



*NCADD President/CEO Robert J. Lindsey assisted William Bender, Philadelphia Daily News Staff Writer, to develop a story titled "Penn researchers use MRI to study drug addiction." The story appeared on January 18, 2013. Following is an excerpt from the story.*

MATTHEW ELLIS started popping painkillers as a teenager and switched to heroin a few years later. It was simple economics, and a common progression among today's opiate addicts - the recreational drug dabbler turned full-time junkie.

That's usually when the nightmare takes hold. You start living life one injection at a time. Everything else - career, family, self-respect - is prioritized behind the next little wax-paper bag of dope.

"I was hopelessly addicted to heroin," said Ellis, 25, a carpenter's assistant and father of two young boys.

Ellis, who lives in Deptford, N.J., repeatedly tried to get clean. He attempted to taper off his habit with Suboxone. He also did about seven rounds of treatment, both outpatient and inpatient. Some of his stints lasted months. But the drug seemed to stalk him from within.

[Click here](#) to read the rest of the story.

To read NCADD's information on Alcohol, Drugs and Youth, [click here](#). Additionally, the NCADD Medical-Scientific Committee, in cooperation with The Council of Southeast Pennsylvania wrote a Consumer Guide to Medication-Assisted Recovery. To read more, [click here](#).