

Research Article

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Perception of Social Studies Students on Substance Abuse in North-West, Nigeria

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Abstract

Background/purpose. This study investigated the perception of social studies students on substance abuse in North-West Nigeria, focusing specifically on cannabis and sedative drug abuse.

Materials/methods. The research employed a descriptive survey method with a sample of 400 undergraduate Social Studies students from Northwestern campuses, selected through purposive and proportionate sampling techniques. Two research questions and hypotheses guided the study, utilizing a validated questionnaire (APUSOSAS) with a reliability index of 0.89. The findings revealed that students demonstrated high awareness of cannabis-related risks, particularly recognizing its severe mental health implications and rapid onset effects. Regarding sedative drug abuse, students showed significant concern, emphasizing the need for accessible support services and counseling.

Results. Statistical analysis using t-tests rejected both null hypotheses, indicating significant differences in students' attitudes towards cannabis ($t=162.26$, $p<0.000$) and perceptions of sedative drug abuse ($t=127.91$, $p<0.011$). The study identified peer pressure and lack of sensitization as key factors encouraging substance abuse among students. Based on these findings, the research recommends intensifying educational efforts about mental health risks associated with cannabis use and implementing stricter institutional policies to limit drug availability. The study also advocates for comprehensive curriculum reforms that incorporate detailed modules on substance abuse prevention and expand support services for affected students.

Conclusion. These findings contribute to understanding substance abuse perceptions among Nigerian university students and provide a framework for developing targeted intervention strategies.

1. Introduction

Substance abuse among youth has become a significant public health concern in Nigeria, particularly in the North-West region. Recent studies have highlighted alarming rates of drug use and its detrimental effects on individuals and society. According to a study conducted in Jigawa State's North-West Senatorial Zone, cigarette, marijuana, and tramadol consumption is prevalent among drug users, with the highest rate of drug use at 39.3% (Salubuji et al., 2021). The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) reported that the North-West region has the highest rate of drug usage in the country, with Jigawa and Kano states having the highest rates of drug misuse among young people in Northern Nigeria (NDLEA, 2018).

The prevalence of substance abuse in the North-West region is particularly concerning. A study by Dankani (2012) found that codeine-containing cough syrups, cocaine, heroin, ephedrine, caffeine, barbiturates, and amphetamines were commonly abused substances in the region. The study also revealed that chemists/pharmacies (33%) and drug wholesalers (23%) were primary sources for obtaining these drugs. Risk factors associated with drug abuse included male gender, age 21-30 years, peer-group influence, and parental deprivation. A cross-sectional study conducted in South-South Nigeria reported that substance use disorders contribute to approximately 15-20% of all hospital admissions and outpatient visits among young Nigerians (Akpan et al., 2024). The study also found that substance abuse-related injuries accounted for a significant portion of emergency department visits among young people.

The prevalence of drug abuse varies across different regions of Nigeria. According to Fotso et al. (2011), the North-West region recorded the highest number (37.5%) of abusers, followed by the South-West (17.3%), South-East (13.5%), North-Central (11.7%), and North-East (8.5%). Cannabis (10.8%) and psychotropic drugs such as benzodiazepines and amphetamine-type stimulants (10.6%) were found to be the most commonly abused substances in both rural and urban areas. Gender disparities in substance abuse are evident, with males constituting a significantly higher proportion of users. Alemika (2006) reported that 94.2% of substance users were males, while only 5.8% were females. This gender imbalance highlights the need for targeted interventions and prevention strategies. The reasons for substance abuse among youth in Nigeria are multifaceted. Nouh et al. (2007) observed that pleasure, curiosity, and relaxation were common motivations for drug intake.

Additionally, lack of enforcement by the government, illegal drug vendors, and untrained health personnel have been identified as contributing factors to the prevalence of drug use (Onwubiko et al., 2015; Ering et al., 2016; Osonwa & Duke, 2018). A study by Onyencho et al. (2020) found that tramadol, marijuana, and cigarettes were the most widely abused drugs in Northern Nigeria. Tramadol users constituted the highest number at 56.2%, followed by marijuana smokers at 46.3%, and cigarette smokers at 37.9%. This highlights the need for targeted interventions focusing on these specific substances.

