



## SOME FACTORS AFFECTING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SOCIAL WORK ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORTING DRUG ADDICTS CONCENTRATED IN NO. II DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT FACILITY IN HOA BINH PROVINCE, VIETNAM

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### ABSTRACT

*The article deals with the current situation of factors affecting the effectiveness of social work activities in supporting drug addicts at the No. II Hoa Binh drug rehabilitation facility. To achieve this goal, we conducted a random survey of 110 students undergoing detoxification at the center. Factors such as the characteristics of drug addicts; responsiveness of drug addiction treatment establishments; performance quality of social workers; Care and support of drug addicts' families. From there, propose measures to improve the effectiveness of social work activities in supporting drug addicts concentrated at detoxification establishments.*

### KEYWORDS

*drugs, drug addiction treatment, social work.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Drug addiction has become a major threat to mankind. Consequences caused by drug crimes are very serious to the economic, cultural, social, security and defense fields, damaging the health of a part of the people, and at the same time a cause of economic development. crime, threatening the stability, prosperity and permanence of each country and people. The harmful effects and consequences of drugs are still happening day by day, hour by hour, affecting and affecting all communities, not only in each locality but also in the whole world.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the problem of drug addiction and drug abuse is becoming more and more complicated, with the number of people using amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), stimulants and stimulants. hallucinogens are on the rise, especially in Asian countries. In Vietnam, according to statistics as of December 15, 2019, the whole country has 246,500 addicts with management records, of which nearly 80% have used ATS and new psychotropic substances. In particular, in some localities, the rate of addicts using ATS and psychotropic substances is very high (Dong Nai 87%, Da Nang 85%, Tra Vinh 90.7%). In addition to traditional drugs, ATS, other drugs such as marijuana, "American grass" ... appear more and more. According to experts, the actual number of people addicted to drugs and illegally using drugs is much higher because the authorities have not been able to make statistics.

In Hoa Binh province, according to statistics by the end of 2019, the whole province has 1,966 drug addicts with management records, an increase of 13 people compared to 2018. Of which, the number of addicts present in the community is 1,511 people. living in 148/210 communes, wards and townships, an increase of 5 communes compared to 2018. The number of people addicted to synthetic drugs continues to increase, the province has 439 people, an increase of 121 people compared to 2018. mainly among young people. In addition, the number of suspected addicts (who have been discovered to use drugs but have not yet established records) is about 400 people.

Implementing the Project on the renovation of drug addiction treatment under Decision 2596/QĐ-TTg dated December 27, 2013 of the Prime Minister, Hoa Binh province has synchronously implemented many forms of treatment measures over the past time. , drug addiction treatment such as: detoxification at home, detoxification in the community, detoxification at detoxification establishments, treatment of addiction to opiates with methadone substitutes. Particularly in 2019, at 02 public drug detoxification establishments under the management of the Department of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs, 750 turns of drug addicts were organized; 11 Treatment establishments and 09 drug distribution points of the province organized the treatment of addiction to opiates with alternative drugs for 745 people; communes, wards and townships in the province organize detoxification in the community for 95 people. Thus, the total number of people receiving treatment and detoxification in 2019 of Hoa Binh province is 1,590 people, reaching 81% of the total number of drug addicts with management records.

Hoa Binh is one of the localities that has performed relatively effectively detoxification activities for drug addicts at centers, detoxification facilities as well as detoxification support activities in the community. Support for drug addicts still faces many challenges. Therefore, to achieve the quality and effectiveness of detoxification support activities, especially in detoxification centers and facilities, in addition to having to apply medical treatment regimens suitable to each patient. For the target group, it is also necessary to perform well psychological and social support activities such as counseling, education, vocational training, occupational therapy organization, group activities, and community reintegration support. ..v.. that is also the content of the task of social work in supporting

