









Insights into Addiction & Substance Use

With Professor Barry Carpenter & Dr Paolo Deluca





Today's learning objectives

- Understand the trends and prevalence of substance use amongst young people
- Challenge some of the common myths around addiction and substance use
- Explore the associated risks and potential psychological consequences for young people who use drugs





POLL: Which type of school are you representing this evening?





Addiction & Substance Use

Dr Paolo Deluca







POLL: What is the most popular drug among young people?





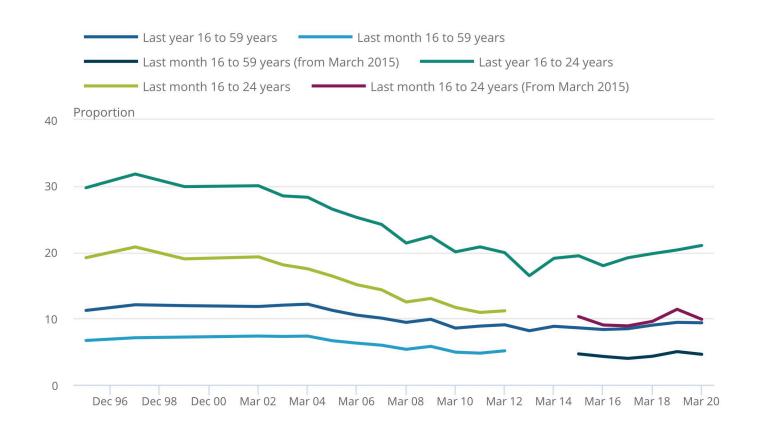
Prevalence of substance use

- Around one in five adults aged 16 to 24 years had taken a drug in the last year (21%; approximately 1.3 million people)
- 7.4% of adults aged 16 to 24 years had taken a Class A drug in the last year (approximately 467,000 people)
- 4.3% of adults aged 16 to 24 years were classed as "frequent" drug users (had taken a drug more than once a month in the last year)
- Cannabis (18.7%), Cocaine, nitrous oxide (8.7%)





Prevalence of substance use overtime







POLL: Have you heard of Novel Psychoactive Substances?









Nitrous Oxide





POLL: Common myths about addiction?





Common myths

- 1. Addiction mostly affects certain types of people
- 2. Everyone who use drugs becomes addicted
- 3. You cannot recover from addiction
- 4. If someone just uses willpower, they should be able to stop.
- 5. Prescription drugs are not addictive like street drugs because they come from a doctor.
- 6. All drugs are the same vs Some drugs are more harmful than others





POLL: Risk factors that predict addiction?





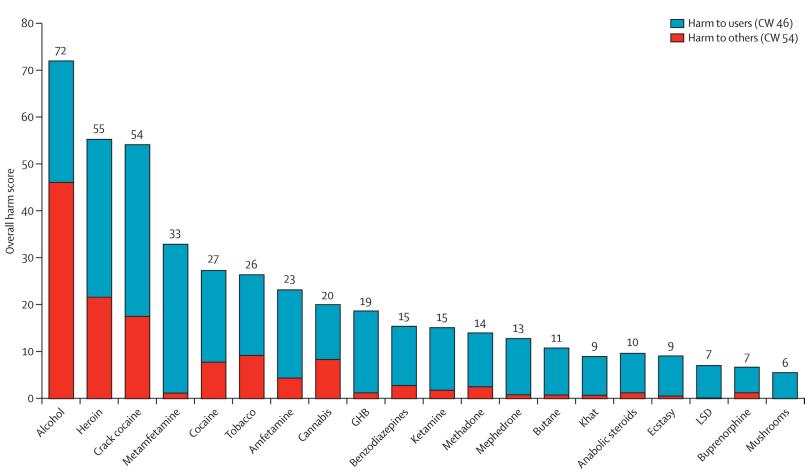
Risks and Harms

- Complex interaction between a multitude of factors (Individual, family and community level) influence substance use.
 - Psychosocial factors (eg Impulsivity & sensation seeking, emotion regulation)
 - Positive alcohol expectancies and sensation seeking are associated with more drinking.
 - Earlier age of first drug use correlates with greater harm
 - Family level (Negligence, poor supervision, substance use family member)
 - Community level (having peers using drugs)
 - Protective factors (Optimism, mindfulness, wellbeing, high paternal awareness, structured activities, strong religious beliefs)





Drug harms



The Lancet 2010 3761558-1565DOI: (10.1016/S0140-6736(10)61462-6)



















3.45 - 5.00pm

Eating Disorders - 15th Nov

Self-harm - 6th Dec







Resources



ACAMH Topic Guide:

https://www.acamh.org/topic/addiction/



https://www.acamh.org/podcasts/youth-substance-use-and-co-occurring-mental-health-concerns/

ACAMH Research Digests:

https://www.acamh.org/?s=substance+misuse¤t_tab=research_digest

