

Drugs Alcohol Health and More

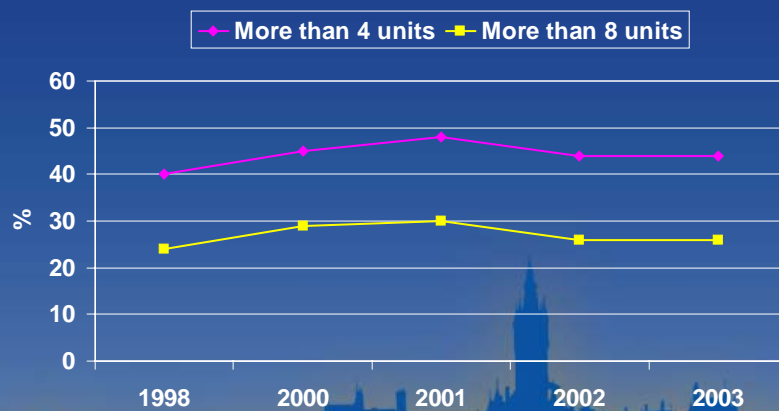
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Topics Covered

- Extent and Impact of Alcohol Use in Scotland
- Extent and Impact of Illegal Drug Use in Scotland
- Drug Related Deaths
- Hepatitis C
- Impact of parental drug use on children
- Drug abuse treatment in Scotland

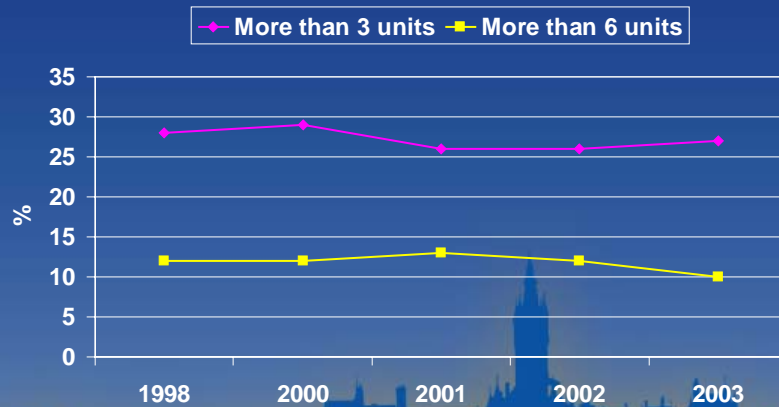
Alcohol

Proportion of men drinking more than the recommended daily amount of alcohol on at least one day in the last week



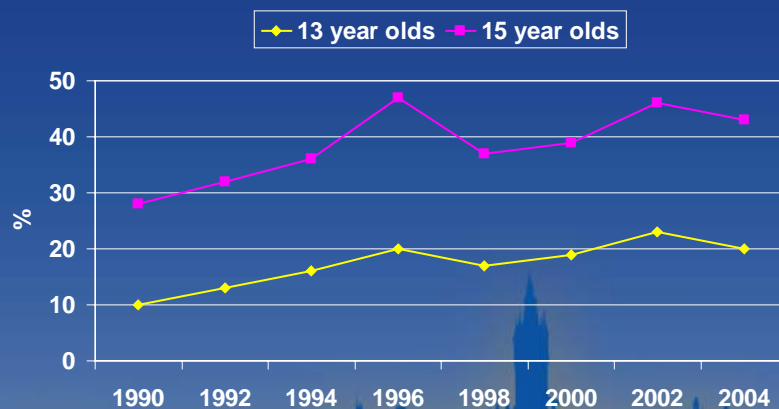
Source: General Household Survey 2003

Proportion of women drinking more than the recommended daily amount of alcohol on at least one day in the last week



