



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

PROGRAMME

Treatment demand indicator and drug treatment

*The impact of COVID-19 on drug
treatment*

2020 expert meeting

5 November 2020

EMCDDA

I Aim and objectives

Format: On-line meeting via Zoom

Participants: National TDI and treatment experts, international partners

Aim and objectives

The 2020 annual expert meeting will take place via Zoom and will have the scope to discuss with the network of treatment experts the impact of COVID-19 on drug treatment, including: monitoring, services and new options for drug treatment, namely telemedicine.

The first session - **impact of COVID-19 on TDI and other treatment data collection in 2020** - will have the objective to explore and discuss how COVID-19 has impacted on data collection during and after the lockdown; what can we expect in terms of data submission and how to report and interpret these data in the 2021 EMCDDA products.

The second session - **impact of covid-19 on drug services and clients after the lockdown** - will aim at hearing about the impact of the pandemic on drug services and clients since the lockdown was lifted (June until November) and explore some questions raised in the EMCDDA's study conducted in May about what the 'new normal' for drug services would look like.

Finally, the third session - **telemedicine: a viable option for European drug treatment services in times of COVID-19 and beyond?** - will explore new options in drug treatment that became more widespread with the lockdown, namely telemedicine. The objective will be to see how telemedicine, both internet and phone-based treatments, were applied as an alternative to face-to-face consultations before, during and after the lockdown.

The meeting will start at 9.30 Lisbon time and finish at 16.30, with intervals between sessions. There will be three sessions to allow experts to better follow the meeting and actively participate in the discussions. Breakout sessions will also be organized.

The methodological workshops, used to take place at the physical annual meeting, will be replaced by one day virtual workshop every two-three months on topics included in the EMCDDA workplan. This approach will have the benefits of staying in contact with the network of European experts throughout the year, allowing regular follow-up of 2-3 objective-oriented activities or projects with groups of national experts throughout the year. This will also lead to the annual physical meeting with a concrete outcome of the project and allow all the other interested experts to join the core working groups if interested.

Some topical working, that could take place in the months following the November's meeting onwards, can include: coverage and trends; gender; comorbidities, crack and cocaine trends. Other topics may be added on the basis of the priorities defined by the EMCDDA and the interest expressed by the experts in the national abstracts.

Thursday 5 November 2020

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| 09.30 | <p>Welcome and introduction to the meeting Chairs: Alessandro Pirona and Linda Montanari, EMCDDA</p> <p>Welcome - Jane Mounteney, EMCDDA</p> <p>Update on data submissions - Bruno Guarita, EMCDDA</p> <p>Update on on-going projects by national project leaders (2' each)</p> <p>New EMCDDA TDI/Treatment expert meeting virtual format</p> |
| 10.00 | <p>Session 1 - The impact of COVID-19 on TDI and other treatment data collection in 2020 Chair: Andre Noor, EMCDDA</p> <p>Speakers: Alessandro Pirona, EMCDDA Jérôme Antoine, Belgium Maja Valentic, Croatia Lubomir Okruhlica, Slovakia Suzi Lyons, Ireland Danijela Nikolic, Serbia</p> |
| 11.30 | <p><i>Lunch break</i></p> |
| 13.00 | <p>Session 2 - Impact of covid-19 on drug services and clients (post lockdown) Chair: Alessandro Pirona, EMCDDA</p> <p>Presentation of the main findings from the Trendspotter study on '<i>Impact of COVID-19 on drug services and help seeking in Europe</i>'</p> <p>Impact of COVID-19 on drug services and client groups in Bergamo (Italy) - Dr. Marco Riglietta, Director of the UOC Dipendenze ASST Papa Giovanni XXIII Bergamo</p> <p>Round table of short presentations by national experts – with focus on particular drugs and groups: Larissa Schwarzkopf (Germany) and Anna Peterfi (Hungary) - focus on cannabis Nadine Berndt (Luxembourg) and Ioulia Baffi (Greece) - focus on opioids and OST Barbara Janikova (Czech Republic) and Antti Impinen (Finland) - focus on amphetamines</p> |
| 14.30 | <p><i>Coffee break</i></p> |
| 14.45 | <p>Session 3 - Telemedicine: a viable option for European drug treatment services in times of COVID-19 and beyond? Chair: Linda Montanari, EMCDDA</p> <p>The “post-COVID era”: challenges in the treatment of substance use disorder (SUD) after the pandemic - Hugo López-Pelayo, Spain</p> <p>Digital interventions for problematic drug use in Sweden. A public health and clinical perspective - Anne H. Berman, Sweden</p> <p>Telemedicine as a useful option in the treatment system - Inga Landsmane, Latvia</p> <p>Integrating internet-based treatment data collection into the TDI monitoring - Domingos Duran, Portugal</p> <p><i>Small break of 10 minutes to prepare the breakout sessions.</i></p> <p>Breakout sessions Chairs: Irene Schmutterer (Austria), Etienne Maffli (Switzerland), Katerina Skarupova (EMCDDA), Anne Bergenström (EMCDDA), Christophe Palle (France), Marica Ferri (EMCDDA)</p> <p>Telemedicine in the European addiction treatment systems: what are the experiences and challenges in its implementation and monitoring?</p> |
| 16.30 | <p>Conclusions</p> |