The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5), published in 2013, marked a significant shift in the conceptualization of substance-related disorders. The DSM-5 combined the previously separate categories of substance abuse and substance dependence into a single disorder called "substance use disorder" (SUD) (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). This change reflected a more nuanced understanding of the spectrum of substance use problems.

However, while existing literature provides extensive data on the prevalence (Salubuji et al., 2021; The NDLEA, 2018), risk factors (Akpan et al., 2024), and types of substances abused (Dankani, 2012), there is a noticeable gap concerning the perceptions of this crisis among specific, influential student cohorts. This study aims to fill this gap by focusing specifically on the perceptions of Social Studies students in North-West Nigeria. The significance of this research lies in its focus on a group

of future educators, community leaders, and policymakers whose understanding and attitudes toward substance abuse can directly shape future prevention strategies and educational curricula.

2. Literature Review

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, substance use disorders are identified by "the repeated consumption of alcohol and/or drugs causes notable functional impairment, including health problems, disability, and inability to fulfil key obligations at work, school, or home" (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA], 2020). This definition emphasizes the functional impairment caused by substance use rather than focusing solely on the quantity or frequency of use. The National Institute on Drug Abuse defines drug addiction as "a long-lasting, recurring brain disorder that is characterized by persistent drug craving and use, even with negative outcomes" (National Institute on Drug Abuse [NIDA], 2018). This definition highlights the neurobiological aspects of addiction and its chronic nature.

Substance abuse has also been defined behaviorally as the ongoing misuse of drugs or alcohol despite knowing its detrimental effects. This definition emphasizes the compulsive nature of substance use and its potential to lead to addiction. Addiction is often described as a lack of control over substance use, where individuals continue using substances despite adverse physical, mental, or social consequences (Benjamin & Chidi, 2014; Becker et al., 2020). Notably, Benjamin and Chidi (2014) define drug abuse as "the continuous or occasional use of drugs that cause observable behavioural alterations," driven by either personal choice or compulsion. From a public health perspective, substance abuse refers not only to individual behaviours but also to its broader societal impacts. It encompasses the improper use of both legal substances, like alcohol and tobacco, and illegal drugs, such as cannabis and heroin. Public health definitions often highlight the role of environmental and socio-demographic factors in exacerbating substance abuse. For instance, studies have shown that economic hardships such as poverty and joblessness play a significant role in increasing substance abuse rates in specific populations (Becker et al., 2020; National Institute on Drug Abuse [NIDA], 2021).

Previous research findings from multiple studies (Columbia University, 2023; Sultan et al., 2023; Alli, 2020; Buckner et al., 2018; Patrick et al., 2018; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [UNODC], 2018; Guttmanova et al., 2017; Pennay & Measham, 2016; Jamie, 2016) revealed that frequent cannabis consumption is linked to a higher risk of psychiatric conditions including depression and anxiety. Additionally, research by Volkow et al. (2021), Hathaway et al. (2018), Keyhani et al. (2018), and Guttmanova et al. (2017) has confirmed that peer influence is a significant factor affecting cannabis consumption among students. The acceptance of cannabis use among peer groups greatly encourages its use. Students often view cannabis use as socially acceptable, which is reinforced through social supply networks. Peer norms and substance use behaviours are among the most vital factors associated with youth substance use, suggesting that peer influence plays a substantial role in students' decisions to use cannabis.

Furthermore, research findings by multiple scholars (Hernandez & Lee, 2020; Wilson & Thompson, 2018; Lehrer & Son, 2017; Schwartz & Han, 2014; Halla et al., 2013; Sandhya, 2013) indicate that students perceive available support services as crucial for managing and preventing drug misuse. Their research indicated that when support services, such as hotlines, counselling centres, and peer support groups, were readily available, students were more likely to seek help and guidance. They suggested that universities should implement more proactive measures to inform students about these services.

Similarly, research by various investigators (Garcia et al., 2021; Martinez & Kim, 2017; Ahmed et al., 2014; Omoniyi-Oyafunke et al., 2014; Racheal, 2013) confirmed that counselling services equip students with essential skills to handle stress and anxiety, which are often underlying factors in

sedative drug abuse. Their study demonstrated that students who participated in regular counselling sessions showed significant improvements in their mental health and a reduction in drug dependency. Conversely, research by Patel and Singh (2023) suggests that an integrated approach involving awareness campaigns, support services, and counselling is the most effective method for tackling sedative drug abuse among students. The perception of social studies on substance abuse in North-West Nigeria is crucial in addressing this issue. Social studies education plays a vital role in shaping students' understanding of social issues, including substance abuse. However, there is limited research specifically focusing on the perception of social studies on substance abuse in the North-West region. Thus, this study fills the gap by exploring the following research questions and hypotheses.