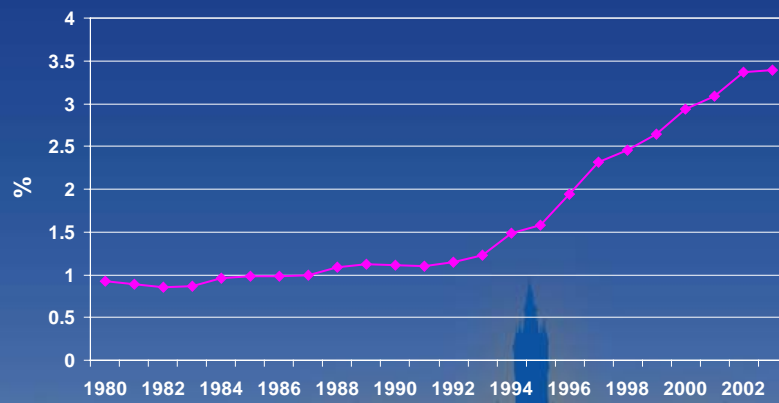
Source: General Household Survey 2003

Proportion of 13 yr olds and 15 yr olds reporting drinking in the past week



Source: SALSUS 2004

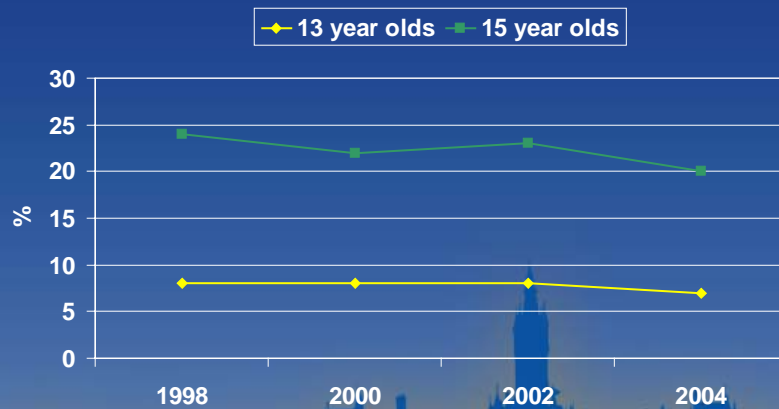
Proportion of all deaths where an alcohol related condition is underlying or contributing to cause of death



Source: Alcohol Statistics Scotland 2005

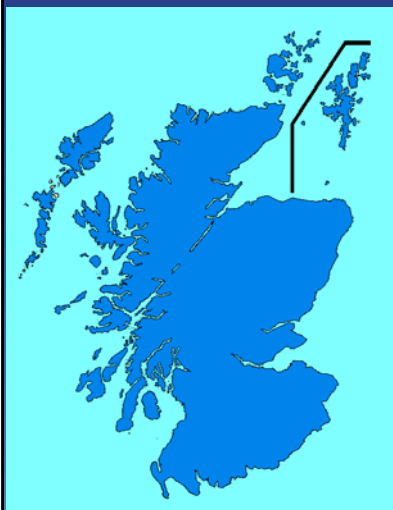
Drugs

Proportion of 13yr olds and 15 yr olds reporting using illegal drugs in the past month



