



# A Parent's Guide to Drugs Prevention





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## Strategic Partners



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## Introduction and Preamble:

Parents play a pivotal role in protecting children from several risks, including Narcotics abuse. Therefore, National Program for Drug Prevention «SIRAJ» aims to contribute to protecting families from the dangers of drugs, developing their skills to protect their children from abuse, and empowering them to manage and address all risk factors surrounding their children.

### Guide’s Objectives:

1. Raising parental awareness of various types of Narcotics, their Psychotropic, and indicators of drug abuse.
2. Raising parental awareness of common and false beliefs about Narcotics and psychotropic Substances.
3. Raising parental awareness of protective and risk factors surrounding children.
4. Raising parental awareness of their preventive role and how to protect children from Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances.
5. Enabling parents to detect and intervene early in cases of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substance abuse.
6. Enhancing parents’ skills to teach their children how to refuse Narcotics and Psychotropic Substance abuse.
7. Raising parental awareness of some provisions of the UAE law on combating Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances and the treatment centers available in the country.



البرنامج الوطني للوقاية من المخدرات  
National Program for Drugs Prevention

# National Program for Drugs Prevention "SIRAJ"

"SIRAJ Program" is the UAE's national drug prevention program, targeting all segments of society. This program emerges from the Supreme National Committee for Drug Prevention, which is affiliated with the Drug Control Council.

## Strategy of the National Program for Drug Prevention (SIRAJ)

### Vision:

Towards a society aware of the threats of narcotics and psychotropic substances.

### Mission:

- Empowering state institutions and community members, and establishing their capacities and skills to prevent narcotics and psychotropic substances according to a scientific methodology and institutional integration.

### Strategic Objectives:

- Increasing community awareness of the threats of narcotics and psychotropic substances.
- Developing personal skills and ethical values that enhance happiness and positivity.
- Strengthening the role of families in contributing to the prevention of narcotics.
- Participating in preparing specialized competencies in the field of narcotics prevention.

# Pillars of the National Program for Drug Prevention (SIRAJ)



## Happiness

Embracing happiness and positivity as an integral part of our daily lives helps in coping with life's various pressures and enjoying each day away from narcotics. We aim to contribute to instilling the values of happiness and positivity as a way of life in our Emirati Society by increasing awareness about different sources of happiness and the habits that contribute to it.



## Good Companionship

Choosing friends who enrich life with awareness and positive guidance that helps in the development of the person, and staying away from various problems such as drug abuse. We aim to raise awareness and enhance the skills needed to choose the right companions.



## Cohesive Family

The family plays a central role in protecting its children from the threats of drug abuse by instilling moral principles and values and establishing a strong relationship with children based on love, respect, trust, and dialogue. We aim to strengthen the family's role in preventing children from engaging in risky behaviors and drug abuse.



## Healthy Body

Maintaining physical and mental health are two important factors for individual and societal development. We aim to increase individual's awareness about the health threats associated with narcotics and enhancing the skills of making optimal choices for better health away from the threats of narcotics.

# Definitions:



## Drugs

These are natural or chemical substances that negatively affect the body's functions, and lead to a state of habituation or addiction to it. It is prohibited to trade, cultivate, manufacture or bring it unless for purposes specified by law.



## Addiction

This is the condition resulting from the continuous use of narcotics, such that the person becomes psychologically or physically dependent on it or both. The individual needs to increase dosage from time to time to always get the same effect, and becomes unable to perform its daily tasks and duties without the narcotics. Addiction is considered a chronic disease that affects the brain, requiring treatment and rehabilitation.



## Prevention

These are procedures and plans aimed at preventing individuals from engaging in the use of narcotics and psychoactive substances. Prevention includes enhancing protective factors and reducing risk factors. One of the main goals of drug prevention is:

- Reducing the number of individuals who begin using narcotics.



## Protective Factors

These are factors that contribute to protecting individuals from engaging in narcotics and psychotropic substances.



## Risk Factors

These are factors that increase the threat of engaging in narcotics and psychotropic substances.



