

Enhanced surveillance of blood borne viruses in drug users in Wales

Annual report 2016

Public Health Wales assesses trends in the rates of blood borne viral hepatitis and HIV in drug users living in Wales using data collected voluntarily from clients of substance misuse services (SMS) in Wales undergoing diagnostic testing. This is the last report published with data from this surveillance system, as it is being superseded by a new module on the Harm Reduction Database for the recording of data in relation to blood borne virus screening within community services in Wales.

KEY POINTS

- The prevalence of hepatitis C, hepatitis B, and HIV amongst clients of SMS undergoing diagnostic testing in 2016 was 17% (95%CI 15-20; n=200/1158), 0.4% (95%CI 0.1-0.9; n=4/1081), and 0.1% (95%CI 0.0-0.5; n=1/1109) respectively.
- Their median age was 37 years (range 17-72), and 71% were male (Table 2).
- Amongst those who reported ever injecting drugs, the prevalence of hepatitis C was 26% (95%CI 23-30; n=193/736).
- Evidence suggests that the incidence of hepatitis C has increased amongst people who inject drugs (PWID) living in Wales in 2016, after dipping in 2015, returning to previous levels. Changes in the prevalence of blood borne viruses in younger injectors and new initiates are a marker for recent transmission. Amongst clients of substance misuse services aged under 25 years who reported injecting drugs, the percentage positive for hepatitis C increased from 13% (95%CI 5-28; n=6/46) in 2015 to 18% (95%CI 7-37; n=7/39) in 2016 (Figure 1, Table 3b). Amongst clients who reported injecting drugs for 2 years or less and who were tested for hepatitis C, the percentage positive increased from 10% (95%CI 5-19; n=11/106) in 2015 to 16% (95%CI 10-25; n=19/117) in 2016. These results should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.
- Hepatitis B prevalence amongst SMS clients remains low. 0.4% (95%CI 0.1-0.9; n=4/1081) of clients who were tested for HBV surface antigen in 2016 were positive, compared to 1.0% (95%CI 0.5-1.9; n=9/889) in 2015, when the observed rate was higher than in previous years (Table 3b).
- HIV prevalence amongst SMS clients remains low. In 2016, one of the 1109 individuals tested for HIV had a positive result. In previous years of the scheme, only 2 individuals tested positive for HIV, one in 2012 and one in 2013.
- Whilst data from this surveillance scheme are useful in monitoring trends, the data should be interpreted with caution as numbers of people tested are small; and participation in the scheme varies greatly across health boards, and across years within individual health boards. For instance, participation from Cwm Taf increased greatly in 2015, which may affect observed trends.

Reporting to the scheme

A total of 5960 completed forms were received by Public Health Wales for attendances between 2011 and 2016. These forms corresponded to 5855 individuals seen by substance misuse services in Wales (Table 1). For 2016, 1196 surveillance forms were received for 1182 individuals. Participation in the scheme varies greatly across health boards, and across years within individual health boards. For instance, participation from Cwm Taf increased greatly in 2015, and the number of forms received from Betsi Cadwaladr more than doubled between 2015 and 2016, which may affect observed trends.

Population tested through the scheme

The 1182 clients of SMS undergoing diagnostic testing in 2016 and reported to the scheme had a median age of 37 years (range 17-72), and 71% were male. Of these, 1158 were tested for hepatitis C antibody, 1081 were tested for HBV surface antigen, and 1109 were tested for HIV antibody (Table 2).

Positivity rates

The prevalence of hepatitis C, hepatitis B, and HIV amongst those tested was 17% (95%CI 15-20; n=200/1158), 0.4% (95%CI 0.1-0.9; n=4/1081), and 0.1% (95%CI 0.0-0.5; n=1/1109) respectively. The prevalence of hepatitis C was slightly higher in males (18%, 95%CI 15-21) than females (15%, 95%CI 11-20) and tended to increase with age, although comparisons between age groups should be taken with caution due to the small number involved. Broadly speaking, the same happened with positivity rates by age and sex for hepatitis B and HIV, although overinterpretation should be avoided, again due to the small numbers involved and very few positive results (Table 2).

The overall hepatitis C positivity rate in 2016 was 17% (200/1158). Whilst 1% (4/395) of the never-injectors tested were positive, the positivity rate amongst those who reported ever injecting drugs was 26% (95%CI 23-30; n=193/736) (Table 3).

