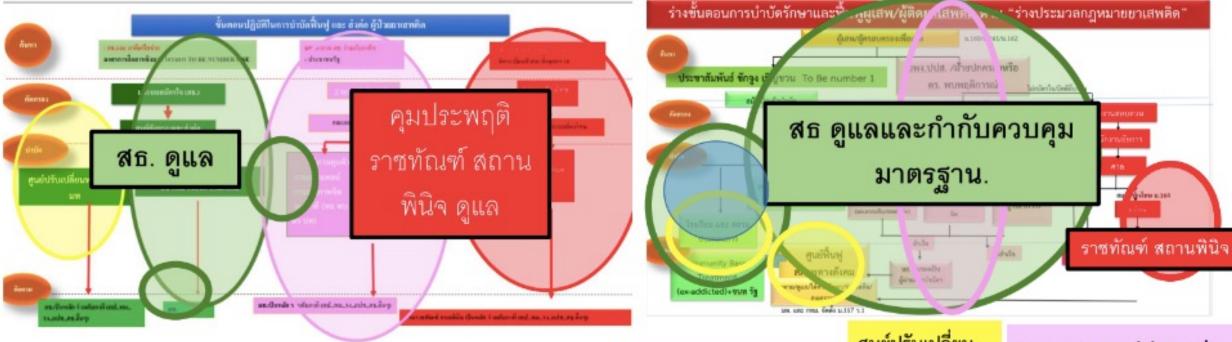




## Legislation Development

OLD LAWS (1979)

#### **THE NEW LAWS (2021)**



ศูนย์ปรับเปลี่ยน116 แห่ง บุคลากร:

Capacity: 40,000

ศวว 70 + คปป 2 แห่ง

บุคลากร :

Capacity: 26,650

ชุมชน50,000 ราย

(10,000 ชุมชน)

ศูนย์ปรับเปลี่ยน 116 แห่ง

บุคลากร:

Capacity:

40,000

ศวว 70 + คปป 2 แห่ง

บุคลากร:

Capacity :26,650

### **The Narcotics Bill 2021**

Thailand recently passed the Narcotics Bill B.E.2564 (2021), which benefits inmates convicted of drug-related offenses.

From punitive to progressive drug laws: The law is progressive in other ways, as harm reduction is specifically highlighted as an objective.

**Tackling stigmatization:** It is chance to move away from locking people up – particularly youth – in prison

### **The Narcotics Bill 2021**

- Bringing in Family/Community to Take Part in Solving Drug Abuser Problem
- Reduction of the Impact of Drug Patients who had Psychiatric Problem
- Psychosocial Clinic for the Prisoners and the Drug Offenders in the Court System
- The Outcomes of Referring Drug Abuser to the Treatment Process
- The Follow up, Aftercare and Assistance Provided to the Persons Who Completed Treatment



Drugs Treatment and Rehabilitation

### Government-provided drug treatment programmes



## Evaluating the Implementation of Drug Abuse Screening, Treatment and Rehabilitation for Abusers according to the Narcotics Bill B.E.2564 in 5 Selected Provinces in Thailand

- (1) inputs: integrated management, personal development, and selected area preparation
- (2) (process: transitional phase, active work, collaboration networks, and community-based treatment (CBTx) implementation
- (3) outputs: establishing the screening centers by selecting sub-district health promoting hospitals where there were proper staff to implement the care service care, increase in the number of patients receiving care from active screening project, but the number of volunteer was low.

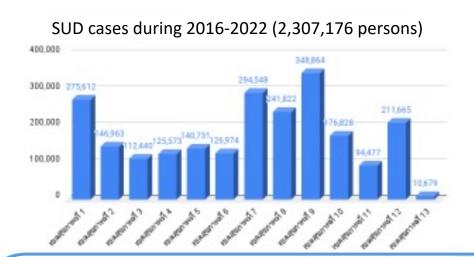
## Evaluating the Implementation of Drug Abuse Screening, Treatment and Rehabilitation for Abusers according to the Narcotics Bill B.E.2564 in 5 Selected Provinces in Thailand

The obstacle factors included limited understanding on the implementation of the new law; and the staff of sub-district health promoting hospitals did not feel convenient to refer and following up the abusers.

E-learning courses should be developed to build capacity of professional staff to work in screening and social rehabilitation centers, and also work as case managers.

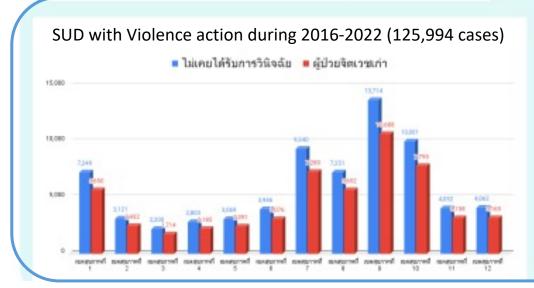
Local government organizations of each province should emphasize their roles to integrate the work between screening centers and social rehabilitation centers

#### Serious Mental Illness with Violence (SMI-V)





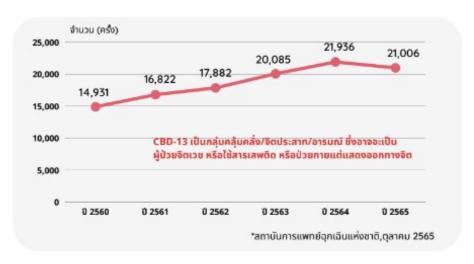






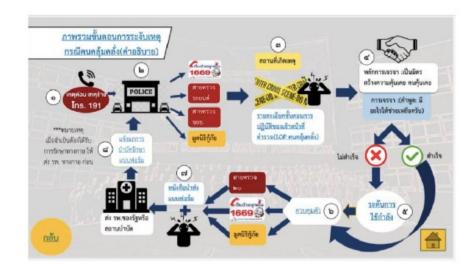
#### Serious Mental Illness with Violence (SMI-V)

### Prevalence of Ambulance service with Violence action in five years



#### Pre-Hos: Rescue + EMS

ปฏิบัติการกู้ชีพจากการฆ่าตัวตายและความรุนแรง (Suicidal/ Violence Rescue)



191 First

Or 1669



#### Serious Mental Illness with Violence (SMI-V)

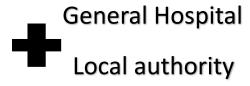


- ค้นหาครอบครัวเสี่ยง SMI-V (SMI-V Scan)
- Suicidal/Violence Rescue (191 First)
- ดูแลและส่งต่อจิตเวชฉุกเฉิน (Special EMS)

- บริการจิตเวชฉุกเฉินใน ER (Fast Track)
- บริการ Acute Care
   (หอผู้ป่วยจิตเวชและยาเสพติด)
- ส่งต่อผู้ป่วยจิตเวชแบบไร้รอยต่อ Mental Health Act

- ดูแลต่อเนื่องในชุมชน (SMI-V Case Management)
- บริการจิตเวชฟื้นฟูในชุมชน
  Community Based Rehabilitation

### Government-provided drug treatment programmes





**General Hospital** 

Psychiatric Hospital

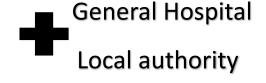
**Rehabilitation Centre** 



Detoxification or Need Medication



Psychosocial Intervention





Rehabilitation Centre



### Thank You