



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
CONSUMERS, HEALTH, AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD EXECUTIVE AGENCY



Non-commercial Satellite: European Commission Health Programme 2014-2020 - European Joint Action HA-REACT

Title: Harm reduction for people who inject drugs in Europe: Findings from European Joint Action HA-REACT

Venue: Hall 10

Time: Monday 23 July 2018 – 14:45–16:45h

Satellite description

People who inject drugs (PWID) are at exceptionally high risk of contracting HIV and viral hepatitis. The European Joint Action on HIV and Co-infection Prevention and Harm Reduction (HA-REACT) addresses gaps in the prevention of HIV and other co-infections in the European Union. This session will focus on harm reduction services in Europe for PWID, presenting new findings and good practices from this major European project. Good practices include e.g. tailored low threshold services for women who use drugs, harm reduction for prisoners, and mobile unit outreach work. Barriers of access to prevention and treatment services, as well as integration of care for PWID will be discussed in the session. Session objectives are to disseminate information on findings of the HA-REACT Joint Action and to provoke discussion with other Health Programme activities on challenges and good practices of prevention of HIV and co-infections and integration of care for PWID.

Chair: Mika Salminen, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland

Co-Chair: Jean-Luc Sion, DG SANTE, European Commission

- 14:45-14:55 **EU Policy framework, presenting the Staff Working Document 2018** European Commission DG- SANTE Representative
- 14:55-15:05 **HIV/HCV testing within low-threshold services for women who use drugs – barriers and recommendations**
Alexandra Gurinova, Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe, Germany
- 15:05-15:15 **Harm reduction services in prisons: gaps, challenges and good practice examples**
Heino Stöver, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences (ISFF), Germany
- 15:15-15:25 **Harm reduction services in Europe, Mobile unit service for PWID in Latvia**
Luis Sordo Del Castillo, Biomedical Research Networking Centre (CIBER/ISCIII), Spain

15:25-15:35 **Access barriers and good practices to promote prevention and treatment services for PWID**
Jeffrey V Lazarus, Centre of Excellence for Health, Immunity and Infections (CHIP/REGIONH), Denmark

15:45-15:55 **Guidance on prevention and control of blood-borne viruses in prison settings**
Dagmar Hedrich, European Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, Portugal

15:55-16:45 **Round table discussion (50 min): What are the challenges for preventing HIV and co-infections among PWID, what have we learnt from HA-REACT and other EU actions, and how can we respond to these challenges? What does integration of services for PWID mean?**

Facilitator: Sini Pasanen, Civil Society Forum on HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and Tuberculosis

Panellists from:

- Joint Action on integrating prevention, testing and linkage to care strategies across HIV, viral hepatitis, TB and STIs in Europe (INTEGRATE): Dorthe Raben, Centre of Excellence for Health, Immunity and Infections h (CHIP/REGIONH), Denmark
- Early diagnosis and treatment of viral hepatitis (HepCare Europe): John S. Lambert, UCD/ Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Ireland
- Early detection and integrated management of tuberculosis in Europe (E-DETECT TB): Gerard de Vries, KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation, Netherlands
- Joint Action on HIV and co-infection prevention and harm reduction (HA-REACT): Aljona Kurbatova, National Institute for Health Development, Estonia
- European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA): Dagmar Hedrich, European Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, Portugal