

Awareness courses on the dangers of drug and alcohol use



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Since the French “delinquency prevention act” of 5 March 2007, which mainly aimed to “increase the efficacy of the legal system’s handling of drug addiction”, people arrested for narcotics possession and use can now be ordered by the courts to undergo an “awareness course on the dangers of drug and alcohol use”. Inspired by similar training programmes to improve road safety awareness, this monetary sanction, which is meant to have an educational dimension and is paid for by the offender, is intended for occasional, non-addicted narcotics users.

The Ministry of Justice entrusted the OFDT with the task of outlining available awareness courses on the dangers of drug and alcohol use and determining the population actually undergoing such programmes.

This issue of *Tendances* provides a summary of the primary results of the assessment of this measure.

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