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**NIDA's drug abuse information for teens goes mobile**

*NIH also improves access for parents, teachers, and Spanish language readers*

Teens -- and adults who care for them -- can now find answers to questions about drug abuse and addiction more easily, and through smartphones and tablets. Spanish language versions of easy to understand resources on drug abuse and addiction are now also available. The updates, announced today by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the National Institutes of Health, are being launched as part of [National Substance Abuse Prevention Month](#) events in October.

For teens, their parents and teachers, NIDA has upgraded its popular [teen website](#) to a "responsive design" model that automatically adjusts to fit the viewer's screen for better viewing through smartphones and tablets. The new design is also more engaging, with larger, more vibrant buttons that link directly to resources that provide answers to questions and concerns related to drug abuse in adolescents. The teen site continues to house free, interactive resources such as its [teen blog](#) and [PEERx](#), an online educational initiative to discourage abuse of prescription drugs among teens.

In addition to the redesigned teen site, NIDA's improved [Parents and Educators](#) page makes it easier for caregivers and teachers to find free, scientifically based prevention and education resources. Examples include [Family Checkup](#) -- a tool for talking with children about drugs -- as well as the latest science-based information on the health effects and consequences of drug abuse. Teachers can also find free resources for [elementary](#), [middle](#) and [high school](#) students, including examples of classroom-based science experiments from the NIH Lab Challenge.

To reach adults with limited literacy skills, NIDA's Easy-to-Read website now includes Spanish-language versions of its [Drug Facts](#) pages; its [What is Addiction?](#) section; as well as two easy to understand videos explaining the science behind drug addiction.

In October, parents, youth, schools, businesses and community leaders across the country join together in recognizing the role that substance abuse prevention plays in promoting safe and healthy communities. National Substance Abuse Prevention Month, which began in 2011, is organized by the White House's Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

"By using improved Web and handheld device strategies to distribute research findings, we can reach a broader audience," said NIDA Director Dr. Nora D. Volkow. "NIDA is launching these tools during National Substance Abuse Prevention Month and will continue to translate the science to guide effective prevention and education efforts in homes and communities."

For more information on drug prevention, see NIDA's Preventing Drug Abuse among Children and Adolescents at [www.drugabuse.gov/publications/preventing-drug-abuse-among-children-adolescents](http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/preventing-drug-abuse-among-children-adolescents). To find out how to get involved in National Substance Abuse Prevention Month, visit [www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/prevention-intro/prevention-month](http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/prevention-intro/prevention-month).

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The National Institute on Drug Abuse is a component of the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIDA supports most of the world's research on the health aspects of drug abuse and addiction. The Institute carries out a large variety of programs to inform policy and improve practice. Fact sheets on the health effects of drugs of abuse and information on NIDA research and other activities can be found on the NIDA home page at [www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov), which is now compatible with your smartphone, iPad or tablet. To order publications in English or Spanish, call NIDA's DrugPubs research dissemination center at 1-877-NIDA-NIH or 240-645-0228 (TDD) or fax or email requests to 240-645-0227 or [drugpubs@nida.nih.gov](mailto:drugpubs@nida.nih.gov). Online ordering is available at <http://drugpubs.drugabuse.gov>. NIDA's media guide can be found at <http://drugabuse.gov/mediaguide/>, and its new easy-to-read website can be found at [www.easyread.drugabuse.gov](http://www.easyread.drugabuse.gov).

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