2.1. Objectives

The aim of this study is to examine the perception of social studies students on substance abuse in North-West Nigeria, while the specific objectives are to:

- i. find out the attitude of undergraduates learning Social Studies on cannabis in North-West, Nigeria.
- ii. examine the perception of undergraduates learning Social Studies on sedative drug abuse in North-West Nigeria.

2.2. Research Questions

The following research questions guided this study:

- i. What is the attitude of undergraduates learning Social Studies on cannabis in North-West, Nigeria?
- ii. What is the perception of undergraduates learning Social Studies on sedative drug abuse in North-West Nigeria?

2.3. Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance:

H₀₁ There is no significant difference between the attitude of undergraduates learning Social Studies on cannabis in North-West, Nigeria.

H₀₂ There is no significant difference between the perception of undergraduates learning Social Studies students on sedative drug abuse in North-West, Nigeria.

3. Methodology

This research employed a descriptive survey approach, a method that focuses on gathering information to address research questions or evaluate hypotheses about the current state of the study topic (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). This methodology was chosen because it facilitates systematic data collection and allows for an accurate depiction of the attitudes and views of undergraduate Social Studies students in North-West Nigeria regarding substance abuse. The emphasis was on describing characteristics rather than manipulating variables. The study population consisted of all undergraduates studying Social Studies at the six Northwestern campuses of Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, during the 2022/2023 academic year. According to institutional data, there were a total of 8,714 students, comprising 5,132 males and 3,582 females. From this group, a sample of 400 students was selected. The sample size was determined using Yamane's (1967) formula for finite populations:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where:

- ❖ \$ n \$ = sample size
- ❖ \$ N \$ = total population (8,714)
- ❖ \$ e \$ = margin of error (0.05 for 95% confidence)

Calculation:

$$n = \frac{8714}{1 + 8714 \times 0.0025} = \frac{8714}{22.785} \approx 383$$

To account for possible non-responses and to strengthen the analysis, the researchers increased the sample to 400 students. A multi-stage sampling process was adopted, combining purposive, proportional stratified, and random sampling techniques.

Stage 1: Purposive Sampling: The first phase involved intentionally selecting the six ABU campuses within the Northwest zone to focus on a regionally relevant student group, as this area faces distinctive challenges that influence perceptions of substance abuse.

Stage 2: Proportional Stratified Sampling: Next, the overall population was divided by campus, and participants were chosen from each campus in numbers proportional to their representation in the total population.

Stage 3: Simple Random Sampling: Within each campus group, students were randomly selected using registration lists and a random number generator.

3.1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

To ensure the sample was relevant and consistent with the study's aims, the following were applied:

Inclusion: Only full-time undergraduates in the Social Studies department for the 2022/2023 session at one of the six selected campuses who consented to participate were eligible.

Exclusion: The study excluded part-time or postgraduate students, students from other departments, those from ABU campuses outside the North-West, and individuals who declined consent.

3.2. Data Collection Instrument

Data was gathered using a structured questionnaire named the "Perception on Substance Abuse Questionnaire (PSAQ)", developed by the researchers. The tool had two main sections:

Section A: Gathered demographic details such as gender, age, academic level, and campus.

Section B: Assessed perceptions of substance abuse with 20 items on a 4-point Likert scale (Strongly Agree = 4, Agree = 3, Disagree = 2, Strongly Disagree = 1).

3.3. Instrument Validation

To confirm the questionnaire's validity, both face and content validity were established. Experts in Social Studies Education, Curriculum and Instruction, and Educational Measurement and Evaluation from ABU reviewed the instrument for clarity, relevance, and coverage. Their suggestions were incorporated to improve the questionnaire.

3.4. Instrument Reliability

The reliability of the PSAQ was checked through a pilot test involving 30 third-year Social Studies students at the University of Jos, who shared similar characteristics with the main study population

but were not part of it. Cronbach's Alpha was used to measure internal consistency, yielding a coefficient of 0.89, indicating strong reliability (George & Mallery, 2019).

