Abstract
This study aims to assess adolescents’ drug use with a longitudinal perspective in order to identify factors interacting with drug use onset and course. Supported by the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, the study was initiated in 1999 with a follow-up in 2001 and 2002. The first objective was to measure risk factors for substance use initiation. The second objective was to analyse the co-variation of substance use with environmental, social, relational, medical and psychological factors. A total of 102 adolescents, aged 14–19 years, were recruited for the study in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. Results clearly show that substance use is not a disorder per se in adolescence, but that it is part of a multidimensional complex of problems that some adolescents may encounter: increase and decrease of substance use is paralleled by an increase or decrease in the other areas. This implies that prevention of substance use should not be focused mainly on substances but should consider an adolescent’s environment and significant life areas.

Key Words
Adolescence
Substance Use
Follow-up Study
ADAD

The full text of this article has been published in Addiction Research and Theory 2005; 13 (1): 19–33. It is also available online, free of charge: http://wfass.waikato.ac.nz/psychology/course-material/lecturenotes/2005/564/1%20Adolescent%20drug%20use.pdf

Other publications concerning this same research project:

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* This project was supported by the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, contract no 98.000661 (8108) and 03.000913.