

Guidance

Good practice in treatment provision

Key reading:

Identifying the role of families within treatment

Adfam/Madill Parker Research and Consulting, 2008.

This study has confirmed that families can be a useful resource in treating an individual's substance misuse problem. Among the recommendations are, better information on the impact of substance misuse on families to professionals and the general public and more evaluation to measure successful outcomes of family interventions.

Web: <http://www.adfam.org.uk/docets/Identifying%20the%20role%20of%20families%20within%20treatment.pdf> (PDF)

Safety, risks and outcomes from the use of injecting paraphernalia

Scott J., Scottish Government Social Research, 2008.

The final report of the findings of a study into the impact of providing paraphernalia to injecting drug users. Includes recommendations for good practice.

Web: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/03/14133736/11> (PDF 740KB)

Principles of drug dependence treatment

WHO, UNODC, 2008.

This discussion paper aims to encourage Governments and other partners to take concerted action for the implementation of evidence-based drug dependence treatment services, which respond to the needs of their populations. Given the scale of the problem in most societies and the limited resources available, a clear and coherent approach to service planning is required. There is a need to develop services that can reach the maximum number of individuals and have the greatest impact at lowest cost. This is most likely to be achieved with broad community-based health care services that can work with individuals in their own communities over longer periods of time. While the present document recommends actions to promote each of the nine principles, these will need to be prioritized to respond to the local situation and circumstances and implemented in progressive steps in accordance with resource availability and stages of development of the treatment system.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 176KB)

Essential care: A report on the approach required to maximise opportunity for recovery from problem substance use in Scotland

Scottish Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, 2008.

The majority of the Essential Care report is concerned with support that is needed to address problems in areas of drug service users' lives other than addiction, such as general health, mental health and social skills and relationships. It lists all the areas which may need attention, together with evidence of their benefits. However the main conclusion is that there needs to be a major change in the philosophy of care for problem substance use in Scotland – focused on the recovery of each individual.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 300KB)

Guidelines for the evaluation of treatment in the field of problem drug use

EMCDDA, 2007.

The main objective of the guidelines is to provide a European audience with basic information on the options, elements and procedures of drug-related treatment evaluation. The target readership includes

professionals working in treatment services for substance use and dependence, administrators and officials in social and health authorities, researchers dealing with treatment of substance dependence, and those who professionally or politically may have an interest in evidence from treatment evaluation.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 544KB)

Domestic violence, drugs and alcohol: good practice guidelines

Stella Project, 2007.

The information in this toolkit aims to provide practitioners and service managers within the domestic violence and substance misuse sectors with the basic knowledge and skills they require to respond to service users safely and appropriately. It has been compiled in consultation with practitioners from both sectors and provides practical guidance, case studies and sample documents enabling workers to use the toolkit as a reference and workbook.

Web: http://www.gldvp.org.uk/C2B/document_tree/ViewADocument.asp?ID=77&CatID=154

Non-medical prescribing, patient group directions and minor ailment schemes in the treatment of drug misusers

National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse, 2007.

Non-medical prescribing (particularly nurse and pharmacist prescribing), patient group directions (PGDs) and minor ailment schemes (MAS) are all part of a range of NHS reforms designed to improve patients access to medicines, develop workforce capability, utilise skills more effectively and ensure provision of more accessible and effective patient care. Successful implementation requires robust clinical governance mechanisms and teamworking, as well as access to specialist pharmaceutical support. Commissioners, managers and practitioners can now explore the potential of all these different mechanisms as ways of improving access to medicines for drug misusers.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 253KB)

Audit of drug treatment prescribing services

National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse, 2007.

The National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse's guidelines on ethical prescribing for UK drug treatment providers. This document also contains information on new monitoring procedures to ensure the guidelines are followed by all doctors.

Web: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/areas/clinical_guidance/clinical_guidelines/docs/statement_on_medication_choice_and_dosing_in_drug_misuse_and_treatment_14_12_07.pdf (PDF)

The International Treatment Effectiveness Project - Implementing psychosocial interventions for adult drug misusers

National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse, 2007.

The International Treatment Effectiveness Project (ITEP) is part of the National Treatment Agency's Treatment Effectiveness strategy, which identified areas for enhancing the quality of treatment interventions. The project was a collaboration between the NTA, the Institute of Behavioural Research (IBR) in Texas and several service providers in the north-west England and London. ITEP utilised a care planning approach (referred to as 'mapping') in the form of a manual, which was used by trained keyworkers with their clients. Previous research had shown that these psychosocial interventions had a number of positive outcomes in terms of clients' treatment experiences and reductions in illicit drug use.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 421KB)

Drug Misuse and Dependence - UK Guidelines for Clinical Management

National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse, 2007.

This is a new version of the 1999 Clinical Guidelines, commonly called the 'Orange Book'. The new Clinical Guidelines build on the previous evidence-based and well-established Clinical Guidelines but reflect some of the considerable changes that have occurred in drug treatment over the past eight years. The latest Clinical Guidelines also reflects the recent suite of guidance from the National Institute for

Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE).

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/areas/clinical_guidance/clinical_guidelines/docs/nta_clinical_guidelines_2007.pdf (PDF 426KB)

Drug misuse: psychosocial interventions

NICE, 2007.

NICE has produced two guidelines on drug misuse Drug misuse: psychosocial interventions (NICE clinical guideline 51) and Drug misuse: opioid detoxification (NICE clinical guideline 52). They cover:

- the support and treatment people can expect to be offered if they have a problem with or are dependent on opioids, stimulants or cannabis
- how families and carers may be able to support a person with a drug problem and get help for themselves.

NICE clinical guideline 51 makes recommendations for the use of psychosocial interventions in the treatment of people who misuse opioids, stimulants and cannabis in the healthcare and criminal justice systems.

