

# 1. AIMS

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Regional Office for South Asia (UNODC-ROSA) has developed an intervention tool-kit comprising six modules under the project entitled 'Prevention of transmission of HIV among Drug Users in SAARC<sup>1</sup> countries' (Project code - TD/RAS/03/H13). In view of the heterogeneity that exists in the SAARC region with regard to the pattern of drug use (including injecting drug use) as well as HIV prevalence among drug users, the project has undertaken this activity to help develop capacity in the region for scaling up HIV interventions among injecting drug users (IDUs) and other opiate users.

The present document is the fourth in the series of six modules with the following aims:

- ♦ To outline the safety and effectiveness of buprenorphine in the management of heroin and other opioid dependence.
- ♦ To describe the guidelines and procedures for buprenorphine maintenance treatment for opioid dependence.
- ♦ To discuss issues relating to buprenorphine administration and a rollout plan for buprenorphine substitution clinics.
- ♦ To understand the quality assurance indicators in the operation of the buprenorphine clinics.

---

<sup>1</sup> The South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation