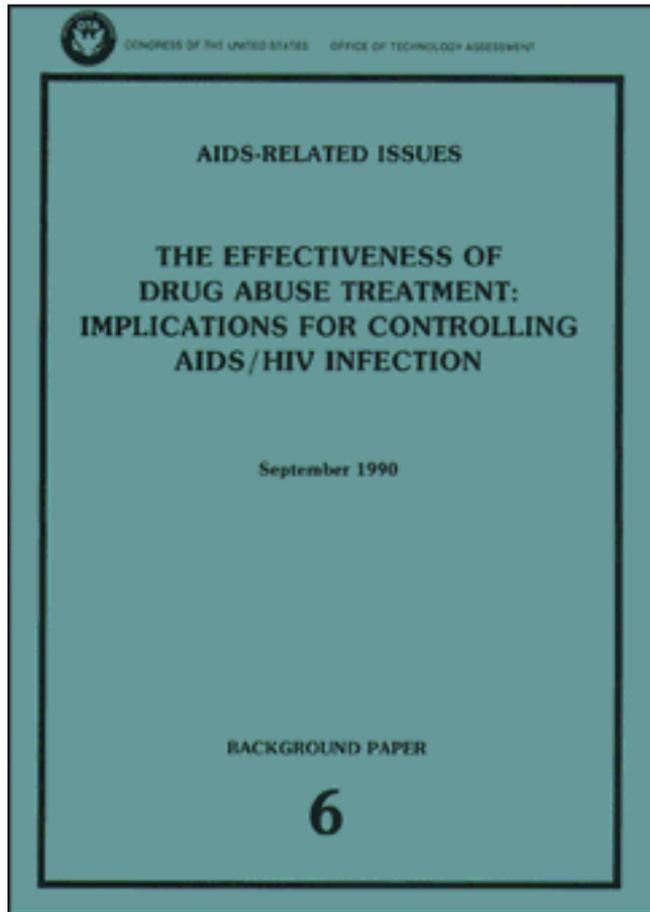


*The Effectiveness of Drug Abuse Treatment:
Implications for Controlling AIDS/HIV
Infection*

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The Effectiveness of Drug Abuse Treatment: Implications for Controlling AIDS/HIV Infection

Jane E. Sisk, *Project Director*

Evridiki J. Hatziandreu, *Study Director*

Rita Hughes, *Research Assistant*

Other Contributing Staff

Sharon Hamilton, *Research Assistant*
Virginia (Cwalina), *Office Administrator*
Eileen Murphy, *P.C. Specialist*
Carolyn Martin, *Word Processor Specialist*
Angela Dantzler, *Secretary*

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A Background Paper in OTA's
Series on AIDS-Related Issues

The views expressed in this Background Paper do not necessarily represent those of the Technology Assessment Board, the Technology Assessment Advisory Council or their individual members.

This paper was prepared for desk-top publishing by Carolyn Martin and Eileen Murphy.

PREFACE

The impact of AIDS and other disease associated with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) on the Nation's health and health care resources is continuing. Congress has responded to the AIDS crisis with large increases in Federal funds for basic and applied research and education and has begun to grapple with the difficult issues involved in financing AIDS-related health care. AIDS is on the agenda of a large number of congressional committees and raises numerous important issues that require congressional attention and decisions. These developments led to a recommendation, in May 1987, by OTA's Technology Assessment Board, with encouragement from the Legislative Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, that OTA provide assistance on AIDS-related issues to Congress on a sustained basis. That request led to OTA's series of studies on AIDS-related issues. This Background Paper is the sixth in that series. In 1989, the Board extended the OTA project on AIDS for another 2 years.

This Background Paper examines the evidence of the effectiveness of drug abuse treatment; it also evaluates the role that such treatment might play in reducing the spread of HIV. Because most intravenous drug users are not in treatment, the paper also examines other approaches to HIV prevention among this high-risk group.

The preceding papers in this series were *Do Insects Transmit AIDS?* (September 1987); *AIDS and Health Insurance - An OTA Survey* (February 1988); *How Effective Is AIDS Education* (June 1988); *The Impact of AIDS on the Kaiser Permanence Medical Care Program (Northern California Region)* (July 1988); and *How Has Federal Research on AIDS/HIV Disease Contributed to Other Fields?* (April 1990) (see inside back cover for information on how to order these publications). Previous OTA reports addressing AIDS-related issues include: 1) *Blood Policy and Technology* (January 1985), 2) *Review of the Public Health Service's Response to AIDS* (Technical Memorandum, February 1985), 3) *The Costs of AIDS and Other HIV Infections: Review of the Estimates* (Staff Paper, May 1987), and 4) *Medical Testing and Health Insurance* (August 1988).

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OHN H. GIBBONS

~Director