Abstract

Substance abuse is a complex disorder with associated biological, psychological and social causes and effects. At the community level substance abuse has been treated as a social problem, while lack of will power has been the proclamation at the individual level. The fact is society has invested heavily in infrastructure designed to address the many issues and costs created and resulting from substance abuse, only to be frustrated by no return on investment. The current approach to the treatment of substance abuse attempts to educate the abuser to a behavior change, followed by a did-it-work query, without addressing that person's base addictive thinking, best characterized as bondage in self. This proposal for an organizational view of the treatment of substance abuse is developed from the lack-of-will-power generalization as a manifestation of a person's bondage in self. As such, this proposal is not concerned with a person's behavior. Instead it argues for, and outlines a methodology for, direct assessment of a person's cognitive reasoning and deduction via an incrementally constructed and measured treatment plan. Embedded in this proposal is a mechanism that allows incremental outcomes to be quantified dynamically both at the micro and macro levels, together with the ability to both calculate monetary variances from target outcomes and compare results across treatment providers.