

Networking for promoting addiction management

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The term network was effectively used in the late 90th by Prof. Marc Galanter of New York University to formulate guidelines for office based management identified the Network Therapy. Ever since the term started to bear more wider conceptual connotation indicating the collaboration of different modalities of addiction service facilities within a particular community or health region, e.g. in Canada.

More recently, international organizations like the ISAM adopted the concept of networking as one of its objectives to promote for the knowledge, education and training of addiction treatment.

The UNODC is currently implementing the Treatnet, the International Network of Drug Dependence Treatment and Rehabilitation Resource Centres. Treatnet aims to provide diversified, effective and quality drug dependence treatment and rehabilitation services, including HIV/AIDS prevention and care. Its main strategy is to promote dialogue and the sharing of experience amongst its members and with its partners.

Egypt, represented by the General Secretariat of Mental Health "GSMH", is taking an active part in using the UNODC Treatnet modules to train the trainers.

The policy of the Addiction Department of the GSMH is to develop the network by specializing its addiction service facilities allover Egypt in order to diversify the services within the network.