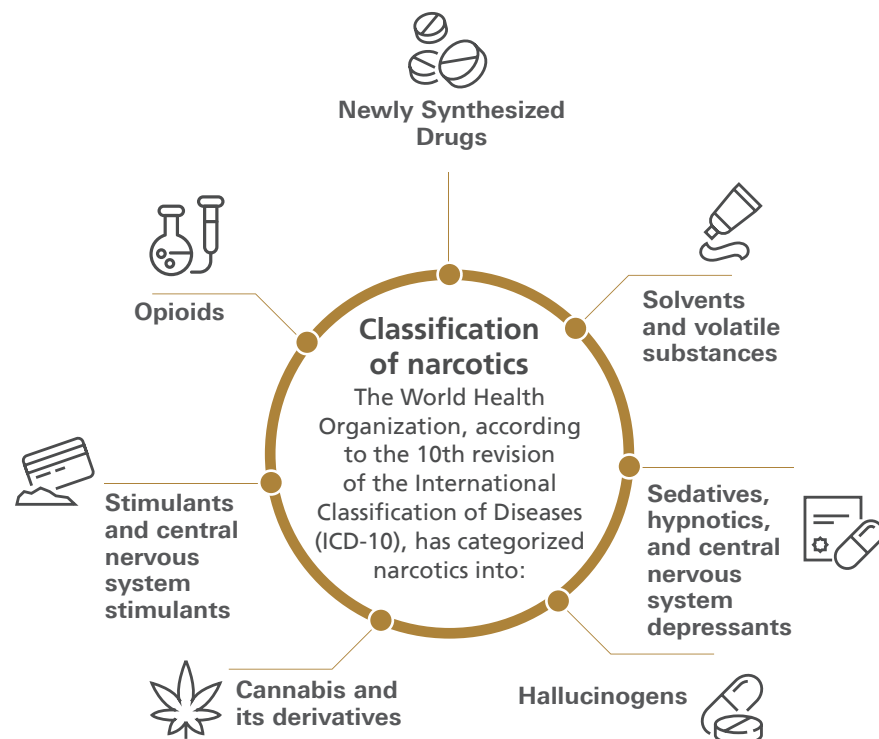
## Chapter One

# Narcotics

This chapter covers information about narcotics in general, their classification, and the effects resulting from its abuse, whether health-related, social, or economic. It then sheds light on some types of narcotics, in addition to methods of consumption and the effects resulting from abuse. Additionally, it presents and corrects common misconceptions and widespread myths within the youth communities about narcotics abuse.



# Classification of Narcotics



# General Effects of Narcotics Abuse



## Physical Health effects such as:

- Heart disorders and blood pressure disorders.
- Digestive system disorders and loss of appetite.
- Chronic headaches and physical and nervous exhaustion.
- General weakness and emaciation.
- Infection with hepatitis B and C.
- Infection with HIV/AIDS.
- Liver and kidney damage.
- Chronic pneumonia.
- Sudden death.
- Epileptic seizures and mental convulsions.



## Psychological health effects such as:

- Sleep disorders.
- Auditory, visual and sensory delusions and hallucinations.
- Schizophrenic personality disorders.
- Anxiety, depression and stress.
- Disorders of logical thinking and sensory perception.
- Poor concentration and attention.
- Introversion and isolation.
- Emotional and Feelings instability.
- Suicidal tendencies.





#### **Social effects such as:**

- Spread in crimes, including assault, murder, and theft.
- Family disintegration.
- High unemployment rates.
- Social isolation and lack of responsibility.
- Set a bad example for children and others.

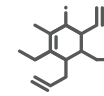


#### **Economic effects such as:**

- Poor individual productivity.
- Financial burdens related to combating narcotics, treating addiction, and its associated diseases.
- Draining of funds due to spending large sums of money to purchase narcotics.

## **Some Types of Narcotics, Methods of Abuse and Effects**

### **Heroin**



**Heroin**

It is an opioid substance that comes in the form of a white or brown powder, or a black sticky substance.



#### **Methods of Abuse**

- Injection
- Snoring
- Smoking



#### **Effects of Abuse**

- Feeling sluggish and drowsy.
- Dry mouth and cramps.
- Respiratory system disorders.
- Burning sensation in the eyes.
- Skin redness.
- Heaviness in the legs and arms.



#### **Symptoms of Overdose**

- Slowed breathing.
- Bluish lips and nails.
- Convulsions.
- Coma.
- Death.

## Cannabis



### Cannabis

It is a natural plant that contains a chemical substance with narcotic effects. The entire plant is dried to appear as dried herbs, and two natural and narcotics are extracted from cannabis:

**Hashish:** This is the dried resinous fluid taken from the sticky substance found on the leaves and stems of the cannabis plant.

**Marijuana:** This consists of the dried flowers found on the tops of the Indian cannabis plant.



#### Methods of Abuse

- Smoking
- Inhalation through vaporizers
- Chewing
- Fermentation with Tea



#### Effects of Abuse

- Inability to concentrate.
- Slowed movements.
- Impaired thinking and perception.
- Severe anxiety and depression.
- Increased heart rate.
- Risk of lung cancer.

## Cocaine



### Cocaine

(Crack, Coca)

A white crystalline powder made from leaves like coca or crack, and it comes in small white pieces similar to pebbles.



#### Methods of Abuse

- Inhalation
- Chewing coca leaves
- Intravenous injection
- Smoking



#### Effects of Abuse

- Increased heart rate
- Aggressive behavior and agitation
- Hallucinations and blurred vision
- Loss of appetite and insomnia
- Nausea
- Hypertension
- Anxiety
- Lung Cancer
- Spasms and Heart Attacks
- Stroke and Death

## Methamphetamine



**Methamphetamine**

(Ice, crystal meth, speed, glass)

It is a substance manufactured in laboratories and is in the form of glass pieces or shiny crystals and its color tends to be blue and white. It has a strong effect on the nervous system.



### Methods of Abuse

- Swallowing
- Smoking
- Injection
- Inhalation



### Effects of Abuse

- Increased Heart Rate and Body Temperature
- Anxiety, Depression, and Irritability
- Heart and Nerve Damage
- Liver and Kidney Disease
- Mood Swings and Hallucinations
- Heart attacks, stroke, and death

## Inhalants



**Inhalants**

They are volatile substance containing chemical vapors that have an effect on the body similar to the effect of narcotics and contains gases such as aerosol and Butane gas.