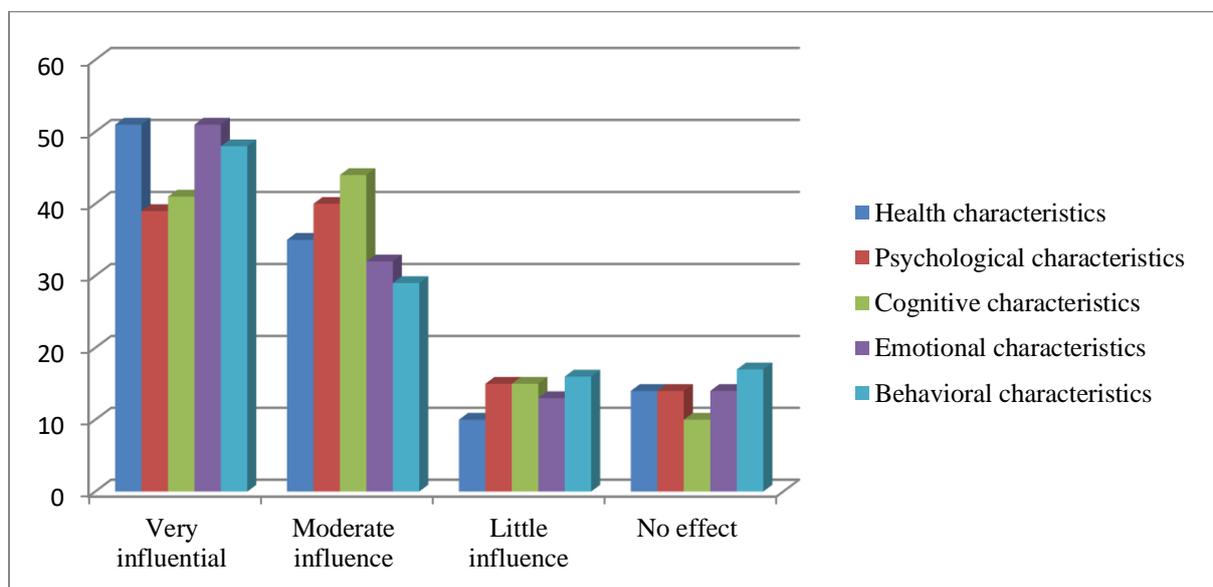
people participating in drug addiction treatment. However, social work activities in supporting drug addicts still face many challenges. To clarify the status of social work activities in detoxification at the facility, the article focuses on analyzing and evaluating specific activities and proposing measures to improve the quality of activities. of Social Work in supporting drug addicts at Drug Detoxification Facility No. II, Hoa Binh province.

## 2. Research results

### 2.1. Characteristics of drug addicts

The results of the survey of trainees on influencing factors related to the characteristics of drug addicts showed that:

**Figure 1. Influencing factors related to characteristics of drug addicts**



(Source: Survey data of the topic)

Regarding health characteristics, 51/110 students rated very influentially, accounting for 46%, 35/110 students rated moderate influence, accounting for 32%, and 10/110 students rated low impact, accounting for 9% and 13/110 students rated as not affected, accounting for 14%.

Results of health screening in 2020 at the facility show that 95% of drug addicts who are admitted to detoxification are in poor health (unstable blood pressure, unstable walking, reflexes) slowness, pale face, lack of concentration...), of which over 40% suffer from one or more dangerous opportunistic infections such as Hepatitis B, C, Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS. Some students at the Facility have weak health and are unable to participate in activities with everyone. "I want to attend classes, have group activities, and play soccer with my friends, but unfortunately I don't have the health to do this" (In-depth interview with a male student infected with HIV who has transferred stage of AIDS at the Facility).

Regarding psychological characteristics, 39/110 students rated very influentially, accounting for 35%, 40/110 students rated moderate influence, accounting for 36%, 15/110 students rated low impact. Accounted for 16% and 14/110 students rated as unaffected, accounting for 13%. Results of in-depth interviews with male students 02 male students who had gone to rehab many times: "My life is

no longer worth it, I went to rehab twice but then relapsed. No matter how hard you try, the result is the same"; "Many times I thought about death, I intentionally overdosed but somehow I couldn't die. I live and see my family sad, people often quarrel because of me, and everything is blamed on me".

Cognitive characteristics: 41/110 students rated very influential, accounting for 37%, 44/110 students rated moderate influence, accounting for 40%, 15/110 students rated low impact. accounted for 14% and 10/110 students rated it as unaffected, accounting for 9%.

Many addicts seek drugs but do not understand clearly about drugs and their harm to themselves: "I see people say that using drugs is very enjoyable, it makes me fly and I feel much more confident. I tried it out of curiosity. The first time I used it, I was shocked I thought I would never use it again. But...and when did I become addicted" (In-depth interview with an 18-year-old male practitioner at the Campus). Some practitioners, while out in society, commit acts of illegal drug use but do not realize that it is a drug: "I work as a long-distance driver, and I see people using opium to stay awake. so I also imitated using it, but I didn't know it was a drug" (In-depth interview with a 25-year-old male practitioner at the grassroots level).

