



Merseyside Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database

Sefton Quarterly Report

1st April 2004 – 30th June 2004

**Martin Chandler,
Jim McVeigh, Tony Bullock, Paul Duffy**

Martin Chandler
IAD Manager
Centre for Public Health
Faculty of Health & Applied Social Sciences
Sefton John Moores University
8 Marybone
Sefton
L3 2AP
(0151) 231 5855
m.chandler@livjm.ac.uk
<http://www.cph.org.uk>

Contents

Introduction	1
Arrests under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971)	2
Table 1: No. arrested, by Gender, within Sefton D(A)AT	
Table 2: Drug and offence of arrest within Sefton D(A)AT	
Arrest Referral	3
Table 3: Individuals assessed, by Gender and Age Group, within Sefton D(A)AT	
Table 4: Total Assessments by Drug of use, within Sefton D(A)AT	
Syringe Exchange Services (Both Pharmacy and Agency)	4
<u>Agency</u>	
Table 5: Individuals by Gender, within Sefton D(A)AT	
Table 6: Individuals by Age Group, within Sefton D(A)AT	
Table 7: Exchanges within Sefton D(A)AT	
Table 8: Main Drug of Use for Agency Syringe Exchange clients within Sefton D(A)AT	
Table 9: Total Visits within Sefton D(A)AT	
<u>Pharmacy</u>	
Table 10: Individuals, by Gender, within Sefton D(A)AT	
Table 11: Individuals, by Age Group, within Sefton D(A)AT	
Table 12: Total Visits (Pharmacy)	
<u>Combined</u>	
Table 13: Individuals in Syringe Exchange by D(A)AT of Syringe Exchange	
Table 14: Total Visits by D(A)AT of Syringe Exchange	
Structured Drug Treatment (NDTMS)	7
Table 15: Number of people in contact with treatment service by Gender (D(A)AT of Residence)	
Table 16: Individuals in contact with treatment service by Gender and Age (D(A)AT of Treatment)	
Table 17: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment by D(A)AT of Treatment	
Connexions	8
Table 18: Gender by D(A)AT of contact	
Table 19: Age by D(A)AT of contact	
Table 20: Drug/Alcohol problem by D(A)AT of contact	
Combined Datasets	9
Table 21: 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) 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 DAT'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 identified by the National Treatment Agency and Department of Health and the by 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) as well as a range of service providers such as Connexions (young people) and Big Life (homeless).

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.

ARRESTS UNDER MISUSE OF DRUGS ACT (1971)

Introduction

Data are provided by Management Information Analysis (MIA), on behalf of Merseyside Police, relating to arrests for Class A drug offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971). (Possession of, Supply of, or Possession with intent to Supply, Class A drugs) Data are collated and analysed to enable the monitoring of problem drug users whose drug use has led to legal problems, but may not lead them into contact with treatment services.

Table 1: No. arrested for Class A Drug Offences, by Gender within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

Gender	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	364	76.0
Female	115	24.0
Age		
Under 25	215	44.9
25+	264	55.1
<i>Totals</i>	<i>479</i>	<i>100</i>

Of the Male arrestees 172 (47.2%) were Under 25 and 192 (52.8%) were 25+, with 43 (37.4%) of Females being Under 25.

Table 2: Drug and offence of arrest within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

Drug of Arrest	Sefton	
	n	%
Cocaine	12	34.3
Crack	2	5.7
MDMA	11	31.4
Heroin	7	20.0
Methadone	2	5.7
Other Class A	1	2.9
<i>Totals</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>100</i>
Drug Offences		
Possession of Class A	19	59.4
Supply of Class A	9	28.1
Possession W/I to Supply Class A drugs	4	12.5
<i>Totals*</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>100</i>

*Figures here may differ from totals reported above in the same table. This is due to errors or omissions in reporting of specific items.

Arrests for Possession of Class A were predominantly for MDMA with 7 (36.8% of arrests for Possession of Class A) being arrested for that offence. Arrests for Supply of Class A were predominantly for cocaine with 6 people (66.7% of those arrested for Supply) being arrested for that.

ARREST REFERRAL (AR)

Introduction

Data are provided by ARCH Initiative for the Wirral and Merseyside Drug Council (now known as the Lighthouse Project) for all other Merseyside DATs 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 3: Individuals assessed by Gender and Age Group within {DAT} for {Time period}

Gender	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	49	75.4
Female	16	24.6
Age		
Under 25	10	15.4
25+	55	84.6
Unknown	0	0.0
<i>Total individuals</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients 7 (14.3% of males) Males and 3 (18.7% of females) Female, were under 25.

Table 4: Total Assessments by Drug of use

Drug of Use	Sefton	
	n	%
Cocaine	1	1.5
Crack	2	3.1
Heroin	39	60.0
Methadone	6	9.2

Methodological note: Drugs may be represented multiple times within the dataset. Percentages in Table 4 are therefore a proportion of the total number of individuals (as detailed in Table 3).