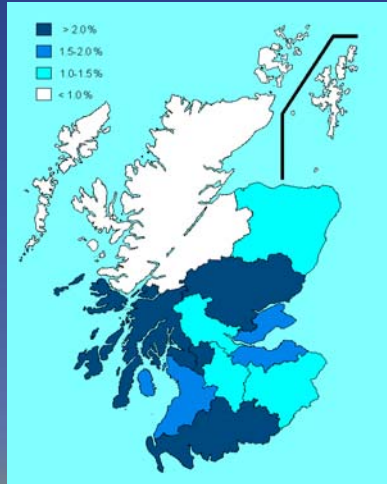
Source: SALSUS 2004

Scotland - National Estimate of Problem Drug Use in Scotland in 2003



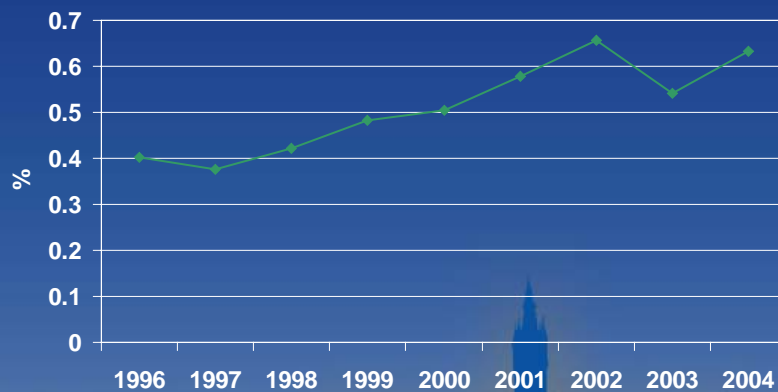
- 51,582 problem drug users in total
 - 1.84% of the population aged 15-54 (95% CI 1.84-2.01)
- 69% men, 31% women
- 18,737 injectors
 - 0.67% of the population aged 15-54 (95% CI 0.63-0.72)

NHS Board Area Estimates



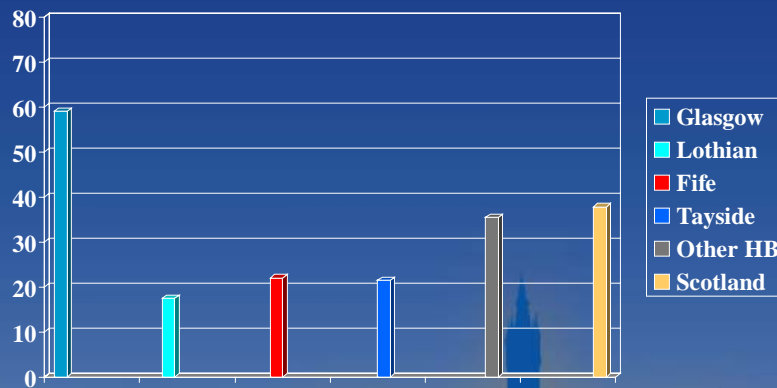
- Greater Glasgow 2.64%
(95% CI 2.55-2.87)
- Dumfries & Galloway 2.43%
(95% CI 2.15-2.94)
- Argyll & Clyde 2.29%
(95% CI 2.16-2.85)

Proportion of all deaths reported as a drug related death in Scotland



Source: GRO Scotland

Prevalence of Hepatitis C Amongst Drug Users in Scotland (Results from the Drug Outcome Research in Scotland Study)



National Institute for Clinical Excellence Report on the Treatment of Hepatitis C

- Although the rates of discontinuation of injecting drug users in trials have been high the committee was prepared to accept...that rates of discontinuation would not be so great as to prevent the treatment being cost effective”.

But will injecting drug users receive optimal treatment?

- Estimated cost of optimal treatment for HCV: £6000 per patient
- Estimated 19,300 drug injectors in Scotland who are HCV positive
- Possible cost to NHS in Scotland £115m
- But will drug users get the optimal treatment for HCV given these costs?

Impact of Parental Drug Use on Children

Estimates of Prevalence

- Approximately one child for every problematic drug user in the U.K.
- That would be in excess of 50,000 children in Scotland
- (2-3% of all children under 16)

What do children say about the impact of parental drug use on their lives?

The loss of household routines

We didn't have any routines really everything revolved around the drugs always. I asked about food being available "no there wasn't much food about, maybe the day they got paid there would be a dinner and maybe the day after but then there would be nothing again.. "Actually" she said "if it was a choice of being hungry or using the money for drugs it was better if they used the money for drugs then at least they would leave you alone"

The Violence

- That was scary because there were guys who used to buy stuff of ma uncle and they all burst in and were holding knives to our throats asking for the drugs and the money and they were saying they would cut our throats if they didn't give it to them

The Lack of Interest

- I knew they (parents) loved me but they just did'nae care that I was there and I needed stuff as well. I needed things and they were just away taking drugs and stuff.