3.5. Data Collection Process

After receiving ethical clearance, the researchers distributed the questionnaires in person at the six campuses. Participants were informed about the study's purpose, assured of confidentiality, and told they could withdraw at any time. Informed consent was obtained, and the researchers remained present during the process to answer questions and ensure a high response rate. Completed questionnaires were collected immediately.

3.6. Data Analysis

Responses were coded and analyzed using SPSS version 25.0. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used. Descriptive statistics addressed the main research question by analyzing Likert scale responses using means and standard deviations. A mean score of 2.50 or higher indicated agreement, while scores below 2.50 indicated disagreement, following the guidelines by Boone and Boone (2012). An independent samples t-test was used to test hypotheses at a 0.05 significance level, appropriate for comparing means between two independent groups (Field, 2018).

4. Results

The statistical package of version 26 was used to analyse the data obtained from 400 out of sampled respondents. The analysis is presented as follows.

4.1. Answering Research Questions

Question One: What is the attitude of undergraduates learning Social Studies towards cannabis in Northwest Nigeria?

Table 1. Attitude of undergraduates learning Social Studies towards cannabis

S/N	Items	SA	A	D		Mean	STD
1	Cannabis may be noted within a second to several minutes after inhaling.	169	149	55	27	3.11	0.84
2	Lack of sensitisation on the adverse effects of cannabis is encouraging its intake among students	165	144	67	24	3.09	1.01
3	Substance Abuse could be traced to a Family history of addiction	154	127	78	41	2.94	0.87
4	Use of cannabis results in sleeplessness.	132	121	97	50	2.79	0.61
5	Most people on the street are abusers of cannabis	120	141	85	54	2.77	1.02
6	Cannabis/Marijuana should be legalised for recreational use.	109	122	81	88	2.57	1.02
7	Overdose of Cannabis may lead to the combustion of anxiety reliever	134	127	96	43	2.83	1.21
8	Peer pressure significantly affects cannabis is a substance of abuse among students	159	155	58	28	3.07	0.89
9	Perceive cannabis as a plant or a psychoactive agent	157	141	71	31	3.02	0.64
10	Using cannabis/marijuana poses severe mental health risks.	183	132	55	30	3.13	0.75
Cumulative Mean						2.94	

Decision Mean =2.50

The level of perception of undergraduate Social Studies Students on cannabis/marijuana in Northwest Nigeria is relatively high. Their cumulative mean of 2.94 is higher than the 2.500 decision mean. Specifically, they believe that using cannabis/marijuana poses severe mental health risks, as this has the highest mean of 3.13. Moreover, most believed that cannabis may be noted within a second to several minutes after inhaling, as this had the second-highest mean of 3.11. In summary, the perception of undergraduate Social Studies Students on cannabis/marijuana in Northwest Nigeria is relatively high significantly, as most believe that using cannabis/marijuana poses severe mental health risks, and cannabis may be noted within a second to several minutes after inhaling.

Question Two: What is the perception of Undergraduate learning Social Studies on sedative drug abuse in Northwest Nigeria?

Table 2. Perception of Undergraduates learning Social Studies on Sedative Drug Abuse

S/N	Items	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	STD
11	Sedative drug abuse is a worrisome issue among students.	154	151	75	20	3.06	0.77
12	The prevalence of sedative drug abuse has increased in the past few years among Social Studies students.	170	138	64	28	3.09	0.64
13	Believe that sedative drug abuse negatively impacts the academic performance of undergraduate students.	140	146	71	43	2.91	1.02
14	Feel adequately informed about the various sedative drugs commonly abused by students in our region.	175	151	52	22	3.16	1.02
15	The educational curriculum should include more content on the dangers and consequences of sedative drug abuse.	171	150	44	35	3.10	0.21
16	There is a need for increased awareness campaigns on the consequences of sedative drug abuse in our academic community.	169	165	42	24	3.16	0.89
17	Believe that stricter policies and regulations should be in place to deter sedative drug abuse on campus.	181	134	60	25	3.14	0.64
18	Aware of students within my social circle who engage in sedative drug abuse.	161	138	67	34	3.02	0.71
19	Peer pressure significantly contributes to the prevalence of sedative drug abuse among students.	163	161	51	25	3.12	0.67
20	The university should provide more accessible support services and counselling for students dealing with sedative drug abuse issues.	191	136	48	25	3.20	1.40
Cumulative Mean						3.10	

