

# Adolescent Drug Use Escalation and De-Escalation: A 3-Year Follow-up Study\*

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## 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.

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<http://wfass.waikato.ac.nz/psychology/course-material/lecturenotes/2005/564/1%20Adolescent%20drug%20use.pdf>

Other publications concerning this same research project:

1. Bolognini M, Plancherel B, Chinet L, Guisi D, Bernard M, Chenevard K, Stéphan P, Laget J, Halfon O. La consommation de substances à l'adolescence. Problèmes associés, trajectoires individuelles, accès aux soins. Lausanne: Service Universitaire de Psychiatrie de l'Enfant et de l'Adolescent; Berne: Office Fédéral de la Santé Publique, 2004.
2. Bolognini M, Plancherel B, Chinet L, Guisi D, Bernard M, Chenevard K, Stéphan P, Laget J, Halfon O. Substanzkonsum im Jugendalter. Parallel bestehende Probleme, Individuelle Entwicklungswege, Zugang zu Versorgungsstrukturen. Lausanne: Service Universitaire de Psychiatrie de l'Enfant et de l'Adolescent; Bern: Bundesamt für Gesundheit, 2004.
3. Monique Bolognini, Bernard Plancherel, Jacques Laget, Philippe Stéphan, Léonie Chinet, Mathieu Bernard, Olivier Halfon. A Multidimensional Evaluation of Adolescent Drug Abusers: Preliminary Results of a Longitudinal Study. In *Suchtforschung des BAG/Recherches de l'OFSP en matière de dépendances 1999–2001*, Band/Volume 2/3, Prévention/Prévention. BAG/OFSP/UFSP/SFOPH 2004: 38–43. ([www.bag.admin.ch](http://www.bag.admin.ch))
4. Léonie Chinet, Monique Bolognini, Bernard Plancherel, Valérie Rossier, Philippe Stéphan, Jacques Laget, Olivier Halfon. Adolescents consommateurs de substances psychoactives: quels parcours de prise en charge? In *Suchtforschung des BAG/Recherches de l'OFSP en matière de dépendances 1999–2001*, Band/Volume 2/3, Prévention/Prévention. BAG/OFSP/UFSP/SFOPH 2004: 89–92. ([www.bag.admin.ch](http://www.bag.admin.ch))

## Key Words

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