Toxibase: The Central Information Service in Addiction Research in France

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Toxibase is a French information service centre which was founded as an association in 1986. The centre maintains a central data base with information on literature in addiction research. There are a number of research institutes which support their own information services and are associated to Toxibase. Toxibase is under the direction of the DAS (Direction de l'Action Sociale, Ministère des Affaires Sociales, de la Santé et de la Ville).

The Toxibase Services

Since 1987, Toxibase maintains a central data base of literature references to books, articles, research reports, scientific publications and congresses.

It covers all relevant areas of drug dependence including questions of pharmacology, therapy, prevention and legislation in France.

Immediate access is given to the documents of French and international literature in the data base by key words (French/English) and summaries. All publications and periodicals in the areas of psychological, medical and social sciences research on drugs and addiction are evaluated on a regular basis.

Modern communication technology allows a variety of access modes to Toxibase e.g. by French Minitel, electronic mail and information telephones (Monday-Friday, 09.00 to 17.00 h, Tel: 78 69 56 87) for further support.

Within 48 h of an enquiry, the user will receive photocopies of the documents which were found in the data base.

The magazine 'Toxibase Revue Documentaire' is published once every 3 months. It presents a selection of the most recent and important scientific publications. Every issue of the magazine centres on a different topic in drug dependence. In addition, there are reviews on the most recent publications from medical, social and political sciences.

A Toxibase press report complements the information service. Every fortnight the press report presents a broad overview on news topics treated in the French media.

Topics are grouped by themes such as prevention, rehabilitation, health services, drug dependence and HIV, legislation and French as well as international drug policy.

Toxibase is a useful tool and an important source of information not only to the French research community, but to everyone who is interested in this field of research.

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