On emotional characteristics, 51/110 students rated very influential, accounting for 46%, 32/110 students rated moderate influence, accounting for 29%, 13/110 students rated low influence, accounting for 12% and had 14/110 students rated it as not affected, accounting for 13%. Most addicts suffer from a lack of love from family members, especially families with disabilities such as parents divorced; divorced spouses; families with extremely difficult economic circumstances: "Since learning that I am addicted to drugs, my wife took the child away from home, I don't know where, and everyone in the family has been alienated..." (a 28-year-old practitioner) talk). When asked "Who is there to support you when you are in trouble and need help?" 80% of the students answered "Mother"; other family members often only scold and curse because they think that because there is a drug addict in the family, it has affected the family's reputation and made the family ugly.

Behavioral characteristics: 48/110 students rated very influential, accounting for 44%, 29/110 students rated moderate influence, accounting for 26%, 16/110 students rated low impact, accounting for 14% and 17/110 students rated it as unaffected, accounting for 16%. Through the practice of student management at the Facility, it has been shown that there are cases where a student has made remarkable progress and is included in the list of proposals to reduce the time of execution of the decision on compulsory detoxification at the establishment, but until Near the date of returning to the community, there were acts of violation of the rules and regulations such as quarreling, disunity, even running away. "While being taken out for a health check at the Medical Room, I put my hand in the locker and took the blood pressure monitor, hidden it in my shirt and brought it back to my room"; "When I went to the canteen to receive my things, the staff didn't notice and there was a truck coming out, so I climbed into the trunk to get out. When I went out, I didn't dare to come back in because I was afraid of being disciplined" (In-depth interview with 02 male students who violated the rules and regulations of the establishment).

## 2.2. Responsive capacity of drug addiction treatment facilities

Conditions of facilities, equipment, and scale of the Establishment: In addition to the conditions of facilities and equipment as mentioned in Section 2.1.3 above, in 2020 Drug addiction treatment establishments No. II of Hoa Binh province has been invested by the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs and the People's Committee of Hoa Binh province to build and upgrade several important work items such as New construction, new construction of the medical house. addiction treatment 2-story house with a total usable area of more than 700m<sup>2</sup>; building a new

voluntary detoxification house with 2 floors, total usable area of about 1,100m<sup>2</sup>; building a new student canteen area 150m<sup>2</sup>, and staff's house more than 300m<sup>2</sup>; 01 mini football field; Repairing to the 2nd floor of two mandatory trainee managers, the total investment cost according to the decision approving the estimate is 29 billion VND. With such an investment, it is expected that after the completion of the project (August 2021), Drug Detoxification Facility No. II is capable of receiving and detoxicating from 400-450 turns of people into detoxification/year.

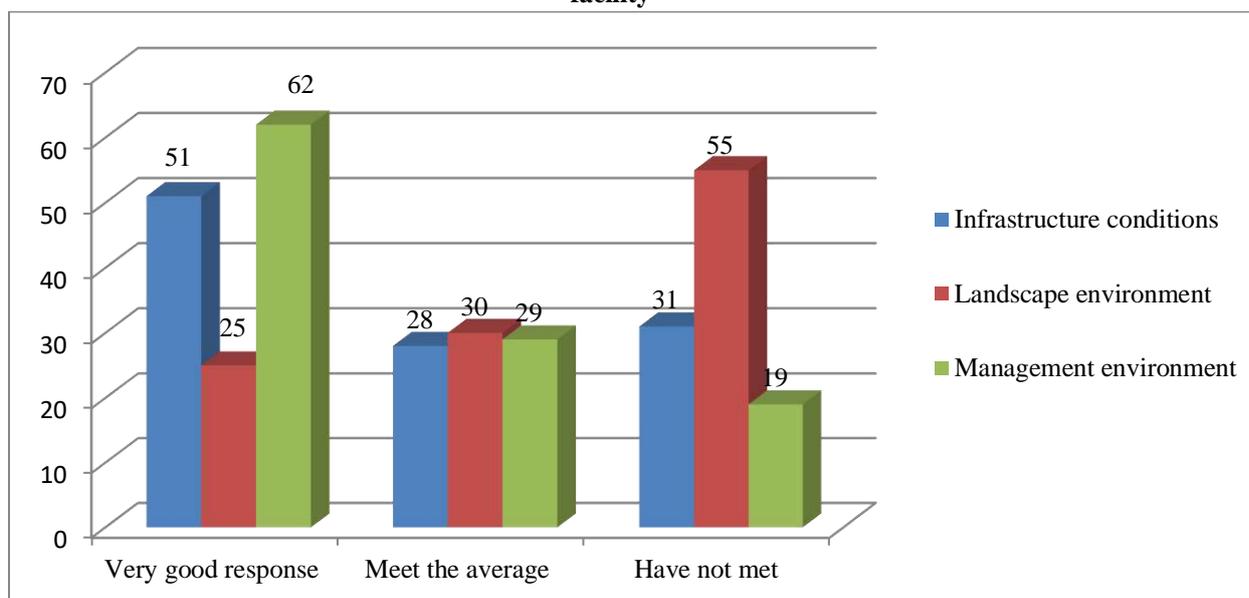
Through the survey results of 110 detoxification students at the facility on the factor of capacity to meet the needs of detoxification, specific results: 51/110 students assessed the level of satisfaction of detoxification needs well, accounting for 46%; 28/100 students rated the average level, accounting for 26%; 31 students rated the level as not meeting the needs, reaching 28%. When asked "How do you rate the facilities for detoxification and treatment at the facility?", 8 out of 10 respondents said that there is still a lack of space and equipment. equipment for sports and entertainment activities.