Prevalence trends in younger clients, and those with a shorter injecting history, may reflect trends in recently acquired infection (incidence). In these groups, the prevalence of hepatitis C increased in 2016 after dipping in 2015, returning to previous levels (Figure 1, Table 3b). Amongst clients aged under 25 years who reported injecting drugs, the percentage positive for hepatitis C increased from 13% (95%CI 5-28; n=6/46) in 2015 to 18% (95%CI 7-37; n=7/39) in 2016 (Figure 1, Table 3b). Similarly, amongst clients who reported injecting drugs for 2 years or less the percentage positive increased from 10% (95%CI 5-19; n=11/106) in 2015 to 16% (95%CI 10-25; n=19/117) in 2016. These results should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.

The hepatitis C positivity rate amongst 2016 clients reporting ever injecting who reported having been prescribed opiate substitution therapy (OST) in the previous 12 months was similar to those who had not been prescribed OST in the previous 12 months; 27% (126/473) and 25% (65/257) respectively.

Amongst the clients who were tested for hepatitis C and who reported injecting steroids in the last 12 months, 30% (18/60) were positive in 2011, and 8% (5/59) in 2012, after which it increased reaching 18% (7/38) in 2015, and 17% (9/52) in 2016. Most clients who reported injecting steroids also reported injecting other drugs (Table 6). Results should be taken with caution due to small numbers and variability in reporting.

In mid-2014, a new version of the questionnaire was introduced which collected data on the use of mephedrone. The hepatitis C positivity rate amongst those who reported injecting mephedrone was 27% in both 2014 (13/48) and 2015 (27/101), and increased to 38% (26/68) in 2016. The hepatitis C positivity rate

according to mephedrone use in 2014-16 was 30% in users (66/217), 24% in non-users (266/1119), and 20% in those for whom this information was not known (28/142).

Recording of the HBV surface antigen test, which indicates current infection, has been available since 2012. In 2016, 0.4% (95%CI 0.1-0.9; n=4/1081) of SMS clients who were tested for HBV surface antigen were positive, compared to 1.0% (95%CI 0.5-1.9; n=9/889) in 2015, when the observed rate was higher than in previous years (Table 3b). The positivity rate in 2016 was highest in Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, at 1.3% (2/151). Results should be taken with caution due to small numbers

In 2016, 1 of the 1109 SMS clients tested for HIV antibody had a positive result. In the previous four years, only 2 individuals have tested positive for HIV, one in 2012 and one in 2013. The 2013 case was previously known to be HIV positive.

Drug history

Of the 1182 individuals seen in 2016, there were 1154 individuals for whom injecting history was known. Sixty-five percent of these (n=754) reported having ever injected drugs. Clients who reported having ever injected drugs were most frequently men, born in the UK, and had a median age of 36 years. Where recorded, 28% (208/750) reported being homeless in the previous year, 59% (442/744) reported having previously spent time in prison, and 16% (117/739) reported injecting drugs for 2 years or less (Table 4). Forty-eight percent (358/739) reported injecting drugs for more than 10 years.

Regarding drugs reported as being used in the previous year by clients seen in 2016 who reported ever injecting drugs (n=754), 62% reported injecting heroin, 20% crack cocaine, 18% crack and heroin combined, 7% steroids or image enhancing drugs, and 26% amphetamines. These percentages were generally lower than those seen in 2015, with the exception of crack and crack and heroin combined, which increased from 13% and 11% respectively, and steroid use which remained approximately stable. Clients reporting injecting mephedrone decreased from 26% (48/186) in 2014 to 10% (72/729) in 2016 (Table 5). However, results should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers and variability in reporting.

Over half of the clients who reported injecting steroids also reported injecting other drugs (see Table 6). In 2016, 52% of these clients who reported injecting steroids in the last 12 months also reported that they injected other drugs (50% reported heroin, 37% crack cocaine, 35% crack and heroin combined, 25% amphetamines, and 12% mephedrone).

The median age of clients who reported ever injecting drugs in both 2016 and 2015 was 36, and 35 in 2014 and 2013. In 2016, the median age according to drugs used in the previous year was: 36 for crack, heroin and crack and heroin combined, 35 for amphetamines and mephedrone, and 34 for steroids.

