Statistics for alcohol treatment activity in England 2010-11
National Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System

This statistical release presents key results from the National Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System (NATMS) on the number of adults (18 and over) in contact with alcohol treatment agencies and general practitioners in England in 2010-11, and the proportion of clients exiting treatment that completed their treatment having overcome their dependency. These figures do not include clients treated in prisons.

The results provided here are verified by Manchester University National Drug Evidence Centre (NDEC) using data collected by the National Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System.

These results show that:

111,025 individuals aged 18 and over were recorded as being in contact with structured alcohol treatment services in England in 2010-11 citing alcohol as their primary problematic substance. In 2009-10 there were 111,381 individuals aged 18 and over reported as being in treatment.

73,705 individuals started new treatment journeys in 2010-11. In 2009-10 72,641 individuals started new journeys.

There were a further 33,023 clients in treatment who cited alcohol misuse as an adjunctive problem to a range of other primary problematic substances.

Of the 71,592 individuals who commenced their first structured treatment intervention in 2010-11, 59,039 (82 per cent) waited 3 weeks or less. This is an increase from 2009-10 when 79 per cent of individuals waited 3 weeks or less.

The most common intervention type received was 'structured psychosocial' with 46% of clients receiving this intervention in their treatment journey.

66,495 individuals exited treatment in 2010-11. 35,913 (54%) clients exited treatment in 2010-11 having completed their treatment, defined as having overcome their dependency to the drugs for which treatment was sought. This was an increase from 48% in 2009-10.

44,530 individuals (40 per cent of those in treatment) were retained in treatment on 31/03/11.

These figures report data that was collected on adults whose treatment falls within the definition of structured treatment as defined by 'Models of Care for Alcohol Misusers' (MoCAM) (2006) and allows local commissioners to monitor their compliance with the 2010-11 NICE alcohol guidance. It has also supported the development of the new National Alcohol Strategy, to be published in 2011-12 and will continue to influence the direction of national policy in the lead up to Public Health England.

Background information is available on the NTA website http://www.nta.nhs.uk/ndtms.aspx.
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