Regarding the detoxification environment: Along with the investment in upgrading the facilities and equipment to serve the detoxification work, the No. II drug addiction treatment facility in Hoa Binh province also always focuses on building green, clean and beautiful landscape; paying special attention to innovating management style, educating students, building a friendly detoxification environment, creating favorable conditions for every student to have the opportunity to actively participate in the activities of the law. detoxification process, minimizing negative behaviors in behavior between staff and students and between practitioners. The survey results showed:

About environment and landscape: 25/110 students assessed that they met the needs very well, accounting for 23%; 30/110 students rated the response as normal, accounting for 27%; 55/110 students rated the level of unsatisfactory, accounting for 50%.

Regarding the management and student education environment: 62/110 students assessed that they met (satisfaction) well the needs, accounting for 56%; 29/110 students rated the response as normal, accounting for 26%; 19/110 students rated the level as unsatisfactory, accounting for 18%.

**Figure 2. Assessment of the trainees on the capacity factor of the No. II drug rehabilitation facility**



(Source: Survey data of the topic)

### 2.3. Quality of work of social workers

The total number of officials and employees of Drug Detoxication Facility No. II is 49 people, of which: 01 person with a Master's degree; University 34 people; Intermediate and Technical workers 14 people. According to the training profession, there are 05 people with Bachelor's degree in Social Work; 04 people majoring in Social Management, Sociology and Psychology; 05 people majoring in Law; the rest belongs to the Health, Finance and other sectors.

Considering the requirements of the mission the staff of the establishment has professional qualifications suitable for the job position, experience and enthusiasm in performing the assigned tasks. However, because "Renovation of drug addiction" is a new project that has not been implemented in a long time, the specialized work of the unit must be constantly on duty 24/24 hours/day, so participation in training programs on new professional knowledge, especially new treatment regimens and specialized skills in social work, has certain limitations. To overcome the above difficulties, in the two years 2019 and 2020, the unit's leaders actively researched a sample set of 13 topics on drug addiction reform by the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs. Compiled by the society to directly re-train the staff of the establishment, the results have created certain positive changes in awareness and performance of professional tasks, improved quality and efficiency. the results of the rehabilitation work according to the objectives set by the Government.

The survey results from students undergoing drug treatment and rehabilitation at the facility when assessing the quality of social workers' performance are as follows:

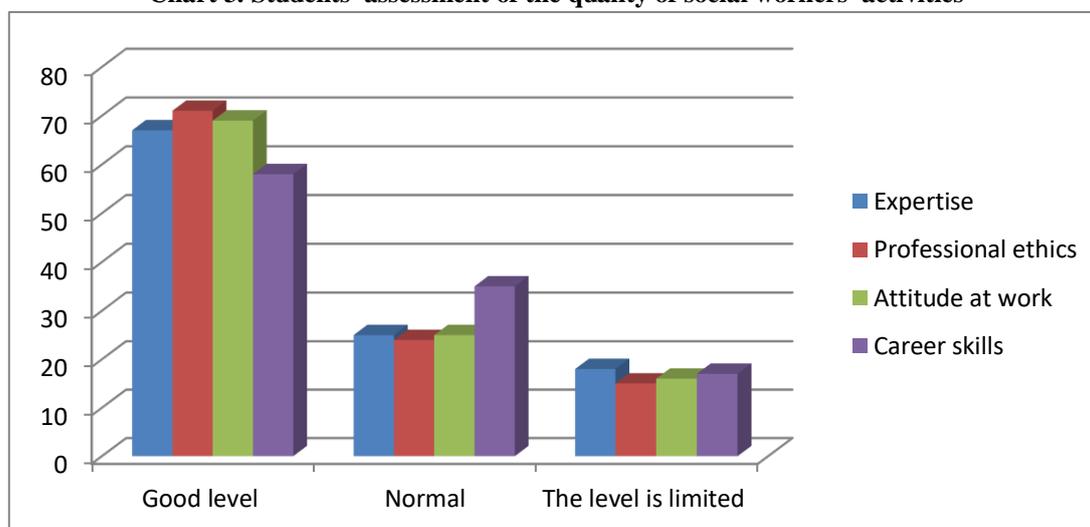
- Regarding professional knowledge: 67/110 students rated Good, reaching 61%; 25/110 students rated at Medium level, reaching 23%; 18/110 students rated the level as still limited, reaching 16%.