Where recorded (n=1163), in 2016, 52% of all clients reported that they had been prescribed opiate substitution therapy in the previous 12 months (Table 5).

RESULTS

Table 1: Number of individuals for whom a form was submitted by year and LHB of the service*

| Service HB | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | Total | Clients with a form in 2016 per 100,000 population |
|------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Abertawe Bro Morgannwg | 23 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 0.0 |
| Aneurin Bevan | 383 | 332 | 330 | 264 | 308 | 336 | 1953 | 57.5 |
| Betsi Cadwaladr | 457 | 265 | 326 | 265 | 122 | 306 | 1741 | 44.0 |
| Cardiff & Vale | 59 | 26 | 50 | 94 | 126 | 157 | 512 | 32.0 |
| Cwm Taf | 4 | 31 | 59 | 3 | 282 | 219 | 598 | 73.5 |
| Hywel Dda | 86 | 91 | 213 | 251 | 145 | 158 | 944 | 41.2 |
| Powys Teaching | 12 | 8 | 20 | 20 | 16 | 6 | 82 | 4.5 |
| Wales | 1,024 | 755 | 998 | 897 | 999 | 1,182 | 5,855 | 38.0 |

*As at 21/07/2017

Notes:

- i) 11 forms were excluded due to clients declining to participate, 34 due to missing date of attendance, and a further 251 forms were excluded which did not report tests results for any BBV and was therefore unknown whether any test had actually been performed. The number of forms is expected to increase as further forms are received, especially for 2016.
- ii) Population estimates for mid-2016 obtained from StatsWales

Table 2: Percentage of individuals for whom a form was submitted and tested who were positive for a BBV by sex and age group, 2016*

| Sex/Age group | Number of clients | HCV Ab | HIV Ab | HBV sAg‡ |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | All clients (n= 1158) | All clients (n=1109) | All clients (n=1081) |
| Men | 844 | 18% | 0.1% | 0.4% |
| Women | 337 | 15% | 0.0% | 0.3% |
| Aged <25 | 80 | 10% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Aged 25-34 | 336 | 14% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Aged 35-44 | 416 | 22% | 0.3% | 0.3% |
| Aged 45+ | 223 | 18% | 0.0% | 0.5% |
| Unknwon age | 127 | 13% | 0.0% | 1.7% |
| Wales | 1182 | 17% | 0.1% | 0.4% |