### Methods of Abuse

- Inhalation



### Effects of Abuse

- Brain Damage.
- Liver Failure.
- Tingling of the Extremities.
- Headache, Nausea, Hallucinations.
- Kidney Damage.
- Unconsciousness and Death.
- Heart Failure.
- Nervous System Depression.
- Respiratory Failure.
- Allergy Around the Nose and Mouth.

## SPICE (K2)



### SPICE

They are manufactured drugs that have the same effect as Cannabis or crystal, including what is called (SPICE). It is a mixture of marijuana treated with narcotic chemicals. These substances are considered highly dangerous because it is impossible to know the chemicals used to process marijuana, and they are sold as dried leaves in plastic bags or mixed with tobacco for smoking.



#### Methods of Abuse

- Smoking
- Drinking



#### Effects of Abuse

- Severe Poisoning
- Kidney Disease
- Hallucinations
- Heart Attacks
- Anxiety and Depression
- Death
- Increased Heart Rate and Blood Pressure

## Captagon or Fenethylline



### Captagon

(Fenethylline)

It is a synthetic compound derived from amphetamine and is considered a synthetic narcotic substance and contains chemical substances that have an effect on the nervous system.



#### Methods of Abuse

- Swallowing



#### Effects of Abuse

- Excessive talking and movement without reason
- Poor memory and unrealistic thinking
- Moving the jaws in opposite or circular ways.
- Uttering words unconsciously
- Hypertension and increased heart rate
- Redness and dilation of the pupil.
- Psychological disorders such as anxiety and tension
- Feeling persecuted and suspicious of others and tendencies towards aggression
- Poor appetite and vomiting
- Dry saliva and lips
- Hand tremors and cold extremities.
- Auditory hallucinations
- Insomnia and lack of sleep.

## Prescription Medications



### Prescription Medications

These are medications that can only be used with a prescription. Misuse of these medications by using them without a prescription or using them in a manner contrary to the Doctor's instructions, may lead to addiction and have serious health effects, including:

#### Painkillers

- Oxycodone
- Hydrocodone



#### Effects of Abuse

- Slow breathing
- Brain Damage
- Death

#### Depressants

- Folium
- Xanax



#### Effects of Abuse

- Blurred vision
- Nausea
- Difficulty concentrating and thinking
- Taking it with alcohol causes death

#### Stimulants

- Adderall
- Ritalin



#### Effects of Abuse

- Fever
- Irregular heartbeat
- Feeling suspicious

## Tramadol



### Tramadol

It is considered an opioid drug used to relieve pain. Misuse of tramadol may lead to addiction.



#### Methods of Abuse

- Swallowing



















#### Effects of Abuse

- Depression, stress and anxiety
- Nervous system depression
- Anger and aggression
- Respiratory depression
- Headache and tremors
- Increased suicidal thoughts and tendencies
- Lack of sleep and insomnia
- Coma and sudden death
- Excessive sweating

# Misconceptions related to Narcotics abuse

There are common misconceptions in society related to Narcotics abuse, and it is important to know them and understand the true facts as they are explained.

<b>Misconception</b>   <p>Narcotics Abuse relieves you of feelings of anxiety and tension and gives you a feeling of happiness.</p>	<b>True Facts</b>   <p>This belief is a delusion without any factual basis. It is often repeated by Addict due to psychological delusions that drugs help in overcoming difficulties, while self-affirmation and happiness are linked to the ability to take responsibility, actively participate in society and all its activities, and maintain both physical and mental health.</p>
<b>Misconception</b>   <p>Narcotics Abuse increases the ability to focus and create and improves the ability to remember.</p>	<b>True Facts</b>   <p>Narcotics Abuse has a negative impact on the nervous system and a person's ability to retrieve information and concentrate, as addiction to these substances leads to adverse and severe results in the medium and long term.</p>

<b>Misconception</b>   <p>Drug Abuse increases physical ability and contributes to work for long terms.</p>	<b>True Facts</b>   <p>Studies have shown that between 15% and 30% of workplace accidents are caused by Narcotics Abuse. Moreover, many traffic accidents are attributed to drivers under the influence of Narcotics.</p>
<b>Misconception</b>   <p>Taking sedatives is less dangerous than other Narcotics.</p>	<b>True Facts</b>   <p>Many studies have demonstrated that the misuse of sedative medications can lead to addiction, similar to other Narcotics.</p>

### Misconception



Narcotics Abusers can stop using it at any time they want.

### True Facts



Addiction depends on the person's response to the type of Narcotics they use. A person can become addicted after the first experience, which makes it difficult to stop using Narcotics at any time.

### Misconception



Narcotics do not cause permanent damage to the body.

### True Facts



Narcotics addiction may cause permanent damage to the body, affecting the brain, heart, lungs, liver, and kidneys.

### Misconception



Abusing Narcotics intermittently does not cause addiction.

