

Access and Control Newsletter

The Access and Control Newsletter is sent by the World Health Organization, Department of Medicines Policy and Standards, Unit Quality and Safety: Medicines.

The Newsletter provides you with the latest news from WHO on the following issues:

- access to medicines controlled under the international drug treaties
- evaluation of substances for their dependence producing properties

No 2

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“The Two Faces of Opium”



BBC World will broadcast a documentary on access to controlled medicines for pain relief and for treatment of opioid dependence in the week of 27 May 2008.

The documentary is sponsored by the UK Department for International Development (DfID) and the World Health Organization.

Showing on BBC World News on:

- Tuesday 27th May at 19:30 GMT
- Wednesday 28th May at 09:30 GMT and 12:30 GMT (Asia Pacific only)
- Thursday 29th May 15:30 GMT
- Friday 30th May 01:30 GMT (not South Asia, Middle East or Asia Pacific) and 07:30 GMT

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35th Expert Committee on Drug Dependence

The 35th Expert Committee on Drug Dependence will meet from 20 – 23 April 2009. The proposed [agenda](#) is available on the web.

WHO Guidelines on Treatment of Pain

WHO is working on a series of guidelines that cover treatment of all types of pain. The guidelines will include an update of the guidelines 'Cancer Pain Relief (2nd Ed.)' which is now over 10 years old and 'Cancer Pain Relief in Children'. The first steps have been initiated in the development of guidelines on chronic pain in adults and in children. As soon as resources allow, the guidelines on acute pain will follow. The project is part of the Access to Controlled Medications Programme and is being carried out by a number of WHO Departments in cooperation with the International Association for the Study of Pain, the European Association for Palliative Care and a number of experts from all around the world.

It is expected that the first guidelines will be published in 2010.

Manufacturers Database

WHO's Department of HIV/AIDS, Unit of AIDS Medicines and Diagnostics Services, has developed the [WHO Controlled Substances Database](#) with manufacturers of methadone, buprenorphine and morphine.

UNODC/WHO/UNAIDS Procurement Guide

For some time now, the guide ["A 'step-by-](#)

[step'algorithm for the procurement of controlled substances for drug substitution treatment"](#) has been available on the website of the UNODC Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific.

Biennial Report

In the April edition of this newsletter, we announced the Biennial Report 2006-2007 of the Access to Controlled Medicines Programme. Unfortunately, the link contained an error. [Please click here for the corrected link](#) (hoping that it is right this time).

See also our [controlled medicines website](#)

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the Controlled Substances Website by sending an email to AccessAndControl@who.int

For further information:

Willem Scholten, PharmD MPA
Manager Access to Controlled Medications Programme and
Secretary of the Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Dependence (Dependence Liability)
World Health Organization, Geneva Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 79 15540,
e-mail : scholtenw@who.int