*As at 21/07/2017

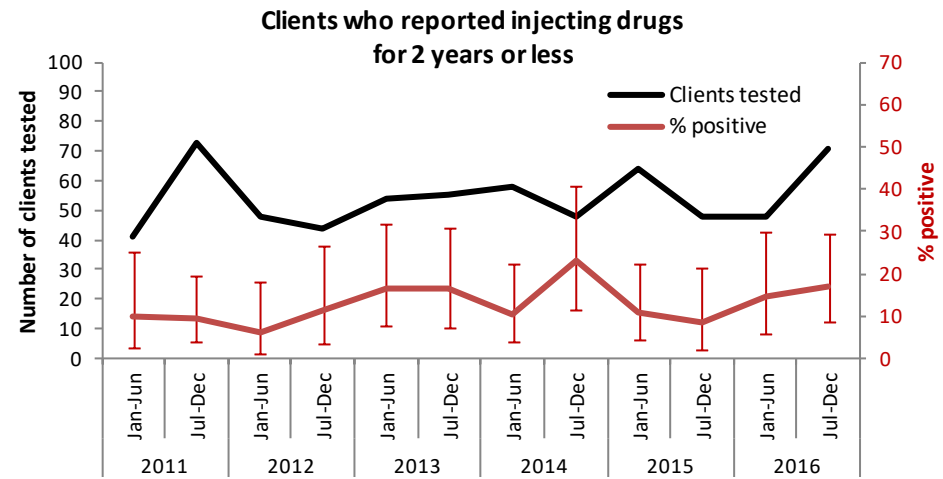
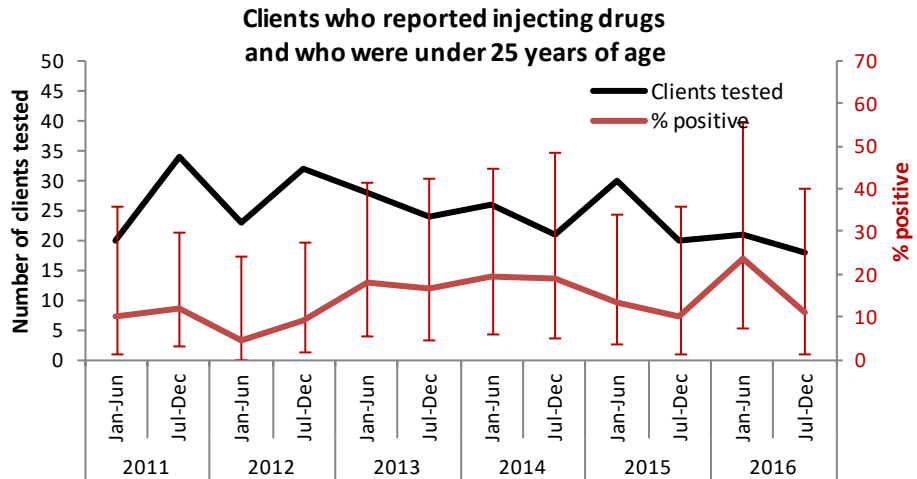
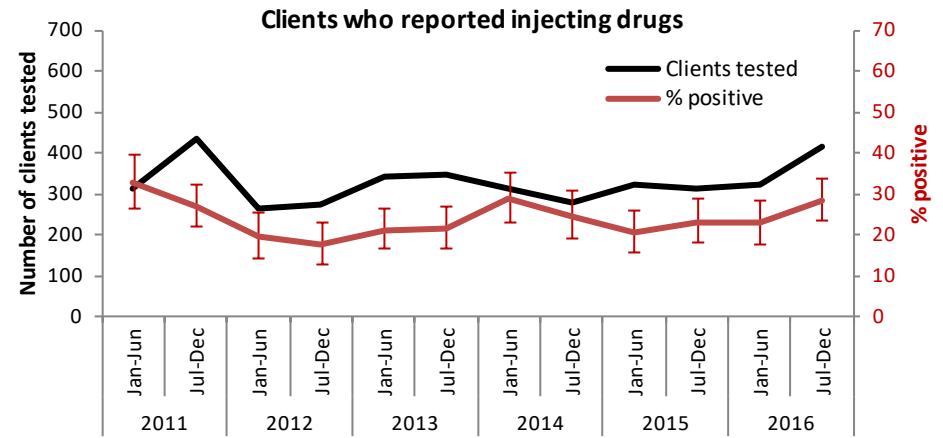
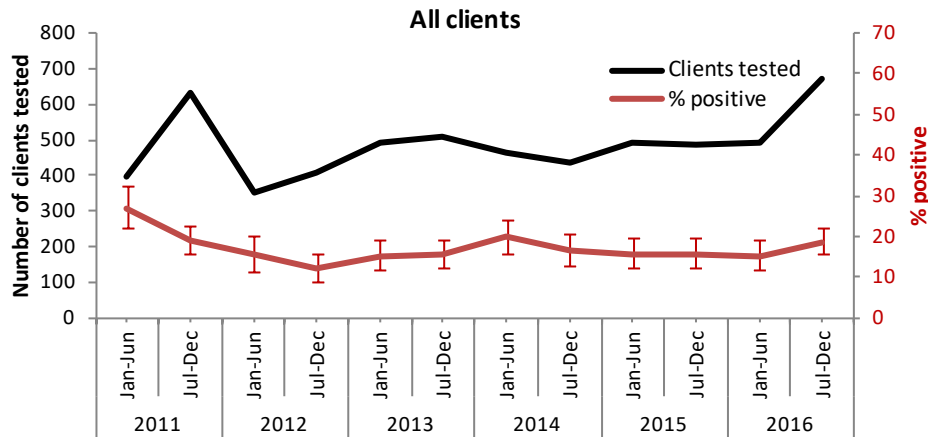
‡ Recording of the HBV surface antigen test has been available since 2012, and it indicates whether or not an individual is currently infected with HBV

Notes:

- i) Numbers may change as new forms are received
- ii) If an individual was known to have been tested more than once during 2016, only the last form within 2016 was considered.
- iii) Sex was unknown for one individual
- iv) Not all individuals were tested for all infections. Percentages are based on the number of clients tested, indicated in each column.

