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APPLIED EMPHASIS

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## The Relationship Between Drug of Choice and Addiction Treatment Completion

In Canada, it is estimated that about 6 million people meet the criteria for addiction and the estimation is even larger on a global scale (Substance Use and Addiction, 2016). Getting people effective treatment is the first step to reducing these numbers, but program completion rates can vary considerably. This research examines whether drug of choice (DOC) is a factor that is related to graduation from an inpatient treatment program. We examined completion rates from a database at Recovery Acres, a residential treatment centre for men in Edmonton. Our sample included 1,013 men (age 17 to 74) who entered the program from 2015 to 2021. We compared completion rates by drug of choice and found that graduation rates were highest for alcohol (46%), lower for stimulants (35%), and lowest for opioids (22%),  $\chi^2 (3, N = 1,013) = 10.6, p = .014, \text{Cramer's } V = .102$ . Our results support our hypothesis that an individual's drug of choice is related to their completion of an addiction treatment program and that this is

an important factor to consider when examining expectations of program completion.

1: This research was completed as a partial requirement for Psychology 319 in Fall 2021.

***Research Advisor: Dr. Bryan Rooney, Associate Professor***