### True Facts



Narcotics affect the brain even if they are used intermittently; they cause changes and a person may become addicted. Whereas, abusing Narcotics intermittently can quickly turn into frequent use and then constant use, and no one knows exactly when the chemical change in the brain that leads to addiction occurs.



### Misconception



Abusing cannabis and its products does not cause addiction.

### True Facts



Addiction goes through several stages and Narcotics abuse, even if it is intermittent, can quickly turn into frequent abuse and then into continuous abuse, eventually leading to addiction. cannabis has several risks, for example:

- Cannabis smoke contains a large percentage of chemicals and tar that cause cancer and destroy brain cells.
- Cannabis may lead to mental and behavioral disorders.
- Cannabis may lead to heart muscle weakness.

## Chapter Two

# Causes and Indicators of Narcotics Abuse

The chapter initially explores the primary causes contributing to Narcotics abuse, including individual, familial, and societal factors. Moreover, it highlights the behavioral, physiological, and environmental signs indicating Narcotics Abuser, allowing for early detection and intervention.

# Causes of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances



## Individual Causes

- Weak religious restraint and moral values
- Bad company or imitation or curiosity
- Incorrect belief in the effects of Narcotics Abuse
- Free time and feeling bored
- Weak life skills in dealing with stress in a positive way.



## Societal Causes

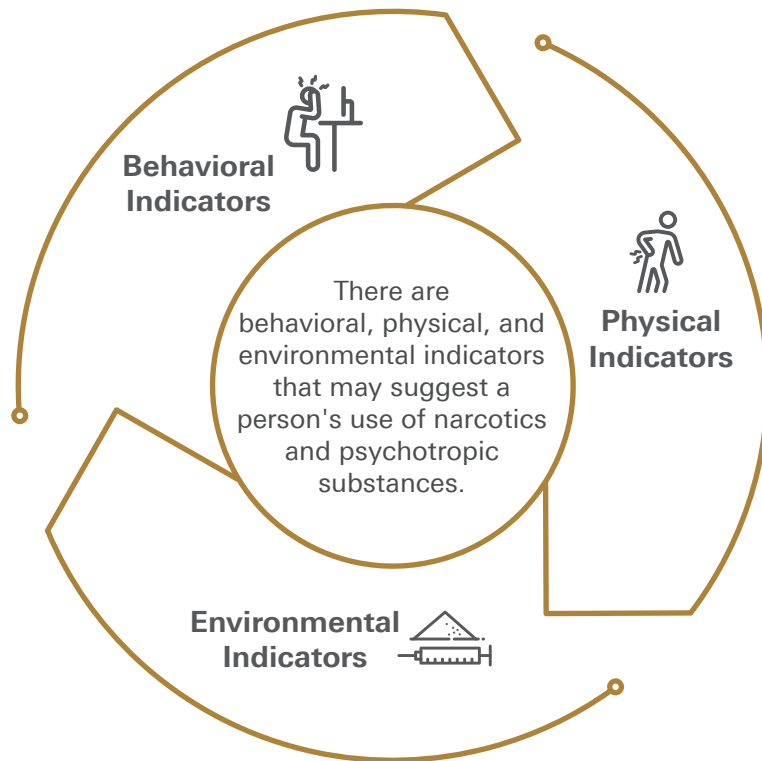
- Lack of awareness of laws and regulations related to Narcotics
- Weak values rejecting Narcotics Abuse in society
- The role of media in spreading misconceptions about Narcotics Abuse.



## Family Causes

- The existence of family issues between parents or between parents & children.
- Harshness towards children or excessive pampering
- Lack of clear and fixed controls and laws in the event of committing mistakes
- Weakness in family skills such as communication and dialogue with children

# Indicators of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances Abuse



## Behavioral Indicators

- Sudden change in friends.
- Sudden decline in academic performance.
- Lying and deceitful behavior.
- Sudden mood swings ranging from happiness to depression.
- Overreaction to moderate criticism or simple requests.
- Using excuses instead of taking actions' responsibility.
- Always making excuses for personal mistakes.
- Noticeable lack of self-discipline.
- Severe anxiety, fear, and compulsive behavior.
- Unjustified requests for money or constant complaints about insufficient funds.
- Change in sleeping patterns.
- Hostile or argumentative attitudes.
- Sudden loss of interest in family activities.
- Staying out late for long periods.
- Taking phone calls in private and using coded terms or phrases.

## Physical Indicators

- Abnormally pale skin.
- Frequent illness.
- Sudden weight loss.
- Constant fatigue and lack of energy.
- Loss of appetite and extreme thirst.
- Short-term memory loss and runny nose when not caused by allergies or other illnesses.
- Eye problems such as red eyes, dilated pupils, and erratic eye movements.
- Coordination issues like seizures, dizziness, and tremors.
- Significant changes in appetite and changes in speech patterns, such as fast speech, slow speech, or slurred speech.

## Environmental Indicators

- Presence of drug paraphernalia (needles, foil, spoons).
- Unusual odors on clothing or breath.
- Unusual packaging.
- Unfamiliar medications to the family.
- Loss of money.
- Loss of valuable items.

