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Illicit drug

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:Glossary ItemSynonymous names:Illegal drugMETEOR identifier:413485

Registration status: Community Services (retired), Standard 06/02/2012

Health, Standard 28/04/2016

Definition: An illicit drug is defined as any drug which is illegal to possess or use or any legal

drug used in an illegal manner, for example:

a drug obtained on prescription but given or sold to another person to use
glue or petrol which is sold legally, but is used in a manner that is not

intended, such as inhaling fumes

• stolen pharmaceuticals sold on the black market (e.g. Pethidine)

Collection and usage attributes

Comments: The 2007 National Drug Strategy Household Survey report defines illicit drugs as

illegal drugs (such as marijuana/cannabis), prescription or over-the-counter pharmaceuticals (such as analgesics/pain-killers or tranquillisers/sleeping pills) used for illicit purposes, and other substances used inappropriately (such as

naturally occurring hallucinogens and inhalants).

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: AlHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2008. 2007 National Drug

Strategy Household Survey: first results. Drug Statistics Series number 20.Cat. no.

PHE 98. Canberra: AlHW.

Relational attributes

Metadata items which use this glossary item:

Person—substance used illicitly indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately

described code N

Community Services (retired), Standard 06/02/2012

Health, Superseded 28/04/2016

Prisoner health NBEDS

Health, Standard 28/04/2016

Prisoner health NBEDS 2018

Health, Qualified 06/07/2023

Prisoner health NBEDS 2022

Health, Qualified 06/07/2023