

# INEBRIA

International Network on  
Brief Interventions for  
Alcohol & Other Drugs

INEBRIA was formed in 2004 following the end of Phase IV of the *WHO Collaborative Project on Identification and Management of Alcohol-related Problems in Primary Health Care* and was established to provide an international network for researchers and practitioners interested in the potential of brief interventions in medical and other settings to reduce alcohol-related harm. At the Annual General Meeting of the network in Boston, USA in September 2011, it was resolved to expand the network to include brief interventions for other psychoactive substances besides alcohol, although the main emphasis would continue to be on reducing alcohol problems. However, the revised Aim and Objectives of INEBRIA are now as follows:

## **AIM**

To provide global leadership in the development, evaluation and implementation of evidence-based practice in the area of early identification and brief intervention for hazardous and harmful substance use.

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. To share information, experiences, research findings and expertise in the area of early identification and brief intervention for hazardous and harmful substance use.
2. To promote best practice in and encourage the development of guidelines for the wide dissemination and implementation of evidence-based early identification and brief intervention for hazardous and harmful substance use.
3. To identify gaps and needs for research in the field of early identification and brief intervention for hazardous and harmful substance use, promote international research co-operation and set standards for research.
4. To promote the integration of the study of brief interventions for hazardous and harmful substance use with the wider context of measures to prevent and reduce substance-related harm.

INEBRIA is supported by a secretariat based at the Health Department of the Government of Catalonia in Barcelona and includes a semi-autonomous branch located in Brazil (INEBRIA-

Latina). The network currently has 250 members who are able to communicate ideas, request advice and share opinions regarding early identification and brief interventions by means of a google group.

We have so far held eight annual conferences located in Barcelona, Spain (2004), Münster, Germany (2005), Lisbon, Portugal (2006), Brussels, Belgium (2007), Ribeirão Preto, Brazil (2008), Gateshead, UK (2009), Gothenburg, Sweden (2010) and Boston, USA (2011). The annual conference in 2012 will return to Barcelona. Past conferences have resulted in the publication of proceedings in peer-reviewed international journals. Although the membership is predominantly based at present in Europe, the USA and Latin America, the explicit aim of the INEBRIA Co-ordinating Committee is to expand to all continents of the world in due course. In addition to regular annual conferences, the network organises smaller meetings and co-operates with NGOs in co-sponsoring relevant events. Several international research collaborations have been initiated through researchers' participation in INEBRIA and its events.