## Chapter Three

# Protective and Risk Factors

This chapter discusses the various factors that may contribute to protecting individuals from drug use. These factors vary depending on the age group. We have highlighted these factors in early childhood, late childhood, and adolescence, enabling parents to strengthen protective factors and be aware of risk factors to address them effectively.



# Protective and risk factors related to narcotics and psychotropic substances abuse

There are factors that can reduce the likelihood of drug and psychotropic substance abuse and are called protective factors, such as a positive relationship between parents and children. On the contrary, there are factors that can increase the risk of drug and psychotropic substance abuse and are called risk factors.

Like Peers' negative pressure. Therefore, the one of the most important goals of Prevention is to change the balance between Protective & Risk factors by giving priority to the Protective factors over the Risk factors.

## These factors are varies according to the individual's age



Early childhood  
(0-5) years





Late childhood  
(6-10) years






Adolescence  
(11-18) years

## Protection and Risk Factors in Early Childhood (0-5)

	Protection Factors	Risk Factors
 Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence and use of social skills, such as greeting others, making limited friendships, asking for help, and listening.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psychological and behavioral disorders, such as hyperactivity.</li> <li>• Shyness, delayed speech, and isolation.</li> </ul>
 Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting the development of children's social and behavioral skills.</li> <li>• Meeting the child's physical and emotional needs.</li> <li>• Listening to the child and engaging in conversation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smoking or alcohol consumption during pregnancy, which may expose the child to behavioral disorders.</li> <li>• Substance use by one or both parents.</li> <li>• Neglecting the child and not meeting their physical and emotional needs.</li> <li>• Parental separation.</li> <li>• Excessive pampering.</li> </ul>



## Protection and Risk Factors in Childhood (6-10)

	Protection Factors	Risk Factors
 Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discipline and adherence to behavioral rules and regulations.</li> <li>• Ability to form friendships and maintain good relationships.</li> <li>• Presence and use of self-control skills.</li> <li>• Starting to develop decision-making and problem-solving skills.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aggressiveness.</li> <li>• Anxiety and depression.</li> <li>• Non-compliance with school behavioral rules and regulations.</li> </ul>
 Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having household instructions to regulate the child's behavior, such as setting bedtime and TV time.</li> <li>• Talking with children and listening to their experiences.</li> <li>• Engaging in shared hobbies with children.</li> <li>• Supervising free time.</li> <li>• Knowing the children's friends and interacting with them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family issues.</li> <li>• Lack of household rules.</li> <li>• Smoking or substance use by one or both parents.</li> <li>• Child abuse (physical or psychological).</li> <li>• Excessive pampering and lack of monitoring.</li> </ul>
 Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of various community activities.</li> <li>• Availability of Sports clubs supervised by specialists.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easy to get Tobacco products.</li> <li>• Widespread misconceptions about smoking and substance use.</li> </ul>

## Protective and risk factors in the age group (11 - 18)

	Protection Factors	Risk Factors
 Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy physical growth.</li> <li>• Ability to control emotions.</li> <li>• Self-confidence.</li> <li>• Decision-making and problem-solving skills.</li> <li>• Skills to reject narcotics and psychotropic substances.</li> <li>• Skills to choose a good company.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impulsiveness and recklessness.</li> <li>• Feeling anxious and hopeless.</li> <li>• Smoking or using narcotics and psychotropic substances.</li> <li>• Low school achievement.</li> <li>• Lack of awareness of the harms of narcotics.</li> <li>• Poor Skills to cope with negative peers pressure.</li> </ul>
 Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existence of home rules that regulate children's behavior.</li> <li>• Listening to children and talking with them.</li> <li>• Encouraging and sharing children's hobbies.</li> <li>• Following up on academic achievement.</li> <li>• Knowing the group of friends.</li> <li>• Avoiding the method of violence in dealing with children.</li> <li>• Following up, monitoring children, constantly guiding them, and educating them about the risks and how to deal with thereof.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smoking or abuse by one or both parents.</li> <li>• Lack of parental supervision.</li> <li>• Weak relationships and ties between children.</li> <li>• Neglect and failure to monitor children's behavior.</li> <li>• Excessive pampering of children.</li> <li>• Poor controls on financial spending.</li> </ul>
 Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community culture that rejects abuse.</li> <li>• Providing voluntary and community work and clubs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of narcotics and psychotropic substances and ease to get thereof.</li> <li>• The negative role of the media and social media, such as spreading incorrect beliefs about narcotics and psychotropic substance abuse.</li> </ul>