Decision Mean =2.50

The perception of Undergraduate Social Studies Students on narcotic drug abuse in Northwest Nigeria is quite appreciable because their cumulative mean of 3.10 is above the 2.50 decision mean. Specifically, most asserted. The university should provide more accessible support services and counselling for students dealing with sedative drug abuse issues, as this view had the highest mean of 2.20. Secondly, they believed that they felt adequately informed about the various sedative drugs

commonly abused by students in our region, as this had the second-highest mean of 3.16. In summary, this is quite appreciable, especially as most believe that the university should provide more accessible support services and counselling for students dealing with sedative drug abuse issues and feel adequately informed about the various sedative drugs commonly abused by students in our region.

4.2. Testing of Hypotheses

Hypothesis one: There is no significant difference between the Attitudes of undergraduate Social Studies Students towards cannabis in Northwest Nigeria.

Table 3. One-Sample t-test on Attitude of Undergraduate Social Studies Students towards Cannabis

Variable	N	Mean	STD	M.D	Df	T-Cal	P
Knowledge of undergraduate Social Studies students and cannabis.	400	31.70	3.83	38.25	399	162.26	0.000

$P = 0.000 < 0.05$ $t_{computed} = 162.26 > 1.96$ at df 399

The one sample t-test statistics revealed that significant differences exist in the attitude of undergraduate learning Social Studies and cannabis in Northwest Nigeria, the Reasons being that the calculated p-value of 0.000 is below the 0.05 alpha level of significance and the computed t-value of 162.26 is above the 1.96 t critical value at the degree of freedom 399. The mean difference among them is 38.25. Therefore, the null hypothesis, which states that there are no significant differences in the views of undergraduate Social Studies students regarding knowledge of cannabis in Northwest Nigeria, is currently rejected.

Hypothesis Two: There is no significant difference between the perception of Undergraduate Social Studies Students towards sedative drug abuse in Northwest Nigeria.

Table 4. One-Sample T-Test on Perception of Undergraduate Social Studies Students towards Sedative Drug Use

Variable	N	Mean	Std. D	M.D	Df	T Cal	P
Attitude of undergraduate Social Studies students and sedative drug use.	400	29.36	4.50	37.55	399	127.91	0.011

$P = 0.011 < 0.05$ $t_{cal} = 127.91 > 1.96$ at df 399

The one sample t-test statistics revealed that significant differences exist in the perception of undergraduate Social Studies Students and sedative drug abuse in Northwest Nigeria. The reasons are that the calculated p-value of 0.011 is below the 0.05 alpha significance level, and the computed t-value of 127.91 is above the 1.96 t critical value of a degree of freedom (399). The mean difference among them is 37.55. Therefore, the null hypothesis is at this moment rejected.

5. Discussion

The study revealed that students are of the perception that using cannabis/marijuana poses severe mental health risks of students. In addition, peer pressure and lack of sensitisation on the adverse effects of cannabis are encouraging its intake among students. This finding aligns with previous research findings from Columbia University. (2023); Sultan et al. (2023); Alli (2020); Buckner et al. (2018); Patrick et al. (2018); UNODC (2018); Guttmanova et al. (2017); Pennay and Measham

(2016); Jamie (2016) which revealed that regular cannabis use is associated with an increased likelihood of developing psychiatric disorders such as depression and anxiety. Also, the findings of Volkow et al. (2021), Hathaway et al. (2018), Keyhani et al. (2018), and Guttmannova et al. (2017) confirmed that peer pressure is a critical factor influencing cannabis use among students. The normalisation of cannabis use within peer groups significantly contributes to its consumption. Students often perceive cannabis use as a socially acceptable behaviour, which is reinforced through social supply networks. Peer norms and substance use behaviours are among the most vital factors associated with youth substance use, suggesting that peer influence plays a substantial role in students' decisions to use cannabis.

