



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Interpreting trends: discussing trends of new heroin clients

Chairs: Jelena Jankovic and Jane Mounteney
Presenters: Andrew Jones (United Kingdom), Diana Vanaga (Latvia), Ieva Vaitkeviciute (Lithuania), Natalia Magliochetti (Italy)
Discussant: Gordon Hay

TDI/Treatment expert meeting
20-21 September 2017



Heroin trends in TDI: new clients entering treatment for heroin as primary drug

- Recent increases reported in several EU countries:
 - 14 countries reported increases in the number between 2014 and 2015
 - 8 countries reported increases in the proportions of new heroin clients out of all new clients between 2014 and 2015
 - In 6 countries increases started in 2011, 2012, 2013
- Extent of the increase varies greatly between countries
- 15 countries reported a decrease between 2014 and 2015, most since several years
- At EU level the overall number of new heroin clients increased since 2013



Method of analysis

- Qualitative information requested to the countries with increasing number of heroin users on possible factors for increase
- Table of comparison of characteristics of three groups:
 - new heroin clients in 2015 (Group 1)
 - previously treated heroin clients (Group 2)
 - new heroin clients who entered treatment 10 years ago (Group 3)



Factors to be investigated

Changes in:

- TDI Reporting system
- Number of problem drug users
- Referrals to treatment
- Treatment accessibility
- Treatment organisation
- National legislation on drugs or treatment
- Others??



Factors to be investigated

Changes in:

- Opioids DRD
- Supply of heroin (number and quantity of seizures, price and purity)
- High-risk pattern of use (injecting, poly-drug use with other opioids)
- Variations on TDI entries by other opioids
- Others??