Figure 1: Number of individuals for whom a form was submitted and tested for hepatitis C, by 6 month period, and the percentage of which were positive, 2011-2016*.

Error bars represent 95% CI (Poisson, exact)



*As at 21/07/2017

Notes:

- i) Numbers may change as new forms are received
- ii) If an individual was known to have been tested more than once during a 6 month period, only the last form within that period was considered. If an individual was known to have been tested in different periods, it contributed to the counts of all the periods when they were tested
- iv) Not all individuals were tested for hepatitis C. Percentages are based on the number of clients tested in each period.

Table 3: Percentage of individuals for whom a form was submitted and tested who were positive for a BBV by service Health Board, 2016*

| Service HB | Number of clients | HCV Ab | | | | HIV Ab | HBV sAg‡ |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | All clients (n= 1158) | Clients who inject drugs (n=736) | Clients who inject drugs, aged <25yrs (n=39) | Clients injecting for ≤2yrs (n=117) | All clients (n=1109) | All clients (n=1081) |
| Abertawe Bro Morgannwg | <10 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Aneurin Bevan | 336 | 15% | 20% | 17% | 16% | 0.3% | 0.0% |
| Betsi Cadwaladr | 306 | 29% | 37% | 0% | 20% | 0.0% | 0.7% |
| Cardiff & Vale | 157 | 16% | 21% | 33% | 24% | 0.0% | 1.3% |
| Cwm Taf | 219 | 13% | 32% | 25% | 18% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Hywel Dda | 158 | 8% | 16% | 0% | 0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Powys Teaching | <10 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Wales | 1182 | 17% | 26% | 18% | 16% | 0.1% | 0.4% |

*As at 21/07/2017

‡ Recording of the HBV surface antigen test has been available since 2012, and it indicates whether or not an individual is currently infected with HBV

Notes:

- i) Numbers may change as new forms are received
- ii) If an individual was known to have been tested more than once during 2016, only the last form within 2016 was considered.
- iii) Amongst the clients seen in 2016, 28 were of unknown injecting history, 400 reported never injecting drugs, and 754 reported ever injecting drugs
- iv) Not all individuals were tested for all infections. Percentages are based on the number of clients tested, indicated in each column.
- v) Some cells have been suppressed due to small numbers (-)

Table 3b: Percentage of individuals for whom a form was submitted and tested who were positive for a BBV by year, 2011-2016*

| Year | Number of clients | HCV Ab | | | | HIV Ab | HBV sAg‡ |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | | All clients (n= 5774) | Clients who inject drugs (n= 3896) | Clients who inject drugs, aged <25yrs (n=288) | Clients injecting for ≤2yrs (n=635) | All clients (n= 5534) | All clients (n=3543) |
| 2011 | 1,024 | 22% | 29% | 11% | 10% | 0.0% | - |
| 2012 | 755 | 14% | 19% | 8% | 9% | 0.1% | 0.4% |
| 2013 | 998 | 16% | 22% | 18% | 17% | 0.1% | 0.5% |
| 2014 | 897 | 18% | 27% | 20% | 17% | 0.0% | 0.3% |
| 2015 | 999 | 16% | 22% | 13% | 10% | 0.0% | 1.0% |
| 2016 | 1182 | 17% | 26% | 18% | 16% | 0.1% | 0.4% |
| Total | 5,855 | 17% | 25% | 14% | 13% | 0.1% | 0.5% |

*As at 21/07/2017

‡ Recording of the HBV surface antigen test has been available since 2012, and it indicates whether or not an individual is currently infected with HBV

Notes:

- i) Numbers may change as new forms are received
- ii) If an individual was known to have been tested more than once in a given year, only the last form within that year was considered.
- iii) Amongst the 5,855 clients seen between 2011- 2016, 178 were of unknown injecting history, 1,727 reported never injecting drugs, and 3,950 reported ever injecting drugs
- iv) Not all individuals were tested for all infections. Percentages are based on the number of clients tested, indicated in each column.