- Regarding professional ethics: There are 71/110 students rated at Good level, reaching 65%; 24 out of 100 students rated Average, reaching 22%; 15 students rated the level as still limited, reaching 13%.

- Attitude when working: There are 69/110 students rated at Good level, reaching 63%; 25 out of 100 students rated Average, reaching 22%; 16 students rated the level as still limited, reaching 15%.

- Regarding professional skills: 58/110 students rated Good, reaching 53%; 35 out of 100 students rated it as Medium, reaching 32%; 17 students rated the level as still limited, reaching 15%.

**Chart 3. Students' assessment of the quality of social workers' activities**



(Source: Survey data of the topic)

Regarding the perception of staff, by interviewing 10 staff (02 medical staff, 02 administrative staff, 02 trainee managers, 04 counselors) with the question: "Mr. What are the positive and negative signs of people entering drug rehabilitation at the facility?", results: 10 out of 10 respondents said that all participants were in poor health and showed signs of confusion, psychological, emotional and behavioral disorders; 7/10 staff did not detect positive signs from addicts, only 03/10 people (all counselors) indicated that through communication, it can be seen that some practitioners have a desire to do so. Want to successfully detox to give up drugs. Another question was also asked the above 10 officials: "What are the basic contents of reforming drug addiction treatment in the current period?", the results showed: there was 1 person. answer do not know; 03 respondents, in general, are diversifying forms and methods of detoxification, treating addicts as sick people; 06 respondents were relatively complete and pointed out the supporting role of the staff to the trainees in the process of drug addiction treatment at the facility.

#### **2.4. Care and support of drug addicts' families**

According to the Regulation on inter-sectoral coordination between the Department of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs, the People's Court of the province and the Police of Hoa Binh province, Drug Detoxication Facility No. II is responsible for receiving treatment for drug addicts. compulsory detoxification in 5/10 districts and cities in the province, including Lac Son district, Lac Thuy district, Tan Lac district, Yen Thuy district and Mai Chau district. These are 05 districts with low socio-economic conditions compared to the general level of the province, drug addicts themselves as well as their families have low awareness levels, very difficult economic conditions. The family's attention to the person going to rehab is also limited.

The survey results show that: 45/110 detoxers reported that they often receive the attention of their families (visiting at least once a month); 37/110 people sometimes have relatives to visit (01 times/quarter); 28/110 people did not have relatives to visit during the detoxification period; Even for those who often have family visits, it is mainly just a casual visit, the supply (adding money to the canteen or extra food) is very rare. "I don't need any extra supplies from my family, just come and visit", "Normally it's fine, but when I see my friends with relatives visiting but I don't have them, I feel sad, I hate it. visiting days", "It's not that sad when friends live together forever, but sometimes having family come to see and encourage you will be happier because you are still cared for, moreover having a few more supplies family income is also good"... This is what some practitioners shared when asked about their family's concern during their treatment.

### 3. CONCLUSION

Determining the contents of social work activities as well as the factors affecting the activities of social work in supporting drug addicts concentrated in detoxification establishments is considered the key to the success of social work. Orienting research, helping to assess the current situation and propose measures to improve the performance of social work in supporting drug addicts concentrated in drug rehabilitation establishments during the period. The current.

Through the research results, to improve the effectiveness of social work activities in supporting drug addicts in detoxification establishments, it is first necessary to do well the propaganda and education to raise the awareness of drug addicts. the team of leaders, staff directly engaged in social work as well as detoxification practitioners at the grassroots level on the role of the social work profession, social work activities to create consensus, unify from the leadership, direction, organization and implementation and the active participation of the parties. In addition, it is necessary to issue a professional framework, a professional framework must be attached to each stage of the detoxification process, to ensure that people entering detoxification receive the best support from the stage of receiving and classifying; organize drug addiction treatment; teaching culture, vocational training, organizing occupational therapy; propaganda, education, counseling to restore personality behavior and reintegrate into the community. Before, during and after each phase of detoxification, all changes and changes of the detoxifier are closely monitored and evaluated with specific data and data as a basis for assessment and experience. for each case.

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