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## Glossary of Terms

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**AIDS:** Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome - An epidemic disease caused by an infection by human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), a virus that causes immune system failure and debilitation and is often accompanied by infections such as tuberculosis. AIDS is spread through direct contact with bodily fluids.

**Drug abuse:** Use of a drug for a reason other than which it was intended or in a manner or in quantities other than directed. Drug dependence is a compulsion to take a drug to produce a desired effect or prevent unpleasant effects when the drug is withheld.

**HIV:** A type of retrovirus (human immunodeficiency virus) that is responsible for the illness called acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

**Narcotic:** An agent that produces insensibility or stupor, applied especially to the opioids, i.e. to any natural or synthetic drug that has morphine like actions.

**Outreach:** the act of reaching out; to reach beyond. In drug abuse treatment, the term implies services, which go beyond the clinical setting and reach out to clients in the community.

**Peer:** A person who has equal standing with another or others, as in rank, class, or age.

**Protocol:** A detailed plan of a scientific or medical experiment, treatment or procedure

**Rapid Situation Assessment:** Rapid Situation Assessment is a research method employed to generate important public health information that can be used to develop intervention programmes. Drawing on both qualitative and quantitative research techniques, such assessments are typically undertaken in situations where data are needed quickly, where local resource constraints rule out more conventional research approaches, and where agencies require information to develop, monitor and evaluate intervention programmes.

**Risk Behaviour:** Specific form of behaviour, which is proven to be associated with increased susceptibility to a specific disease or ill health.

**Risk:** The probability that an event will occur. It encompasses a variety of measures of the probability of a generally unfavorable outcome.

**Self-help groups:** Organizations/groups which provide an environment encouraging social interactions through group activities or individual relationships especially for the purpose of rehabilitating or supporting patients, individuals with common health problems, or the elderly.