### Chapter Four

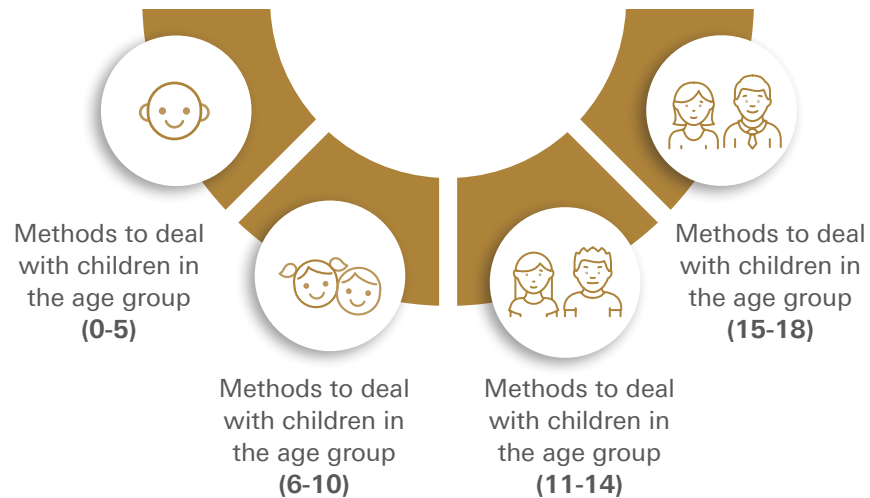
## Parents' Role in Preventing Their Children From Narcotics Abuse

Parents play the main role in protecting their children from risks and reducing the risk of drug abuse by instilling moral principles, values, and build up a strong relationship with their children based on love, respect, trust, and dialogue. The role of parents is based on the following axes: preventive role, early detection and intervention role, treatment and rehabilitation role.



# The Parents' Preventive Role

The preventive role of parents varies according to the ages of the children. There are strategies for dealing and talking with children to prevent them from narcotics and psychotropic substances.



## 1. Methods to deal with children in the age group (0-5):

1. Take advantage of situations to educate children about the dangers of narcotics, as children like to imitate adults. For example, when you see someone smoking, tell them that smoking is harmful to health, leads to diseases, and increases the chances of contracting serious diseases that can lead to death.
2. Explain and clarify to your children the severity of some of the materials around them, such as tobacco products, as forming early convictions that helps children to avoid using them in the future. For example:
  - Warn your children about the severity of cleaning products and paint materials and their effects on health.
  - Warn your children about not taking medications unless prescribed by a doctor.
  - Allow them to make some decisions that build their self-confidence (such as choosing appropriate clothing, and suggesting places to spend free time).

## 2. Methods to deal with children in the age group (6-10):

1. Always remind your children that taking narcotics is harmful to health, causes brain damage, and increases the possibility of death.
2. Praise your children for refusing negative behaviors such as refusing to sit with smokers and refusing to be bullied.
3. Discuss with your children using real stories or events they are exposed to such as: Your child tells you that a friend of him got into a car with an adult and the person was smoking a cigarette. In this case, talk to him about the importance of not riding with someone who smokes because inhaling cigarette smoke has serious health effects.
4. Emphasize to your child that you will be there at any time to help.

## 3. Methods to deal with children in the age group (11-14):

If you do not start talking to your children at an early age about the risks of narcotics and psychotropic substances, this stage is consid-



ered the appropriate and important time to guide children. Some of the methods used to guide children and talk to them are:

1. Ask children about the activities they enjoy, share their hobbies, and set their goals.
2. Help children to manage the stress resulting from physical and psychological changes at this stage by making them aware of this stage and ways to manage stress such as: exercising sport or doing volunteer and community works.
3. Helping children to choose good friends and get to know their friends, and how they interact with others.
4. Tell your children that you will always be there to pick them up from places where they have problems, and if you are busy, delegate someone else.
5. Listen to your children and ask them questions to learn about their attitudes and beliefs. For example, "In a TV show, there was a person who Abuse alcohol. Do you think alcohol is harmful to health?"
6. Teach your children how to get reliable information from websites.
7. Acting some roles of refusal skills for Narcotics to teach your children how to respond if Narcotics offered to them.

#### **4. Methods to deal with children in the age group (15-18):**

1. Emphasize to your children that Abuse Narcotics will shatter their dreams and affect their enrollment in colleges and universities as well as getting jobs.
2. Involve your children in setting family rules and guidelines and explain to them the consequences of breaking these rules.
3. Show interest in your children by spending time with each one of them separately.
4. Praise your children for the achievements they have, even if they are simple.
5. Explain to your children the legal and health implications of Abuse Narcotics and psychotropic substance.
6. Learn about the prevailing trends in society regarding Narcotics and the new types that appear from time to time and warn your children about them.





# Refusal skills that should teach to children:



## 1. Be jokey:

Sometimes joking has a strong effect in diverting attention to another merit and changing the mood. For example, you can say: (jokingly) I do not have money to spend on Narcotics and psychotropic substances, and the reply will be "it is distributed free". Then you can say: Narcotics dealers and psychotropic substances are not men who run a charity, and they will not be distributed to abusers free every time.

## 2 Be Ready to say "No" and use the following justifications:

- No, Narcotics and psychotropic substances are illegal.
- No, I do not want to end up in prison.
- No, I do not want to disappoint my family and my community.
- No, my life is better without drugs.
- No, I do not want to ruin my health.

## 3. Ignore the suggestion and change the topic:

Pretend that you did not hear and act as the topic is not important to discuss.

## 4. Avoid situations:

Avoid people those you know they are taking Narcotics and psychotropic substances. On the other hand, have negative behaviors, choose your friends wisely, and be with good people.

## 5. Leave the place:

If you find the situation is critical, leave the place by saying for example: I have to go, I have an appointment, or I have to go because my father will come.

