

SPEED LIMITS

HARM REDUCTION
FOR PEOPLE WHO USE
STIMULANTS

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CONTEXT

Increasing number of stimulant users



Grass roots innovative practices still lack support and description



Traditional evidence and support focused on HIV prevention



Different contexts, uses, and local needs



Need to compile available evidence



Growing evidence of harm reduction for non-injecting use of stimulants



OBJECTIVES

Literature review

Worldwide literature review of harm reduction strategies for stimulant drugs

7 good-practice cases

Document, describe and analyze 7 cases of practices of harm reduction for stimulant users in different world regions

Guidance

Contribute to guidance in supporting harm reduction interventions for people who use stimulants

Beyond HIV

Stimulate a harm reduction narrative which moves beyond HIV and focus on human rights and quality of life for people who use stimulants



METHODOLOGY

Literature review

Seven goodpractice cases



RESEARCH TIMELINE

Literature review

Initial Consultation

Choice of 7 cases

Case studies

September 2017 to January 2018

February 2018

February - June 2018



METHODOLOGY 1 — LITERATURE REVIEW

Academic and grey literature

Studies in English,
Spanish and
Portuguese, between
1990-2018

Focus on evidence of harm reduction interventions for stimulants

Evidence clustered in 12 strategies



























12 EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES





SAFER SMOKING KITS

Typically contain a crack / meth pipe; mouthpiece; screens; lip balm; condoms, lubricant; safer drug use/sex education materials. Often distributed during outreach.



PREVENTION OF SEXUAL RISKS

Includes providing condoms & lubricant; STIs and HIV info, testing & treatment; counselling on contraception and pregnancy; addressing sexual violence; transactional sex, abusive relationships.; increasing self-control. Ideally, integrated with mental health and drug services.



FEMALE FOCUSED INTERVENTIONS

Usually focused on access to care (opening hours, emotionally safe, offering childcare); pregnancy and parenting; sexual and reproductive rights.





DRUG CONSUMPTION ROOMS

Professionally supervised facilities where PWUD can use in safer and more hygienic conditions. Decreases morbidity, mortality, public drug use, and increases access to care.



SELF REGULATION

Strategies to maximize control over drug use. Ex: Mindfulness-based interventions. Empowers PWUD control skills; promotes safer use; helps setting personal-based rules for use and accepting/dealing with emotions.



HOUSING FIRST

Moving PWUD in stable housing as quickly as possible, without demands (on abstinence). Reduces exposure to drug use (scenes) and problematic drug use; increases treatment adherence and autonomy; helps developing healthier sleep/eating patterns.





SUBSTITUTION

Replacing a stimulant with a drug perceived as safer, less addictive, acceptable and able to reduce adverse effects and craving of first drug. Ex: pharmaceutical & traditional substances.



OUTREACH & PEER-BASED INTERVENTIONS

Contacting with and providing health and social services to PWUD where they are. Peers help reaching hard-to-reach PWUD and convey safer drug use practices.



DROP-IN CENTRES

Low-threshold, safe, informal social setting providing basic needs like food, shelter and hygiene, and activities. Helps connecting to additional (care) services.





DRUG CHECKING

Harm reduction method aimed at nightlife drug use. Different methods used to test drug sample for (dosage of) substances, and presence of adulterants.



INTERNET-BASED INTERVENTIONS

Programs that offer selective prevention and harm reduction online, either fully automated and self-guided, or including contact with a professional.



THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS

Treatment-based interventions that also work in harm reduction settings. Provide support with mental health issues, enhance self-control and management of craving/use.

CASE STUDIES



MAINline

METHODOLOGY 2 – CASE STUDIES

Initial consultation & cases choice

Consent terms

Local documentation

Interviews with 8 service providers and 2 service users

Focus group discussions with 10 service users (5 cases)

On site observations (5 cases)



ATITUDE

HOUSING FIRST FOR PEOPLE WHO USE CRACK COCAINE IN BRAZIL

Helps people to:

Decrease or have more control over crack use

Get more organized, stable and decrease anxiety

Increase sociability and protection against violence

Develop autonomy, self-care and strengthen (family) relations

Develop child-mother bond and protection for abusive relationships (females)

MAINline



Access specific information on drug use in a sexual context

CHEM-SAFE

INTERNET-BASED INTERVENTIONS FOR CHEMSEX IN SPAIN

Access information on adverse effects, risks, and interactions of stimulants with medication or other substances

Develop healthier consumption patterns

Reflect on sex-drugs-gender connection and increase self-care

MAINline



SELF-REGULATION FOR PEOPLE WHO USE METH IN SOUTH AFRICA

Help people to:

