

HACVS E-bulletin Number 14-HW-2010

Due to the increase in the amount of information that needs to be cascaded out to our members, we have decided to introduce two categories of e-bulletins. One will be a specialist 'Health and Wellbeing' bulletin which will refer mainly to information around the health and wellbeing agenda, and the other will be a 'General' bulletin which will refer to everything else. These will be indicated by the suffixes 'HW' or 'G' respectively. We have also decided to commence at number one each year and to detail the current year for our own reference and ease of filing. We hope that you will find these improvements to be of benefit.

(1) Mephedrone Banned (2) Health Inequalities Seminar

Dear Members,

- 1 The Home Office has announced that the ban on mephedrone will come into effect on Fri 16 April. The drug along with other cathinones – the active ingredient in the khat plant, commonly used as a stimulant in East Africa – will be banned under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and categorised as a Class B drug and this means that anyone found carrying it could be jailed for 5 years for possession or receive a maximum sentence of 14 years for supply. The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs recommended the drug be banned at the end of last month. Also known as Mcat or meow meow, the drug has been linked to a number of deaths.
- 2 The next Health Inequalities Seminar will be held at Broadfield Stadium in Crawley on Thur 20 May from 10 to 1 p.m. Dr Chris Bentley, Head of the national Health Inequalities support unit will share practical learning from spearhead areas and elsewhere. Professor Richard Wilkinson will present his internationally renowned work on why equality is better for everyone's health and well-being, and updates on other key developments in the area. Please would you kindly register and confirm your attendance by sending an e-mail to: tahzib@doctors.org.uk

JANET BROWN

Manager

Please note below our new email address for all general communications – all previous email addresses are now obsolete and should no longer be used, thank you.

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