## 6. Suggest an alternative activity:

One of the reasons why most young people abuse drugs is the lack of options so as to spend their free time, so if you suggest doing a certain activity such as going to clubs or engaging volunteer work, this will help distract the mind from abuse.

## 7. The power of numbers:

Always be with a number of good friends who have goals in life to achieve; because we stronger than I).

## What shall be done or not while talking to children

Shall not be done



Do not react with anger even if the children say things that shock you, and do not expect all your conversations with your children to be perfect, because they will not be.

Shall be done



Explain the risks to them in a language they understand and appropriate to their age.

Shall not be done



Explain to them why you do not want them to use drugs and psychotropic substances because they harm their physical and mental health and damage the brain, affecting their ability to concentrate, memory, and motor skills and may lead to poor academic achievement.

Shall be done



Do not assume that your children know how to deal with the various pressures of drug use. Instead, educate them and teach them the skills of refusal. In addition, how to deal with pressures in a healthy way so that they can make the right decisions.

Shall not be done



Do not talk without good listening.

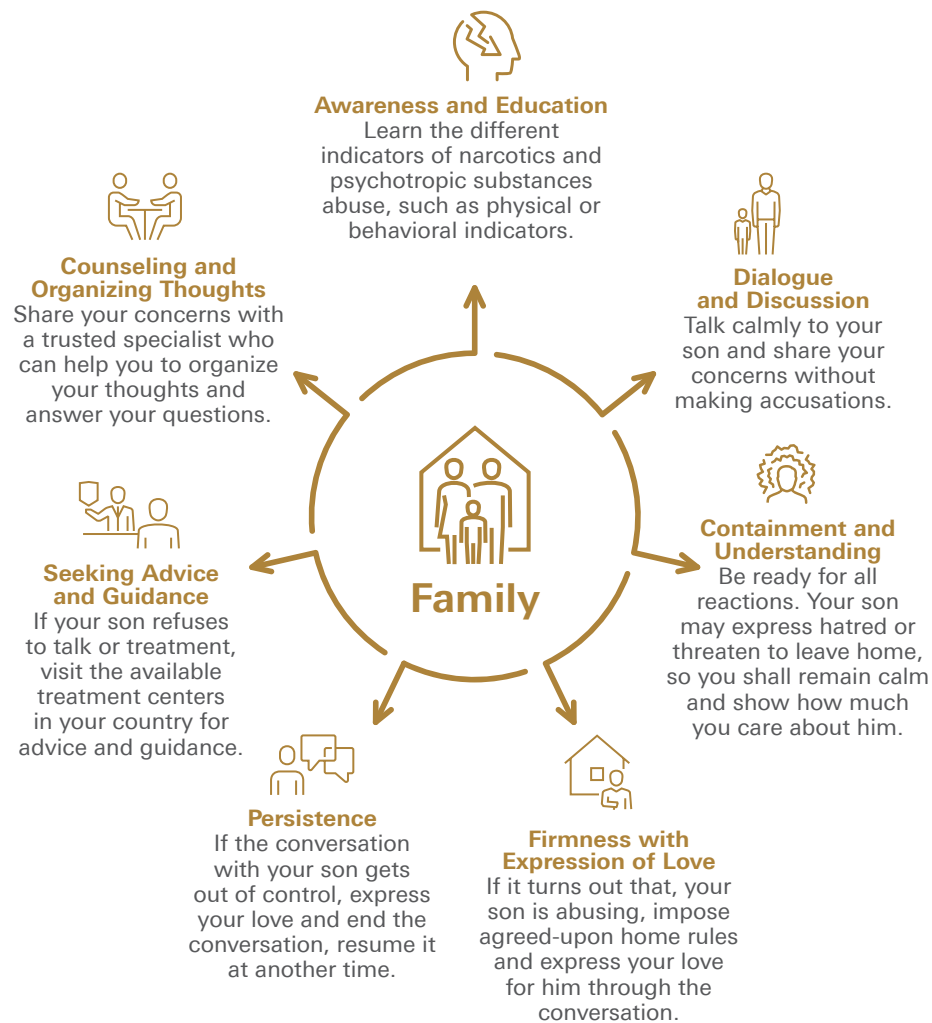
Shall be done



Always be there for your children and ready to listen to them.