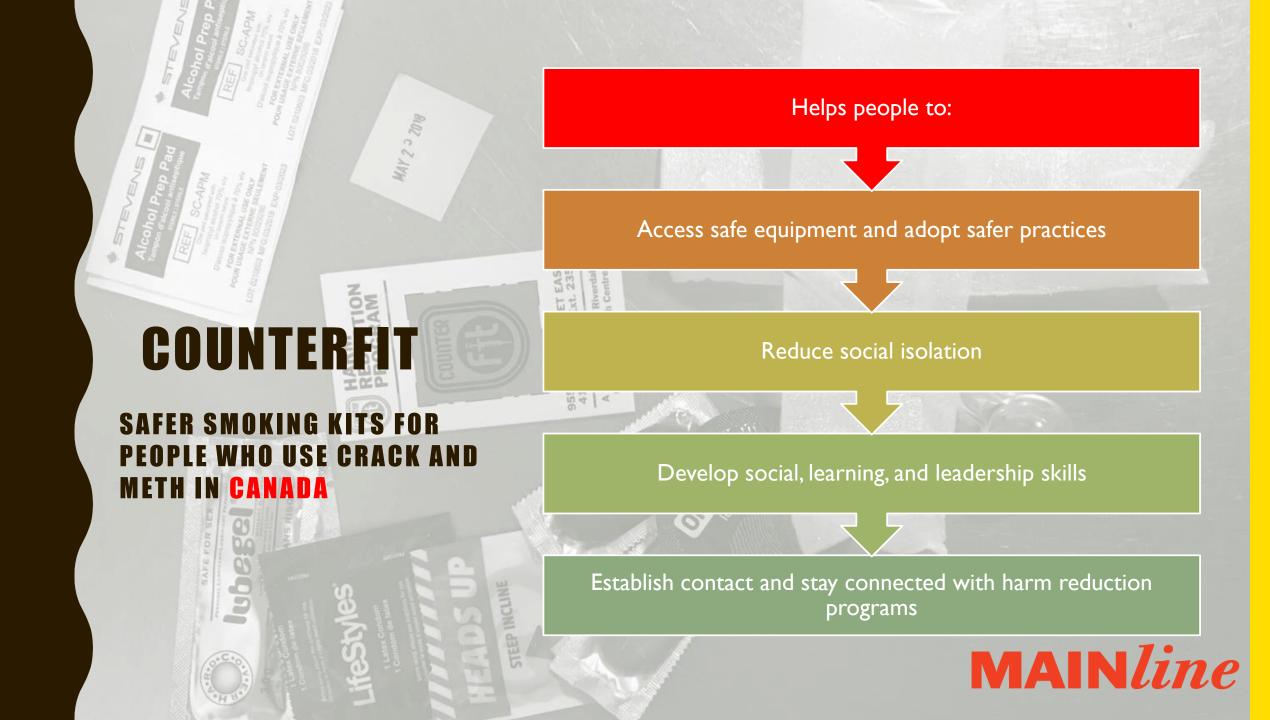
Self-reflect

Become aware of their drug use triggers and patterns

Make informed and conscious decisions regarding their drug use

Make conscious decisions on what life changes they want to make





EL ACHIQUE

DROP-IN CENTRES FOR PEOPLE WHO USE CRACK IN URUGUAY

Helps people to:

Have a warm, safe, friendly and healthy environment

Develop supportive family-like relations and solidarity

Access psychological counselling, (health) education, and other harm reduction services

Develop self-control strategies to deal with substance use



KARISMA'S SHABU OUTREACH

OUTREACH WORK FOR PEOPLE WHO USE METH IN INDONESIA

Helps people to:

Access safe equipment and (health) information

Be heard and able to use their experience to help other PWUS

Reduce, stop, or achieve a better control over meth use

Be more aware of and reducing sexually-related risks

Increase self-care and self-esteem

MAINline

PRINCEHOF, RIPPERDASTRAAT, SCHURMANNSTRAAT

DRUG CONSUMPTION ROOMS FOR PEOPLE WHO USE CRACK IN THE NETHERLANDS



Reduce drug use related morbidity

Prevent overdosing

Not use their drugs in public spaces

Access social and health services

Access information on safer drug use and drug use paraphernalia



Addressing poly-drug use

Providing lowthreshold services

CONCLUSIONS

HARM REDUCTION FOR PEOPLE USING STIMULANTS SHOULD CONSIDER

Focusing on belonging and acceptance

Promoting selfcare and self control

Addressing social exclusion,

Providing stable housing and income sources



Involving peers

Providing factual, non-sensational information

CONCLUSIONS

HARM REDUCTION FOR PEOPLE USING STIMULANTS SHOULD CONSIDER

Offering concrete benefits during outreach

Integrating services

Providing mental health care



RECOMMENDATIONS

Further research on interventions for stimulants

Practical guidelines and training

Better monitoring of impact

Sharing of best practices

Funding for harm reduction services for PWUS

