

Fuse Quarterly Research Meeting

Understanding stimulant drug use across North East England and Europe:

Findings from the mixed methods 'ATTUNE' Study

Thursday 17 October 2019, 12.30 – 4.30pm

The Core, Science Central Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5TF

Programme

Amphetamine type stimulants (ATS), such as amphetamine, methamphetamine, and ecstasy, are the second most commonly used class of illicit drugs globally. Addressing the harms caused by ATS use to individuals, communities and the wider health system is a rapidly increasingly UK policy priority. Yet we know little about what influences ATS use over a person's life. The three-year European 'ATTUNE' project aimed to explore the individual, social, and environmental factors that shape different pathways of ATS use, with study arms in the Czech Republic, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, and the North East of England. The UK arm involved qualitative interviews and survey questionnaires with a range of ATS users and non-users from across the North East. This Fuse Quarterly Research Meeting will offer an early opportunity to hear about, and engage with, the initial findings from the research.

12.30pm	Lunch and registration
1.00pm	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - John Liddell, Health & Wellbeing Programme Manager, Public Health England; Chair, ATTUNE Study Steering Group
1.10pm	Introduction to the European ATTUNE Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr Amy O'Donnell, ATTUNE Co-Principal Investigator, Newcastle University "I was taking it just to get through my day": Exploring users and non-users' perspectives on ATS use over the life-course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liam Spencer, Research Assistant, Newcastle University. Amphetamine Type Stimulant use in the North East: Results from a cross-sectional survey of 380 ATS users and non-users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr Hayley Alderson, Research Associate, Newcastle University
1.50pm	Questions and answers
2.15pm	Including the multiply-excluded in research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mark Adley, Harm Reduction Manager, People's Kitchen
2.45pm	Coffee break
3.15pm	Facilitated discussion groups: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What have you found unexpected/surprising about these findings? 2. What needs to change/improve about current policy and practice? 3. What are the priorities for future research in this area?
4.00pm	Group feedback and reflections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - John Liddell and Dr Amy O'Donnell
4.30pm	Close of event