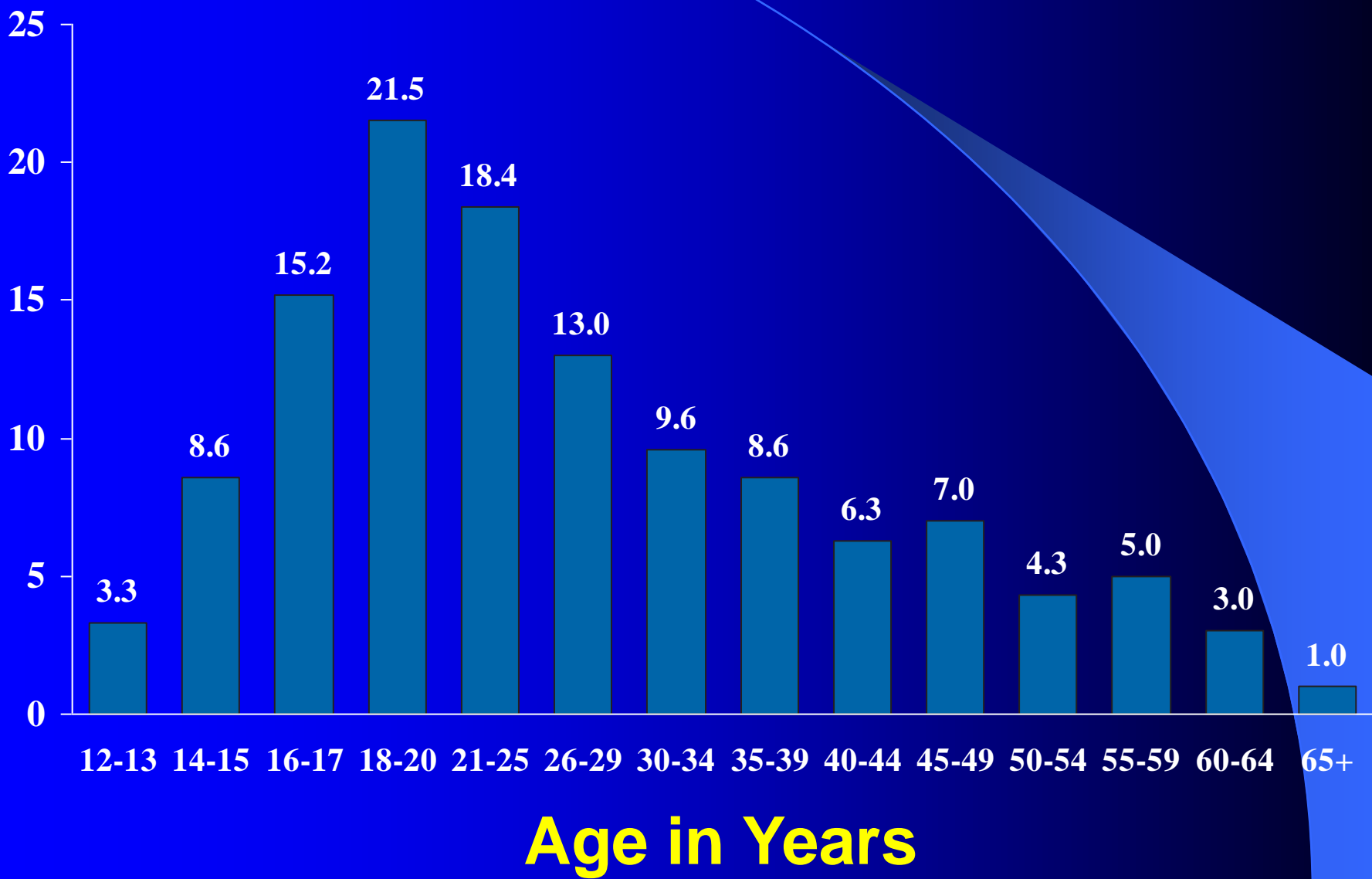


Initial Screening of Young People Identifying Needs

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Drug Abuse is Especially Prevalent in Youth and Young Adults

Percent Using in Past Month, 2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, SAMHSA



Risk

The probability (risk) that any healthy or unhealthy behavior will become 'habit' is greatest during periods of rapid personal change or development

Human Development

The unfolding of an individual's potential within a cultural context and in which the impact of these cultural values, both positive and negative, are acknowledged

Adolescent Development Issues

Assumptions

- Adolescence is like a ‘second birth’ – a birth into life - and like the first birth is greatly susceptible to the negative influences in the environment
- Behaviors during adolescence are merely situational expressions of maturational events

Adolescent Development Issues

Assumptions

- What adults see as 'problems' - adolescents often see as 'solutions'
- The health of adolescents is particularly inter-dependant on their behaviors, that in turn, is greatly influenced by the social and family environment in which they live.

Adolescent Development Issues

Assumptions

- Adolescents grow up in a world their parents have never known
- The influence of the family has become weakened in modern society in as much ‘values’ and social behaviors are often promoted outside of family control.

Adolescent Developmental Issues

- Adolescents with undiagnosed psychological disorders will often ‘discover’ the benefits of illicit drug use
 - ADD - Tobacco, amphetamines
 - Depression - stimulants, Ecstasy, alcohol
 - Social withdrawal (shy) - marijuana, alcohol, stimulants
 - Anxiety - Tobacco, marijuana, alcohol

Adolescent Development Issues

Assumptions

- For a variety of reasons, some youth are more resilient to life's risks. Resilience is a characteristic of a healthy adolescence that allows the youth to developmentally resist choosing risk behavior to satisfy a developmental challenge.