The Reversal of Family Roles

- It was as if she was the child and I was the mum...It was a nightmare an absolute nightmare. I don't think that I had a childhood at all.

Anger

- Well I used to feel angry like when ma mum was on drugs cause I used to think how could this have happened to me? It was just sad all the time and then I would get angry and we would have arguments all of the time

Focus of Policy and Treatment

- At present the aim of policy and provision is to support children within drug user families.
- The reality is that we are unable to support anywhere near the number of children within drug dependent families.
- As a result many thousands of children remain vulnerable and unsupported despite the stated commitment to meet their needs.

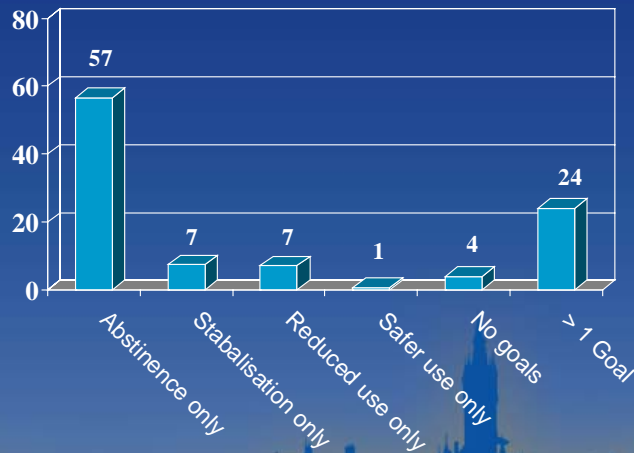
Responding to the Drug Problem in Scotland: Drug Abuse Treatment

- What do drug abusers want to get out of treatment?
- What do they get offered?
- How effective is what they get?
- Are we providing the right treatments or the right mix of treatments?

What do drug users want to get out of treatment?

- 76% of drug users questioned identified a single goal for their treatment
- Overwhelmingly that goal was to become drug free

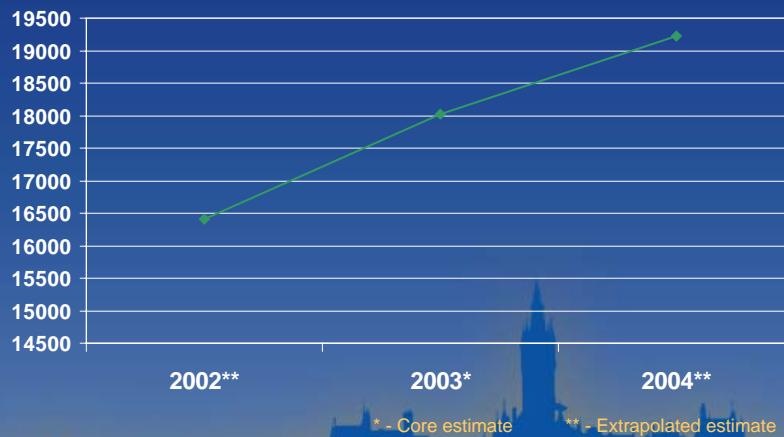
Treatment Goals (n-1007)



What do drug users get by way of treatment in Scotland

- Estimated 20,000 injecting drug users receiving methadone
- Only a tiny minority of drug users in treatment are offered residential detox and rehabilitation programmes

Estimated number of methadone clients in June-July 2002, 2003 and 2004



Source: ISD Scotland 2005

Conclusions

- No one model of service is appropriate for all drug users but
- We still have to make choices about what types of services are going to be provided. And in that connection
- We need to ensure that our drug treatment services are able to move individuals towards becoming drug free rather than simply stabilising their continuing drug use.

Concluding Thought: Illegal Drug Use in the Future

- On the basis of the next figure whilst we may feel that we have a substantial drug problem at the present time in twenty years time we may look back to the present time as a period characterised by a relatively modest drug problem.

Growth in the Prevalence of Problematic Drug Use in the UK and Possible Forecast

