



Merseyside Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database

Knowsley Quarterly Report

1st April – 30th June 2004

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Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Introduction	1
Arrest Referral	2
Table 1: Individuals assessed, by Gender and Age Group, within Knowsley DAT	
Table 2: Total Assessments by Drug of use, within Knowsley DAT	
Syringe Exchange Services	3
Agency	
Table 3: Individuals by Gender, within Knowsley DAT	
Table 4: Individuals by Age Group, within Knowsley DAT	
Table 5: Exchanges within Knowsley DAT	
Table 6: Main Drug of Use for Agency Syringe Exchange clients within Knowsley DAT	
Table 7: Total Visits within Knowsley DAT	
Pharmacy	
Table 8: Individuals, by Gender, within Knowsley DAT	
Table 9: Individuals, by Age Group, within Knowsley DAT	
Table 10: Total Visits (Pharmacy)	
Combined	
Table 11: Individuals in Syringe Exchange by DAT of Syringe Exchange	
Table 12: Total Visits by DAT of Syringe Exchange	
Structured Drug Treatment (NDTMS)	6
Table 13: Number of people in contact with treatment service by Gender (DAT of Residence)	
Table 14: Individuals in contact with treatment service by Gender and Age (DAT of Treatment)	
Table 15: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment by DAT of Treatment	
Connexions	7
Table 16: Gender by DAT of contact	
Table 17: Age by DAT of contact	
Table 18: Drug/Alcohol problem by DAT of contact	
Combined Datasets	8
Table 19: Total Problem Drug Users reported to the IAD: by Gender and Age	

Introduction

The Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database (IAD), which was established by Merseyside Drug (and Alcohol) Action Teams, Merseyside Police and the Public Health Sector (now Centre for Public Health) in 1997, supports the need for local information on drug misuse. In particular the IAD aims to:

- Provide comprehensive reporting of problem drug users (PDUs) characteristics including a range of demographics and the types of drugs used.
- Reflect levels of service and intervention activity.
- Assist in D(A)AT's (and other responsible bodies) performance management.
- Facilitate the planning and development of services and interventions for PDUs.
- Identify gaps in service provision and delivery, as well as under-served groups as specified by the National Treatment Agency and Department of Health and by the Centre for Public Health, through interrogation of available data.
- Demonstrate client care pathways and crossover of clients between services by cross matching datasets.
- Highlight changes in levels, demographics and characteristics of drug users and drug use.
- Perform comparisons between geographical areas.
- Report back to both individual DATs and service providers in the form of audits and quarterly reports as well as responding to ad hoc requests.
- Provide Pan Merseyside reporting on an annual basis.

To enable the above the IAD collects data from as many agencies in contact with drug users as possible and is continually seeking to expand the range and scope of data providers. Data are currently collected from criminal justice services, needle exchange schemes (both pharmacy and agency-based) and the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) and now includes Connexions (young people). It is anticipated that data will also soon be available from Big Life (homeless).

Efforts are continually being made to expand the range of service providers that report to the IAD.

Attributable Data

Analysis of data depends on the provision of attributable information. Each service provider records first and last initials, date of birth and gender, for each individual they record a contact with. The combination of these details provides an identifier (attributor) for each individual (eg: HF07/12/1974M) This is a nationally recognised system and allows individuals to be tracked through different service providers and across time whilst retaining an acceptable degree of anonymity.

ARREST REFERRAL (AR)

Introduction

Data are provided by ARCH Initiatives for the Wirral and Merseyside Drug Council (now the Lighthouse Project) for all other Merseyside D(A)ATs, on assessments made at custody suites.

The total number of assessments figure is based on one person per location per date; this is to ensure duplicate data are not included. Duplicate records may appear for the same individual twice on the same day. In these circumstances data are aggregated to a single record. The same individual may however, be counted twice within the reporting period.

Table 1: Individuals assessed by Gender and Age Group within Knowsley (1st April-30th June 2004)

Gender	Knowsley	
	n	%
Male	7	77.8
Female	2	22.2
Age		
Under 25	0	0.0
25+	9	9
Unknown	0	0.0
<i>Total individuals</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 2: Total Assessments by Drug of use

Drug of use	Knowsley	
	n	%
Cocaine	1	11.1
Crack	0	0.0
Heroin	7	77.8
Methadone	0	0.0

Methodological note: Drugs may be represented multiple times within the dataset. Percentages in Table 2 are therefore a proportion of the total number of individuals (as detailed in Table 1).

SYRINGE EXCHANGE SERVICES

Introduction

Data are provided by service providers. Analysis of Syringe Exchange data allows performance monitoring of harm reduction services at both DAT and service provider level. Such analysis also facilitates geographical analysis of both distribution and movement of injecting drug users.

The tables presented here refer to attributable data only, unless otherwise specified. The pharmacy data in particular, is lacking attributable information for a large percentage of cases and therefore does not necessarily accurately reflect service activity.

Ages are calculated based on the last day of the month in which they were last seen.

AGENCY SYRINGE EXCHANGE

Table 3: Individuals by Gender, within Knowsley DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

New Clients	Knowsley	
	n	%
Male	38	92.7
Female	3	7.3
<i>Totals</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	137	90.1
Female	15	9.9
<i>Totals</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 4: Individuals by Age Group, within Knowsley DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

New Clients	Knowsley	
	n	%
Under 25	25	61.0
25+	16	39.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	121	79.6
25+	31	20.4
<i>Totals</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients 29 Males (21.2% of males) and 2 Females (13.3% of females), were under 25.