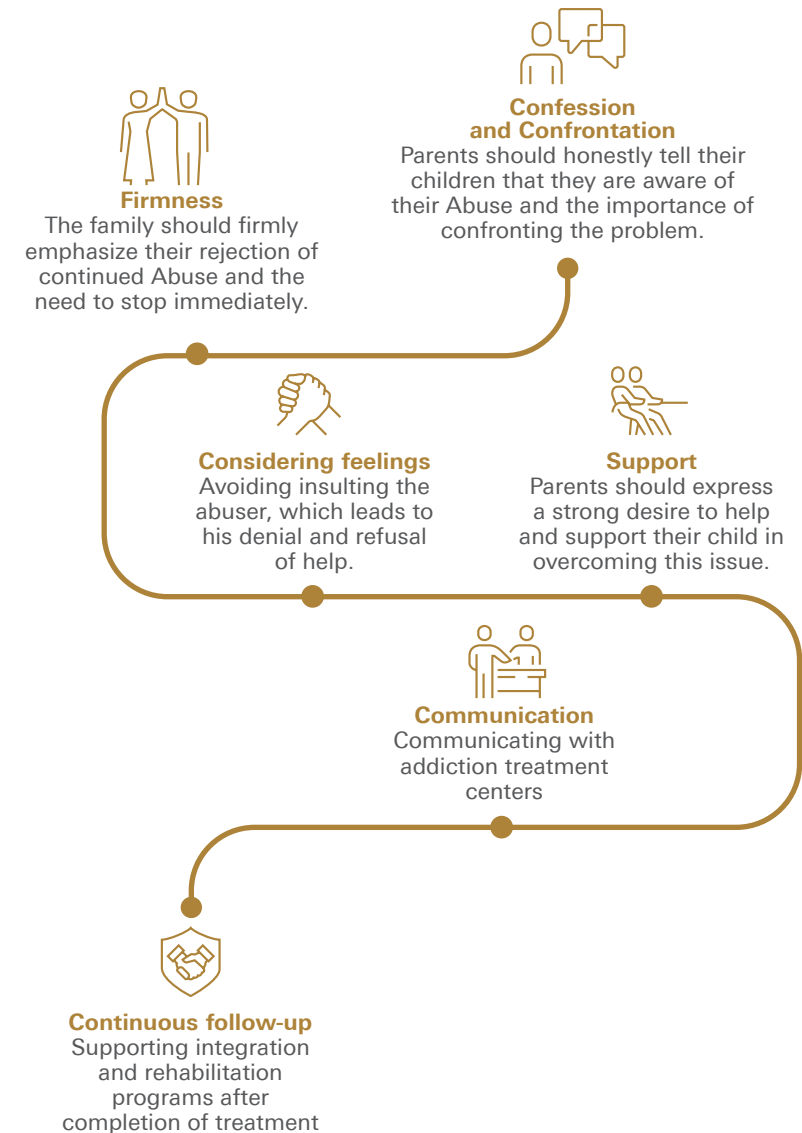
# The Parents' Role in Early Detection and Intervention

Parents should be equipped to detect and intervene early. Whereas, early intervention shall contribute to protect children from addiction and its associated health consequences. There are skills and approaches for dealing with children when there is a suspicion of Narcotics abuse, which are:



# The Parents' Role in Treatment and Rehabilitation

Parents shall support their children's treatment and assist them in all stages of treatment and rehabilitation.



Chapter Five

**Federal Law  
on Combating  
Narcotic Substances**



## Federal Law on Combating Narcotic Substances

### Article No. (43) Of Federal Law No. (14) Of 1995 on Combating Narcotic Substances and Psychotropic Substances and its amendments

"The UAE legislator has adopted a strict approach towards Narcotics dealers and promoters. It has imposed severe penalties, including the death penalty to deter them from engaging in their criminal activities. It has not been lenient with the Abuse of narcotic and psychotropic substances. As Abusing is a crime that requires punishment, but it kept hope available for those who apply for treatment and exempted them from criminal prosecution. This comes to protect society from the scourge of narcotic substances and to prevent their harm to young Adult."

## Cases in which Criminal Lawsuit cannot be brought

Emirati law encourages individuals who were involved in Narcotics abuse to seek treatment for addiction, which results in the non-filing of criminal Proceedings. This encouragement extends to the spouse and second-degree relatives of the Addict. The father, mother, spouse, brother, son, and others have the authority to protect the Addict and assist him in seeking treatment. The Addict may be incapacitated and unable to make the decision to seek treatment by himself, requiring his spouse or relatives to take his hand towards a healthy and Narcotics -free life.

Article (43) stipulates that criminal proceedings shall not be brought against abusers if he applies for treatment on his own voluntary, through his spouse, or through a relative up to the second degree. The application for treatment shall be submitted to the addiction treatment unit, the Public Prosecution, or the police. The user must hand over any narcotic substances or psychotropic substances in his possession, and he must also adhere to the treatment plan.



Chapter Six

## **Treatment and Rehabilitation Services in the UAE**

# Treatment and Rehabilitation Services

Given the importance the state places on treating Narcotics abusers, it has established specialized treatment centers across the country. These centers aim to provide necessary interventions such as treatment and rehabilitation to ensure the recovery of the abuser and its successful reintegration into society as a productive and successful individual, while guaranteeing privacy and confidentiality.

**Dear sibling, Drug abuser,  
Please be informed that:**

**All centers in the United Arab Emirates  
provide treatment services with full  
confidentiality.**

## **Abu Dhabi**

**Khalifa Hospital**

BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE PAVILION

028196900

**National Rehabilitation Center**

8002252

## **Dubai**

**Erada Center for Treatment and Rehabilitation**

042399992

**Al Amal Hospital**

045192100

## **Sharjah**

**Private Rehabilitation Center**

065119000



البرنامج الوطني للوقاية من المخدرات  
National Program for Drugs Prevention

**Mukafih Service**

 **80044**



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