

Teenage and adolescence are one of the most vulnerable and challenging stages in an individual's life. This is due to the various present challenges affecting persons in this age group, ranging from social media overreliance, depression, peer pressure, drug and substance abuse, problems with body shaping, personal insecurities, issues dealing with self-esteem, among others (Friendly et al., 2020). These concerns affecting teenagers are of the essence and should not be overlooked as they may subject the teenagers to devastating implications that may negatively affect the community.

Teenage drug abuse

Of particular concern is the increasing trend of substance abuse among teenagers, including alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine (Salmanzadeh et al., 2020). Substance abuse among these young individuals is influenced by various factors such as excessive pressure from their peers, low self-esteem and depression, a history of childhood mistreatment, and previous history of drug use by the parents or guardians. Drugs use during teenage and adolescence carry undesired consequences to both the affected teens and their families. Firstly, alcohol consumption can lead to addiction, predispose teens to sexually transmitted diseases besides exposing them to physical injuries. This is due to the impaired judgment associated with alcohol intoxication; thus, affected teens tend to be unmindful of the harmful consequences of their actions. Furthermore, addiction reported among these teenagers has hard-hitting economic effects on the individuals and their families. In addition, there has been a closer association between mental disorders and teenage drug abuse (Mooney-Leber & Gould, 2018).

Spelling mistake: overreliance → over reliance

Spelling mistake: Salmanzadeh

Passive voice: individuals is influenced ...

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Assessment strategies during screening

Evaluation of a teenager presenting with drug abuse requires a high sense of competency and empathy by the assessor. The assessor should be observant of the general surrounding for which the evaluation is being performed. This includes observance of privacy during assessment besides assurance of confidentiality with information provided by the teenagers. This encourages openness and calmness during the conversation with the examiner entailing their struggles with drug abuse and factors that have pushed them into the menace, including family problems or history of past physical abuse (Smith & McGuinness, 2017).

Moreover, the examiner should be non-judgemental during the screening process. Instead, he should strive to dig into the developmental history of the teenager, enquiring on experiences of physical or sexual maltreatment, teenager's family history, abuse of drugs, or family violence (Winters et al., 2018). Also, the assessor should try to evaluate and discover triggers within the teenagers' immediate environment denuding their attempts to quit the abuse of drugs and substances.

During an assessment, inquiries into the adolescent's self-esteem, sexual life, emotional vulnerabilities, withdrawn mood, school attendance, and performance should also be considered. However, while corroborating the teenager's information with parents or guardians, the assessor should consider withholding information from the parents that otherwise would severe the

Passive voice: evaluation is being perform...

Spelling mistake: non-judgemental → nonjudgmental

Spelling mistake: enquiring → inquiring

Statistically detect wrong u... severe → severe

relationship between them and their children, thereby complicating the issue at hand even further.

Support options for adolescent drug abusers

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In an attempt to address teenage drug abuse and external stressors associated with it, various programs have engaged the adolescents, both affected and non-affected, in counseling and provision of rehabilitation care. In particular, Substance abuse and mental health services(SAMHSA) play a crucial role in establishing funds aiding in battling addiction and drug abuse (McCance-Katz,2018).

Spelling mistake: stressors → stressors

Spelling mistake: counselling → counseling

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References

- Friendly, M., Levine, S. V., & Hagarty, L. (2020). 5 Issues for Adolescents in a Modern Urban Context. In *The Child in the City (Vol. I)* (pp. 281-344). University of Toronto Press.
- McCance-Katz, E. F. (2018). The substance abuse and mental health services administration (SAMHSA): new directions. *Psychiatric Services*, 69(10), 1046-1048-