Table 4: Characteristics of individuals for whom a form was submitted who reported ever injecting drugs, by service Health Board, 2016*

| Service HB | All clients | Clients who reported injecting drugs | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Number | Number | % male (n=753) | Median age (range) (n=683) | % born in UK (n=751) | % homeless in previous year (n=750) | % been in prison previously (n=744) | % injecting for ≤2yrs (n=739) |
| Abertawe Bro Morgannwg | <10 | <10 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Aneurin Bevan | 336 | 238 | 76% | 36 (22-57) | 97% | 26% | 63% | 16% |
| Betsi Cadwaladr | 306 | 235 | 77% | 39 (19-60) | 98% | 30% | 57% | 13% |
| Cardiff & Vale | 157 | 108 | 72% | 36 (20-54) | 94% | 35% | 63% | 20% |
| Cwm Taf | 219 | 85 | 78% | 35 (20-51) | 100% | 20% | 49% | 14% |
| Hywel Dda | 158 | 84 | 70% | 35 (21-52) | 99% | 25% | 60% | 19% |
| Powys Teaching | <10 | <10 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Wales | 1,182 | 754 | 75% | 36 (19-60) | 97% | 28% | 59% | 16% |

*As at 21/07/2017

Notes:

- Numbers may change as new forms are received
- If an individual was known to have been tested more than once during 2016, only the last form within 2016 was considered.
- Amongst the clients seen in 2016, 28 were of unknown injecting history, 400 reported never injecting drugs, and 754 reported ever injecting drugs
- The percentages provided are based on the number of clients for whom the variable of interest was reported, indicated in each column.
- Some cells have been suppressed due to small numbers (-)

Table 5: Percentage of individuals for whom a form was submitted who reported opiate substitution therapy (OST) within the last 12 months, the percentage reporting ever injecting drugs and, of those who injected drugs, the percentage of clients who reported using each kind of drug within the last 12 months, 2016*

| Service HB | All clients | | | Clients who reported injecting drugs | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Number clients | % receiving OST (n=1163) | % injecting drugs (n=1154) | Number clients | % heroin (n=754) | % crack cocaine (n=754) | % crack and heroin combined (n=754) | % steroids (n=754) | % amphetamines (n=754) | % Mephedrone‡ (n=729) |
| Abertawe Bro Morgannwg | <10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Aneurin Bevan | 336 | 72% | 72% | 238 | 61% | 10% | 8% | 9% | 22% | 14% |
| Betsi Cadwaladr | 306 | 63% | 78% | 235 | 61% | 34% | 35% | 6% | 20% | 3% |
| Cardiff & Vale | 157 | 49% | 71% | 108 | 72% | 27% | 25% | 9% | 44% | 15% |
| Cwm Taf | 219 | 19% | 40% | 85 | 60% | 8% | 4% | 1% | 28% | 4% |
| Hywel Dda | 158 | 33% | 55% | 84 | 52% | 8% | 8% | 7% | 33% | 21% |
| Powys Teaching | <10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Wales | 1182 | 52% | 65% | 754 | 62% | 20% | 18% | 7% | 26% | 10% |

*As at 21/07/2017

‡ Mephedrone data has been collected since mid-2014 through a new version of the questionnaire, used for 729 clients in 2016

Notes:

- Numbers may change as new forms are received
- If an individual was known to have been tested more than once during 2016, only the last form within 2016 was considered.
- Amongst the clients seen in 2016, 28 were of unknown injecting history, 400 reported never injecting drugs, and 754 reported ever injecting drugs
- The percentage of clients receiving OST and the percentage of clients injecting drugs are based on the number of clients for whom the variable of interest was reported, indicated in each column. The percentage of clients who reported using each kind of drug is based on the number of clients queried.
- Some cells have been suppressed due to small numbers (-)

Table 5b: Percentage of individuals for whom a form was submitted who reported opiate substitution therapy (OST) within the last 12 months, the percentage reporting ever injecting drugs and, of those who injected drugs, the percentage of clients who reported using each kind of drug within the last 12 months, 2011-2016*

| Year | All clients | | | Clients who reported injecting drugs | | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | Number clients | % receiving OST (n=5739) | % injecting drugs (n=5677) | Number clients | % heroin (n=3950) | % crack cocaine (n=3950) | % crack and heroin combined (n=3950) | % steroids (n=3950) | % amphetamines (n=3950) | % Mephedrone‡ (n=1515) |
| 2011 | 1,024 | 74% | 75% | 746 | 67% | 22% | 20% | 8% | 28% | - |
| 2012 | 755 | 66% | 72% | 530 | 74% | 32% | 26% | 11% | 39% | - |
| 2013 | 998 | 65% | 72% | 686 | 67% | 21% | 18% | 11% | 35% | - |
| 2014 | 897 | 58% | 67% | 590 | 68% | 15% | 10% | 6% | 34% | 26% |
| 2015 | 999 | 59% | 66% | 644 | 69% | 13% | 11% | 6% | 32% | 17% |
| 2016 | 1182 | 52% | 65% | 754 | 62% | 20% | 18% | 7% | 26% | 10% |
| Total | 5855 | 62% | 70% | 3950 | 68% | 20% | 17% | 8% | 32% | 15% |