Drug Use & Development

- Developmental lubricant
- ‘Problem’ vs. ‘solution’
- Family issues
- Resilience
- Self-medication
- Higher-risk subgroups.....

Drug Use & Development

- Higher-risk subgroups
 - School failure/dropout
 - Impoverished youth, not just poor youth
 - Youth with other ‘delinquent’ behaviors
 - Growing up abused or in a chaotic family
 - Youth from families with inconsistent parent practices
 - Youth in families that ‘relocate’ frequently
 - shy, poor social skills
 - low self esteem, depressed youth
 - gay or questioning youth

Risk of Drug Use is Greatest During Developmental Transitions

- Transfers to new school during adolescence
- School advancements
- Adapting to new peer group
- Beginning college/university
- Marriage
- Entering workforce

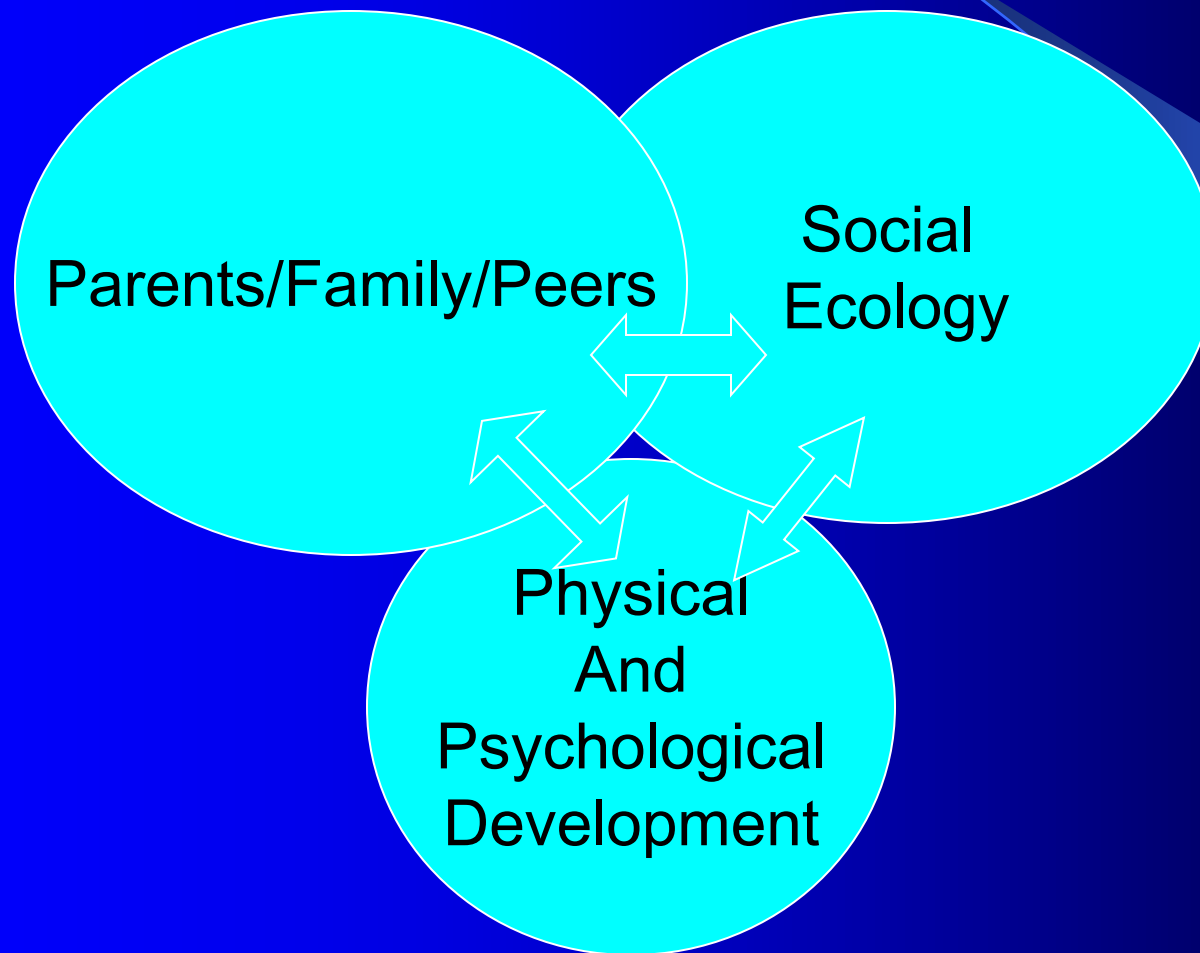
Risk of Drug Use is Greatest with Failure to Make Transitions

- School failure
- Dropping out of school
- Poor social coping skills
- Affiliation w/ risk-taking peers
- Perception of approval for drug use

Drug Use

- Drug use and abuse is usually embedded within other adolescent ‘life spaces or activities’
 - Recreation
 - Sports/pass-times
 - Social times
 - Alone time
 - Relationships

DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT MODEL



Adolescent Risk Profile (CHLA)

H – Home, Harassment

E – Education, Eating, Exercise,
Employment

A – Ambition, Accidents, Affect, Alcohol

D – Drugs, Dieting, 'Dating'

S – Sex, Suicide, Safety, Sexting

