



SEVERAL TREATMENT TOOLS, A SINGLE AIM

Clinicians and drug workers use a range of tools to help people overcome drug addiction and regain control of their lives. Collectively, these tools are what we mean when we refer to 'drug treatment', writes Dr Luke Mitcheson.

But addiction is a complex illness, characterised by intense craving. It often has roots in social deprivation, carries mental and physical risks, and leads to dysfunctional behaviour. There is no simple cure for such a complex biological and psychological condition. Read [more](#).

NTA SUPPORTS NEW INNOVATIVE TREATMENT CENTRE



A new centre of excellence for drug and alcohol treatment has opened in Birmingham, offering a unique 'one-stop-shop' approach to detox, stabilisation and rehabilitation for residential and community patients. Supported by £2.3m of NTA funding, Park House provides 24-hour nursing and healthcare, with the centre containing its own dispensary, GP-style treatment rooms, and blood-testing facility.

[More information](#)

BOXING CLEVER



'Boxing is about growing citizens' says Eric Noi, director of the Oldham Boxing and Personal Development Centre. 'While engaging, you are diverting, while engaging you are educating and preventing. The centre, bang in the centre of Oldham, can engage young drug users by bolting treatment on to boxing'. Read about Eric's diversionary tactics in tackling drug use, and more personal stories on the NTA website.

[More information](#)

News in brief



Former drug addicts throughout the East of England are celebrating freedom from addiction and the rebuilding of shattered lives in a [week of events](#) in prisons, treatment centres and community halls across the region.

New [figures](#) from the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (NTA) show a sharp drop for the first time in the numbers of drug users seeking treatment for addiction to cocaine and crack.

Treatment services need to be ambitious for their clients, provide best value for money and respond to changing patterns of drug use, Paul Hayes, NTA chief executive, told the [EATA conference](#).

SKILLS CONSORTIUM READY TO START BUSINESS



The Substance Misuse Skills Consortium will launch in November, with a new website and online Skills Hub that collect key resources for improving drug treatment interventions. The consortium, which has been open for membership since July, has already had over 100 applications from individual organisations.

[➔ More information](#)

Useful Links

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