*As at 21/07/2017

‡ Mephedrone data has been collected since mid-2014 through a new version of the questionnaire, for 1515 clients.

Notes:

- i) Numbers may change as new forms are received
- ii) If an individual was known to have been tested more than once in a given year, only the last form within that year was considered.
- iii) Amongst the 5,855 clients seen between 2011- 2016, 178 were of unknown injecting history, 1,727 reported never injecting drugs, and 3,950 reported ever injecting drugs
- iv) The percentage of clients receiving OST and the percentage of clients injecting drugs are based on the number of clients for whom the variable of interest was reported, indicated in each column. The percentage of clients who reported using each kind of drug is based on the number of clients queried.

Table 6: Percentage of individuals injecting steroids who report injecting other drugs within the last 12 months, 2011-2016*

| Year | Clients injecting steroids | Percentage of clients injecting steroids who report injecting other drugs | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| | | Any (n=319) | Heroin (n=319) | Crack cocaine (n=319) | Crack and heroin combined (n=319) | Amphetamines (n=319) | Mephedrone‡ (n=93) |
| 2011 | 60 | 82% | 80% | 45% | 40% | 52% | - |
| 2012 | 59 | 83% | 80% | 58% | 53% | 64% | - |
| 2013 | 76 | 79% | 74% | 37% | 30% | 45% | - |
| 2014 | 34 | 59% | 53% | 15% | 12% | 38% | 25% |
| 2015 | 38 | 66% | 61% | 26% | 18% | 53% | 40% |
| 2016 | 52 | 52% | 50% | 37% | 35% | 25% | 12% |
| Total | 319 | 72% | 68% | 39% | 34% | 47% | 24% |

*As at 21/07/2017

‡ Mephedrone data has been collected since mid-2014 through a new version of the questionnaire, for 1515 clients, 93 of which reported injecting steroids

Notes:

- i) Numbers may change as new forms are received
- ii) If an individual was known to have been tested more than once in a given year, only the last form within that year was considered.
- iii) Amongst the 5,855 clients seen between 2011- 2016, 178 were of unknown injecting history, 1,727 reported never injecting drugs, and 3,950 reported ever injecting drugs, of which 319 reported injecting steroids.

Notes on methods

Data presented in this report are for clients seen by substance misuse services between 2011 and 2016. Data are included only for those clients for whom a surveillance form was completed and sent to Public Health Wales.

Thirty-four forms were excluded due to missing date of attendance, and a further 251 forms were excluded which did not report tests results for any BBV and it was therefore unknown whether any test had actually been performed. The number of forms is expected to increase as further forms are received, especially for 2016.

Data on sample type has been received since the introduction of a new form in 2012. Still, the sample type was unknown for 74% of forms in 2012, 47% in 2013, 17% in 2014, 15% in 2015 and 10% in 2016. The percentage of forms known to be from DBS samples was 22% in 2012, 44% in 2013, 72% in 2014, 55% in 2015 and 66% in 2016. The percentage of forms from venepuncture samples was 4%, 9%, 11%, 30% and 23% in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively. The jump in venepuncture samples in 2015 was due to new reporting from sites in Cwm Taff.

Clients can be tested more than once and so there may be more than one form for a single client, linked through a unique number. If an individual was known to have been tested more than once during a time period, only the last form within that time period was considered. If an individual was known to have been tested in different periods, they contributed to the counts within all the periods they were tested. It is possible that forms corresponding to the same individual are not linked due to individuals accessing several points of care.

Report prepared by Public Health Wales Health Protection Service

For further information contact: laia.fina@wales.nhs.uk, noel.craine@wales.nhs.uk or daniel.thomas@wales.nhs.uk

Data based on forms received as at 21st July 2017