

# Inter-house sports: Student takes Tramadol, dies



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A Junior Secondary School student at Ohafia in Ohafia Local Government Area of Abia State whose identity is yet to be known, has reportedly died after he allegedly took 10 tablets of Tramadol tablet to aid him in an inter-house sports competition.

The state Commandant of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Mr. Akingbade Bamidele, disclosed this yesterday in Umuahia, while delivering lecture at a seminar organised by his agency and Office of the Senior Special Assistant to Governor Okezie Ikpeazu on Narcotics and Abia State Drug Abuse Control Committee (ADCC) for patent drug dealers in Abia Central.

Bamidele added that the student took the tablets to enhance his performance during an inter-house sports competition being organised in his school that he was billed to participate in, but could not live to see the event as he died shortly after taking the drugs.

The NDLEA boss, who disclosed that Abia State was among top ranked states in the country with high level of drug/substance abuse, said Governor Okezie Ikpeazu had been informed about the incident. He said efforts were being made to apprehend the seller as directed by the governor.

Bamidele, who warned patent drug dealers against selling drugs without prescription from medical doctors or pharmacists to desist from such action, listed high rate of criminal activities including armed robbery, rape, kidnapping etc as the negative effects of allowing illicit drugs or their substitutes to get into the wrong hands.

He added that apart from the agency's resolve to take the awareness campaign against selling of harmful drugs to the abusers, the NDLEA had begun encouraging schools to establish Drug Free Clubs in order to discourage students from abusing drugs or taking illicit drugs.

According to him, the dangerous effects of abusing drugs or consumption of illicit drugs on human health are better prevented than treated.