The study found out that students are of the perception that creating awareness campaigns on sedative drug abuse, accessible support services and counselling for students can help deal with sedative drug abuse issues. The findings concur with previous research revelations of Hernandez and Lee (2020), Wilson and Thompson (2018), Lehrer and Son (2017), Schwartz and Han (2014), Halla et al. (2013), Sandhya (2013) which submit that students perceive accessible support services as essential in managing and preventing drug abuse. Their research indicated that when support services, such as hotlines, counselling centres, and peer support groups, were readily available, students were more likely to seek help and guidance. They suggested universities should implement more proactive measures to inform students about these services. Similarly, the findings of Garcia et al. (2021), Martinez and Kim (2017), Ahmed et al. (2014), Omoniyi-Oyafunke et al. (2014), Racheal (2013) confirmed that counselling services provide students with the necessary tools to cope with stress and anxiety, which are often underlying factors in sedative drug abuse. Their study demonstrated that students who participated in regular counselling sessions showed significant improvements in their mental health and a reduction in drug dependency. On the other hand, Patel and Singh's (2023) study suggests that a combination of awareness campaigns, support services, and counselling provides the most effective approach to tackling sedative drug abuse among students.

6. Conclusion and Implication of the Study

The students' attitudes towards cannabis are significantly influenced by perceived mental health risks and rapid onset of effects, highlighting the need for educational interventions that address these concerns directly. Peer pressure and a lack of sensitization on the adverse effects of cannabis are identified as critical factors encouraging its use, which suggests that educational programs should incorporate strategies to mitigate peer influence and increase awareness of the dangers associated with cannabis consumption.

Regarding sedative drug abuse, there is a high level of awareness and concern among the students. They perceive it as a serious issue that negatively impacts academic performance and call for increased educational content on its dangers, stricter campus policies, and more accessible support services. The call for awareness campaigns and enhanced support systems underscores the students' recognition of the need for proactive measures to prevent and manage drug abuse. The significant differences in attitudes towards both cannabis and sedative drugs, as confirmed by the one-sample t-tests, reject the null hypotheses, indicating a strong perception among students about these substances.

The study's implications are clear: there is a pressing need for comprehensive educational reforms within the Social Studies curriculum to tackle substance abuse. These reforms should include:

- i. Increased Awareness and Education: Integrating detailed modules on substance abuse, its effects, and prevention strategies into the curriculum.
- ii. Peer Influence Mitigation: Programs aimed at reducing the impact of peer pressure, possibly through peer education initiatives where students educate each other.

iii. Supportive Services: Expanding and promoting access to counselling services, support groups, and other resources that can help students manage stress and avoid substance misuse.

iv. Policy and Regulation: Advocating for stricter campus policies regarding substance use to deter abuse, coupled with clear communication of these policies to the student body.

v. Research and Continuous Evaluation: Ongoing research to monitor changes in student attitudes and the effectiveness of intervention programs, ensuring that educational strategies remain relevant and impactful.

This study not only sheds light on the current perceptions and attitudes towards cannabis and sedative drug abuse among undergraduates in Northwest Nigeria but also provides a roadmap for educational stakeholders to address this critical issue through informed, evidence-based approaches.

7. Suggestion

Based on the findings from the study on the attitudes and perceptions of undergraduate Social Studies students towards cannabis and sedative drug abuse in Northwest Nigeria, the following recommendations are made:

i. Educational institutions should intensify efforts in informing students about the severe mental health risks associated with cannabis use. This should include detailed sessions on the immediate and long-term effects of cannabis, as well as the implications of its misuse. Similarly, more curriculum content should be devoted to the dangers and consequences of sedative drug abuse, emphasizing the impacts on academic performance and overall health.

ii. Universities should consider implementing and enforcing policies that limit the availability and use of sedative drugs and cannabis. This might include random drug testing, surveillance in known hotspots for substance use, and clear punitive measures for offenders.

Declarations

Author Contributions. (Asokan Vasudevan and Uthman Shehu Lawal: focused on Conceptualization. Suleiman Ibrahim Shelash Mohammad, and Tajudeen Ahmad : Data analysis and created the tables and figures. Anantha Raj A. Arokiasamy and Soon Eu Hui provided technological expertise for the study. Uthman Shehu Lawal and Vijayesvaran Arumugam provided a factual review and helped edit the manuscript. All authors have read and approved the published on the final version of the article.

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