

**CLINICAL EXPERTS BOOST NTA SKILLS TEAM**



The NTA's skills and practice development team can now draw on the expertise of three clinical specialists. The part-time team consists of the psychiatrist Dr Mike Kelleher and the psychologists Dr Christopher Whiteley and Dr Luke Mitcheson. Collectively, they bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the NTA. They are already playing a major role in the further development of clinical practice in drug treatment to support the recovery agenda.

[Read more](#)

**IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR SERVICE USERS**



The coalition government is currently considering how to take forward drugs policy in the light of commitments already made in the programme published after the election. This process may take some time.

[More information](#)

**Steps to put children and families first**



Half of all adults new to treatment for drug dependency are parents, so the NTA is leading initiatives to protect families, and especially children, from the negative impact of drug misuse. [Read more](#)

**GUIDANCE REFRESH FOR TREATING ADDICTS IN PRISON**



Guidance for treating opiate-dependent prisoners will improve the balance of support they receive. It aims to ensure that offenders have the best chance of becoming drug free, and encourages them to access the full range of psychosocial, educational and rehabilitation support.

[More information](#)

**Time you registered with the CQC?**

Are you providing substance misuse services? If so, do you need to register with the Care Quality Commission (CQC)? From 1 October 2010 adult social care and independent healthcare providers carrying out 'regulated activities' must be registered with the CQC. The NTA and CQC have developed a number of [frequently asked questions](#) for substance misuse service providers that have to register.

## SKILLS CONSORTIUM AGREES RECOVERY FRAMEWORK



A core group of employers and providers has drafted a national skills framework, describing the competences key workers need to deliver treatment throughout a drug user's journey to recovery. The framework will form the basis for an internet-based resource that will provide workers with the practical tools for driving successful outcomes, and improving the quality and impact of treatment.

[More information](#)

### Useful Links

- [Powder cocaine - how the treatment system is responding to a growing pi](#)
- [Story of Drug Treatment](#)
- [Psychosocial framework](#)
- [Rehab online](#)
- [Road to recovery - Guardian microsite](#)