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. Tables 10-15 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 5: Individuals by Gender, within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

New Clients	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	72	93.5
Female	5	6.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	290	86.1
Female	47	13.9
<i>Totals</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 6: Individuals by Age Group, within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

New Clients	Sefton	
	n	%
Under 25	55	71.4
25+	22	28.6
<i>Totals</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	286	84.9
25+	51	15.1
<i>Totals</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients 4 (6.4% of males) Males and 1 (6.6% of females) Female, were under 25.

Table 7: Exchanges within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

Attributable Exchanges	Sefton
	n
Syringes provided	6839
Returns	6782
Non-Attributable Exchanges	
Syringes	60
Returns	30

Table 8: Main Drug of Use for Agency Syringe Exchange clients within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

Drug of Use	Sefton			
	All		New	
	n	%	n	%
Heroin	159	47.2	25	32.5
Methadone	29	8.6	0	0.0
Amphetamines	8	2.4	2	2.6
Steroids	126	37.4	48	62.3
Cocaine*	9	2.7	2	2.6
Other	5	1.5	0	0.0
Unknown/Missing	1	0.3	0	0.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>100</i>

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

*Including Crack

The two main drugs of use reported by Agency syringe exchanges for this period were heroin and steroids. Of those reporting heroin as their main drug of use, a total of 123 were Male (42.4% of all Males reported) and 36 were Female (76.6% of Females). A total of 9 (5.7%) injecting heroin users were Under 25.

A total of 125 steroid users were male (43.1 % of male injectors in the dataset), making steroids slightly more popular amongst male injectors than heroin. One female was also reported as using steroids. Thirty-eight steroid users were Under 25, (74.5% of injectors under 25).

Table 9: Total Visits within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

	Sefton	
	n	%
Attributable	1190	99.7
Non Attributable	3	0.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>1193</i>	<i>100</i>

PHARMACY SYRINGE EXCHANGE

Table 10: Individuals, by Gender, within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

New Clients	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	5	83.3
Female	1	16.7
<i>Totals</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	62	80.5
Female	15	19.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 11: Individuals, by Age Group, within Sefton DAT (1st April – 30th June 2004)

New Clients	Sefton	
	n	%
Under 25	0	0.0
25+	6	100
<i>Totals</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	5	93.5
25+	72	6.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients, 4 Males (6.4% of males) and 1 Female (6.6% of females) were Under 25.

Table 12: Total Visits (Pharmacy)

	Sefton	
	n	%
Attributable	210	26.7
Non Attributable	576	73.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>786</i>	<i>100</i>

COMBINED PHARMACY AND AGENCY-BASED SYRINGE EXCHANGE**Table 13: Individuals in Syringe Exchange by DAT of Syringe Exchange**

	Sefton	
	n	%
Gender		
New Clients		
Male	77	92.8
Female	6	7.2
<i>Totals</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	352	85.0
Female	62	15.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>414</i>	<i>100</i>
Age		
New Clients		
Under 25	55	66.3
25+	28	33.7
<i>Totals</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	291	70.3
25+	123	29.7
<i>Totals</i>	<i>414</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 14: Total Visits by DAT of Syringe Exchange

	Sefton	
	n	%
Attributable	1400	70.7
Non Attributable	579	29.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>1979</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 15: Number of people in contact with treatment service by Gender (DAT of Residence)

	Sefton	
	No.	%
Male	699	69.0
Female	314	31.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1013</i>	<i>100</i>

Table 16: Individuals in contact with treatment service by Gender and Age (DAT of Treatment)

Gender	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	696	69.1
Female	311	30.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>1007</i>	<i>100</i>
Age		
Under 25	237	23.5
25+	770	76.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>1007</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients, 161 Males (23.1% of males) and 76 Females (24.4% of females) were Under 25.

Table 17: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment by DAT of Treatment

Ethnicity	Sefton	
	n	%
African	1	0.1
Chinese	2	0.2
Indian	1	0.1
Other	1	0.1
Other Mixed	2	0.2
Other White	5	0.5
White & Black African	2	0.2
White & Black Caribbean	2	0.2
White British	764	75.9
White Irish	3	0.3
Unknown	226	22.4
<i>Totals</i>	<i>1007</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 18: Gender by DAT of contact

	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	2	33.3
Female	4	66.6
<i>Totals</i>	6	100

Table 19: Age by DAT of contact

Age	Sefton	
	n	%
16	3	50.0
17	0	0.0
18	2	33.3
19	1	16.7
<i>Totals</i>	6	100

Table 20: Drug/Alcohol problem by DAT of contact

	Sefton	
	n	%
Alcohol/Other	3	50.0
Drugs	3	50.0
<i>Totals</i>	6	100

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

Gender	Sefton	
	n	%
Male	493	53.5
Female	428	46.5
Totals	921	100
Age		
Under 19	181	19.7
19-24	106	11.5
25+	634	68.8
Totals	921	100

Of all males reported to the IAD for the first quarter of 2004/05, 38 (7.7%) were under 19, 56 (11.4%) were between 19-24 years and 399 (80.9%) were over 25.

For female clients 143 (33.4%) were under 19, with 50 (11.7%) between 19-24 years and 235 (54.9%) over 25.

Fig 1: Distribution of PDUs reported to the IAD by Gender and Age

