



36.3 million with
substance use disorder

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/undc-world-drug-report-2021-enar>

61 million in serious health-
related suffering

[http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(17\)32513-8/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(17)32513-8/fulltext)

The principle of balance

Our dual responsibility.

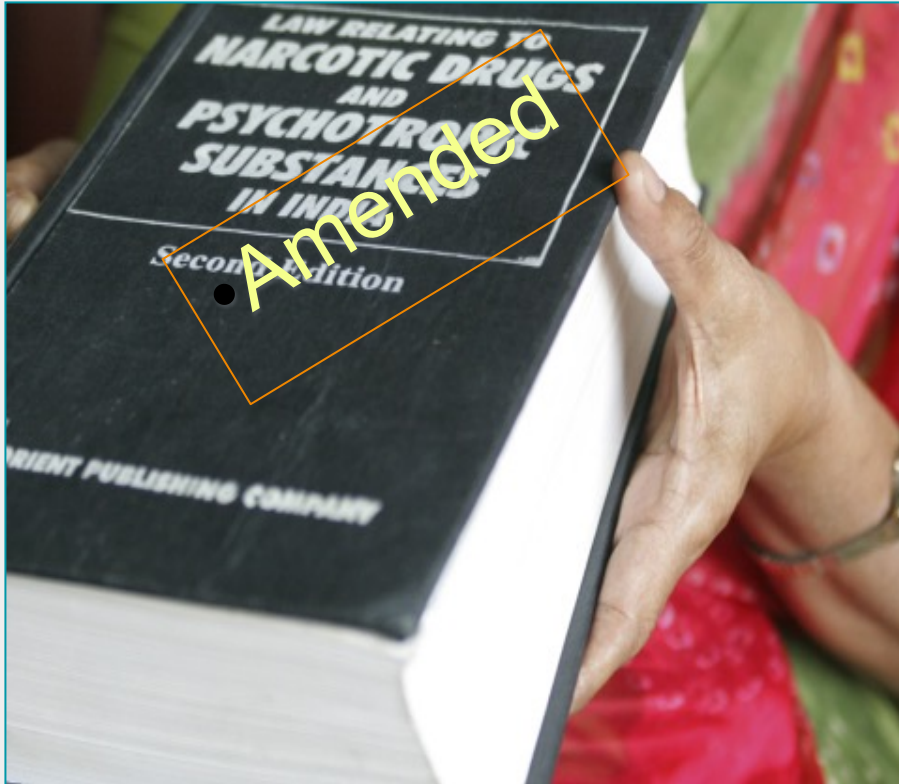
1. To prevent inappropriate & non-medical use of opioids.

2. To ensure access to opioids for people in pain.

Single convention 1961: Preamble

“The medical use of narcotic drugs continues to be indispensable for the relief of pain and suffering.”

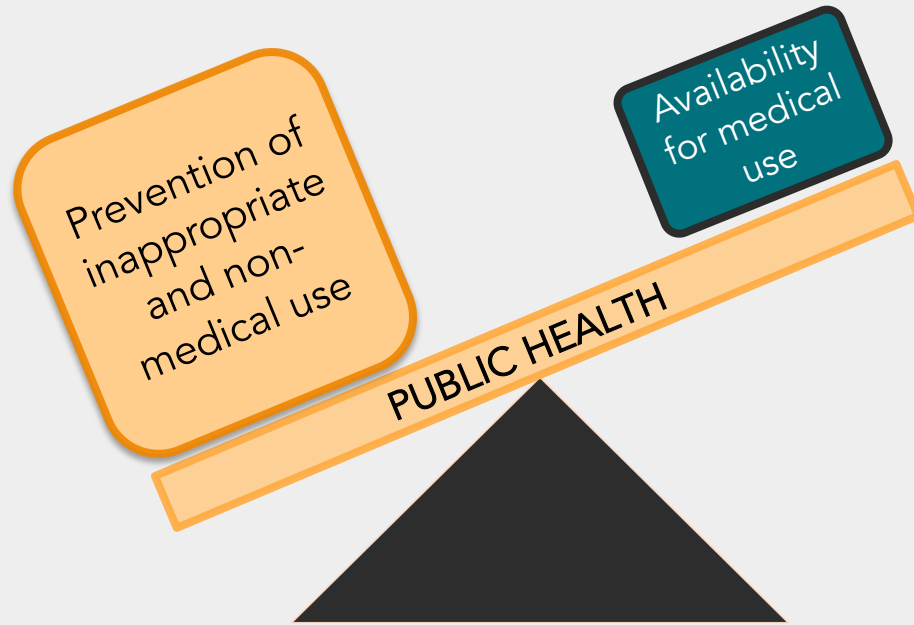
“Adequate provision must be made to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs for such purposes.”



February

2014

Indian Parliament;
19 years' efforts



Kerala

- Around 600 “Recognised Medical Institutions” stock and dispense “Essential Narcotic Drugs” (ENDs)
- Low-cost oral morphine available
- Safe access to oral morphine:
16 times national average
- **But only about 1/150 of UK**



What worked in Kerala

- Public awareness
- Facilitatory policy & regulation
- Professional education

What limited it in Kerala

- Not enough professional education

Positive development

- Medical curriculum in India from 2019



Our ask:

Balanced regulations

with

implementation framework

Prevention of
inappropriate
and non-
medical use

Availability for
medical use

PUBLIC HEALTH