Web: <http://www.nice.org.uk/CG51>

Needs assessment guidance for adult drug treatment

NTA, 2007.

Describes the aims and objectives behind needs assessments and the processes involved in conducting one. Includes practical information on conducting research into prevalence, current provision, evaluation, commissioning and monitoring.

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_needs_assessment_guidance_2007.pdf (PDF 1.53MB)

Important information for travellers carrying controlled or prescription drugs

UK. Home Office, 2007.

Home Office guidance on personal licences for travellers who are carrying certain controlled drugs abroad (or in the case of an import licence, into the UK) for short periods for their own personal use.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 20KB)

Treating drug misuse problems: evidence of effectiveness

Gossop M., National Addiction Centre, 2006.

This report reviews evidence of the effectiveness of a wide range of drug treatments, including; pharmacotherapies, psychological treatments, twelve step programs, brief interventions, needle exchange schemes and combined treatments.

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_treat_drug_misuse_evidence_effectiveness_2006_rb5.pdf (PDF 811KB)

Best practice guidance for commissioners and providers of pharmaceutical services for drug users

Walker M., NTA, RPS, 2006.

The aim of this report is to provide commissioners and providers of pharmaceutical services for drug users with information and advice in order to inform commissioning and ensure best practice.

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_best_practice_pharma_services_for_drug_users_pharmguide06.pdf (PDF 414KB)

Supporting and involving carers

NHS, 2006

Guidance on how to commission consistent, effective and quality services for carers and family members affected by someone else's drug use.

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_supporting_and_involving_carers_sept2006.pdf

Basic principles for treatment and psychosocial support of drug dependent people living with HIV/AIDS

WHO, 2006.

Over the past two decades, HIV infection has been added to the serious risks of injection drug use, and the diffusion of HIV associated with drug injecting not only creates medical and social problems for the millions of injecting drug users worldwide but for society at large. Yet many drug dependent people living with HIV/AIDS do not enjoy equitable access to HIV/AIDS treatment, care and support services for HIV/AIDS as a result of stigma and discrimination, of their own reluctance to seek treatment, and of the unavailability of HIV/AIDS treatment in programmes for injecting drug users. This guidance document, built on expert advice and developed in consultation with UNAIDS, articulates the central principles for treatment and support of HIV-positive injecting drug users.

Download: http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/basic_principles_drug_hiv.pdf (PDF 1.1MB)

Responses to drug misuse: treatment

RSA Drugs commission, RSA, 2006.

This paper looks at treatment as a response to drug misuse.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 707KB)

Models of residential rehabilitation for drug and alcohol misusers

NTA, 2006.

A review of types of residential treatment currently on offer, clinical standards, and guidance on best practice.

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_models_of_residential_rehab_drg_and_alc.pdf

Needs assessment manual

NTA, 2006.

This manual aims to further develop the needs assessment methodology issued in 2005 and provide guidance for local partnerships and NTA regional teams.

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_needs_assessment_manual_july_06.pdf (PDF 345KB)

Models of care: Update 2006

NTA, 2006.

This update is intended to build on the framework and concepts in Models of Care 2002 rather than replace them. It requires drug treatment commissioners and providers to have implemented the key tenets previously described in Models of Care 2002.

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_modelsofcare_update_2006_moc3.pdf

Drug intervention programme and prolific and other priority offenders programme: emerging practice and lessons

UK Home Office Drug Strategy Directorate, 2006.

This paper provides examples of emerging practice and lessons learned in relation to the working partnerships between CJITs and PPO teams in effectively case managing drug misusing PPOs.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 316KB)

Drug consumption rooms: summary report of the Independent Working group

Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Independent Working Group on Drug Consumption Rooms, JRF, 2006.

The IWG considers DCRs to be a rational and overdue extension to the harm reduction policy that has produced substantial individual and public benefits in the UK. They offer a unique and promising way to work with the most problematic users, in order to reduce the risk of overdose and the damage and costs to society. Overdose, improve their health and lessen the damage and costs to society.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 180KB)

Diversity manual

UK. Home Office, 2006.

The Diversity Manual is intended for use by regional government, local partnerships and delivery partners across the areas of crime and drugs. The Manual sets out the legislative framework requiring partnerships and service providers to commission and provide services appropriate to local needs. It identifies responsibilities relating to diversity, provides case studies of good practice and contains useful information and links and resources to support the delivery of services for local populations which are compliant with legislation.

Download: [Full report](#) (PDF 494KB)

Roles and responsibilities of doctors in the provision of treatment for drug and alcohol misusers

NTA, 2005.

All organisations employing doctors need a robust clinical governance structure that addresses issues of education and supervision. This report recommends that appraisal must be carried out by a trained appraiser with experience of the clinical area. Supervision could be carried across different employing and specialty areas, so for example a consultant addiction psychiatrist could supervise a GP with special clinical interest working in their geographical area.

Web: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_doctors_roles_and_responsibilities_sept_2005.pdf

NTA/Home Office guidance for commissioning drug treatment Services from voluntary and community sector Organisations

NTA, 2005.

This guidance aims to provide the framework for a positive relationship between the purchaser and the service provider. A positive relationship will enable the maximum possible resources to reach the frontline, resulting in the best quality of service to be delivered.

Download: http://www.nta.nhs.uk/publications/documents/nta_vs_compact_guidance.pdf (PDF)

Substance misuse in pregnancy: a resource book for professionals

DrugScope, 2005.

Based on an original publication from the Lothian Health Board, this book aims to establish a framework for care so that all women who use drugs can be offered appropriate support before, during and after the birth of their child. It discusses and provides information and intervention strategies on issues such as pre-conception care, the management of substance use in pregnancy, substitute prescribing,