Table 5: Exchanges within Knowsley DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

Attributable Exchanges	Knowsley ²
	n
Syringes provided	3511
Returns	7434
Non-Attributable Exchanges	
Syringes	165
Returns	-

² There are no figures available for Returns for this time period.

Table 6: Main Drug of Use for Agency Syringe Exchange clients within Knowsley DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

Drug of Use	Knowsley			
	All		New	
	n	%	n	%
Heroin	47	30.9	7	17.1
Methadone	4	2.6	1	2.4
Amphetamines	0	0.0	0	0.0
Steroids	57	37.5	17	41.5
Cocaine*	2	1.3	0	0.0
Other	2	1.3	1	2.4
Unknown/Missing	40	26.3	15	36.6
<i>Totals</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>100</i>

Drug of use is not available for Pharmacy datasets at this time

*Including Crack

The most common drug of use reported to Agency Syringe Exchange is steroids with 57 (37.5%) of users reporting it as their main, or only, drug of use. The next most common drug is heroin with 47 (30.9%) of users reporting it as their main, or only, drug of use.

Table 7: Total Visits within Knowsley DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004) (Agency only)

	Knowsley	
	n	%
Attributable	334	97.9
Non Attributable	7	2.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>341</i>	<i>100</i>

PHARMACY SYRINGE EXCHANGE

Table 8: Individuals, by Gender, within Knowsley DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

	Knowsley	
	n	%
New Clients		
Male	0	0.0
Female	1	100
<i>Totals</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	3	60.0
Female	2	40.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 9: Individuals, by Age Group, within Knowsley DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

	Knowsley	
	n	%
New Clients		
Under 25	0	0.0
25+	1	100
<i>Totals</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	0	0.0
25+	5	100
<i>Totals</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 10: Total Visits (Pharmacy)

	Knowsley	
	n	%
Attributable	16	88.8
Non Attributable	2	11.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>100</i>

COMBINED PHARMACY AND AGENCY-BASED SYRINGE EXCHANGE**Table 11: Individuals in Syringe Exchange by DAT of Syringe Exchange**

	Knowsley	
	n	%
Gender		
New Clients		
Male	38	90.5
Female	4	9.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	140	89.2
Female	17	10.8
<i>Totals</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>100</i>
Age		
New Clients		
Under 25	25	59.5
25+	17	40.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	121	77.0
25+	36	23.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 12: Total Visits by DAT of Syringe Exchange

	Knowsley	
	n	%
Attributable	350	97.5
Non Attributable	9	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>359</i>	<i>100</i>

National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

Background

The NDTMS is the official method for measuring the extent and nature of structured drug treatment in England and Wales. The system is commissioned by the NTA and is operated through nine regional centres – corresponding to the nine government offices for the regions.

Data here are aggregated to one individual, per year, per D(A)AT. Individuals presenting in more than one D(A)AT within the time period will therefore be represented more than once in the data. The D(A)AT referred to is D(A)AT of treatment.

Table 13: Number of people in contact with treatment service by Gender (DAT of Residence)

	Knowsley	
	No.	%
Male	405	72.5
Female	154	27.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>559</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 14: Individuals in contact with treatment service by Gender and Age (DAT of Treatment)

	Knowsley	
	n	%
Gender		
Male	456	70.7
Female	189	29.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>645</i>	<i>100</i>
Age		
Under 25	270	41.9
25+	375	58.1
<i>Totals</i>	<i>645</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients 189 Males (41.4% of males) and 81 Females (42.8% of females), were under 25.

Table 15: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment by DAT of Treatment

Ethnicity	Knowsley	
	n	%
Caribbean	3	0.5
Other	3	0.5
Other Black	5	0.8
Other White	2	0.3
White & Black Caribbean	2	0.3
White British	542	84.0
White Irish	2	0.3
Unknown	86	13.3
<i>Totals</i>	<i>645</i>	<i>100</i>

CONNEXIONS

Connexions provide a support service for young people, aged 13-19. The Greater Merseyside Connexions Partnership provides data presented here. Further information is available from:

Table 16: Gender by DAT of contact

	Knowsley	
	n	%
Male	5	62.5
Female	3	37.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 17: Age by DAT of contact

	Knowsley	
	n	%
16	3	37.5
17	4	50.0
18	1	12.5
19	0	0.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 18: Drug/Alcohol problem by DAT of contact

	Knowsley	
	n	%
Alcohol/Other	3	37.5
Drugs	5	62.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>100</i>

Combined Datasets

Introduction

Data presented here is drawn from a combination of datasets relating to Arrests under Misuse of Drugs Act (1971), Arrest Referrals, Syringe Exchange (Agency and Pharmacy), NDTMS and Connexions. The combined data are aggregated purely on attributer to produce overall figures for numbers of individuals presenting to any service reporting to the IAD. Figures presented here will therefore not necessarily reflect the combined totals of data presented earlier as the method of aggregating is somewhat different. Further information is available from the IAD Manager.

Table 19: Total Problem Drug Users reported to the IAD: by Gender and Age

Knowsley		
Gender	n	%
Male	144	88.3
Female	19	11.7
<i>Totals</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>100</i>
Age		
Under 19	14	8.6
19-24	25	15.3
25+	124	76.1
<i>Totals</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all males reported to the IAD for the first quarter of 2004/05, 11 (7.6%) were under 19, 23 (16.0%) were between 19-24 years and 110 (76.4) were over 25.

For female clients 3 (15.8%) were under 19, with 2 (10.5) between 19-24 years and 14 (73.7%) were over 25.

Fig 1: Distribution of PDUs by age and gender

