

Misuse of benzodiazepines: Evidence from surveys in Latvia

ILDZE REDOVIČA

Latvian National Focal Point

Prevalence and patterns of drug use among
general population Indicator (GPS)

Annual Expert Meeting 2014

17-18 June 2014 - EMCDDA (Lisbon)

Surveys with questions about use of sedatives and tranquilizers

- GPS

Drug use prevalence surveys among special groups:

- Problem drug users
- Prisoners
- Pregnant women
- Students (ESPAD)

General population survey

- **Have you ever used tranquilizers, sedatives or antidepressants?**

yes →

- **Please name what kind of tranquilizers, sedatives or antidepressants have you taken during the last 12 months:**

→

Fenazepam

Tazepam

Clonazepam

Lexotanil

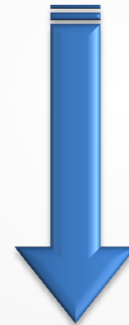


Benzodiazepines

Fenobarbital

Luminal

Korvalols



Barbiturates

Amitriptilin

Seroxat

Deprex



Antidepressants

LYP of benzodiazepines = 5,3%

Misuse of benzodiazepines?

1) Reason to use:	Among LYP users	Among ALL
Doctors prescription	78%	4%
Without prescription	17%	1%
Both of the above	4%	0,2%
No answer	1%	0,1%
	100%	5,3%

2) How did you obtain benzodiazepines the last time you took them?	Among LYP users	Among ALL
I bought them or had them prescribed for me by a doctor	82%	4,3%
I got them from somebody else I know	5%	0,3%
I bought them without a prescription in a pharmacy or drugstore	5%	0,3%
None of the above applies	7%	0,4%
	100%	5,3%

3) Have you ever mixed benzodiazepines with alcohol?	Among LYP users	Among ALL
No, never	78%	4,1%
Just a few times	16%	0,8%
Quite frequently	3%	0,2%
Regularly	0%	0%
No answer	3%	0,2%
	100%	5,3%

Riga Drug Users' Cohort Study

LYP of benzodiazepines = 41,2%

Primary care or addiction specialist visit during the last year	Among LYP users	Among ALL
Yes	11.4%	29.2%
No	29.8%	12%
	100%	41.2%

Thank you!

