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Anabolic androgenic steroids & HIV: prevalence, risks & implications

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I have no competing or conflicting interests to declare

Presentation outline

Demographics

Prevalence of BBVs

Risk factors

Injecting

Sexual transmission

other drug use

Lifestyle

Implications & conclusions

Terminology

AAS – anabolic androgenic steroids

IPED – image and performance enhancing drugs

NSP – needle & syringe programme

Main datasources

1,294 IPED users in the UK (2013-2016)

UA survey/BBV results - PHE

PHI Integrated Monitoring System 1991 – 2017

Lab results – LJMU, KCL & Vendsyssel Hospital

Prevalence estimates

356,000 lifetime AAS use (increasing)
(CSEW, 2017)

61,000 used in last year

33,000 used in last month

3.3% global lifetime AAS use
(Sagoe et al, 2018)

IPED injectors at NSPs in North of England

Middlesbrough	67%
Kirklees	60%
Sheffield	62%
Newcastle	52%
Sunderland	60%
Bradford	41%
Halton	86%
Liverpool	83%
Sefton	43%
St Helens	34%
Warrington	86%
Wirral	77%
Manchester	60%
Bolton	52%

	1995	2015
% of NSP clients	17.1%	54.9%
Total syringes to IPED injectors	14,293	139,956
Number of IPED clients	553	2446
Male IPED clients (20-29) per 1,000 pop.	1.88	5.72

1/3 IPED injectors collect injecting equipment for others

564 participants in the sample.

160 collected for other IPED injectors

Minimum:

160 participants

667 others

Mid-point:

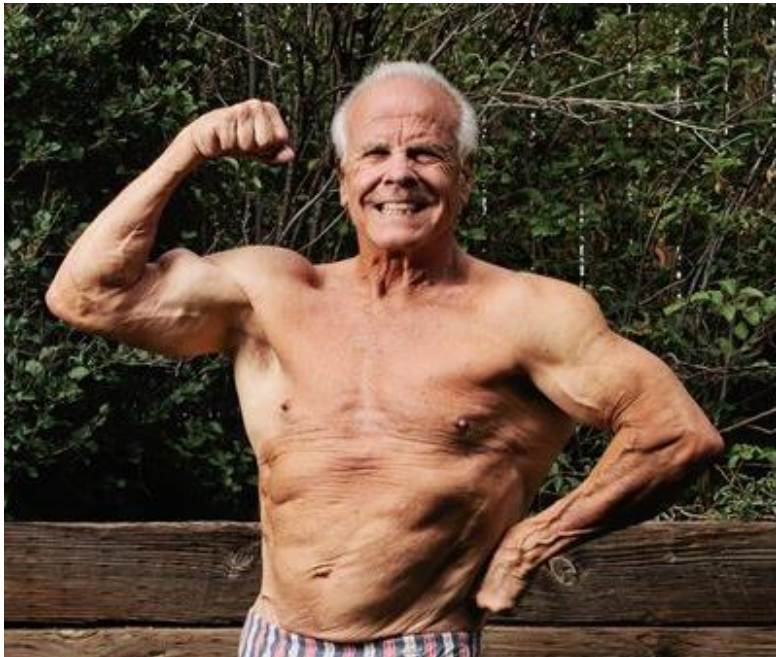
160 participants

1,040 others

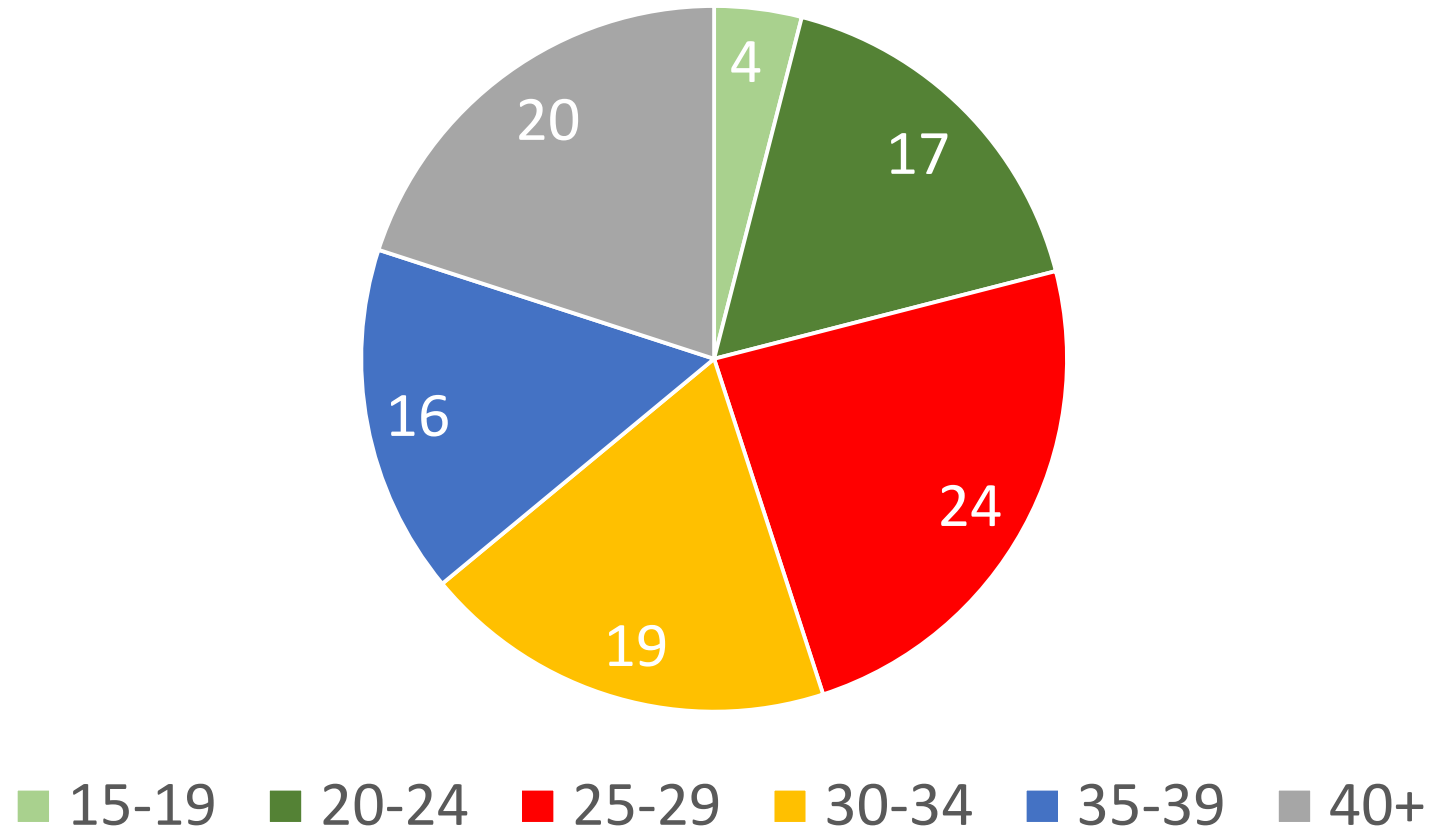
Basic characteristics:

Predominantly male (95%+)

Not just young men



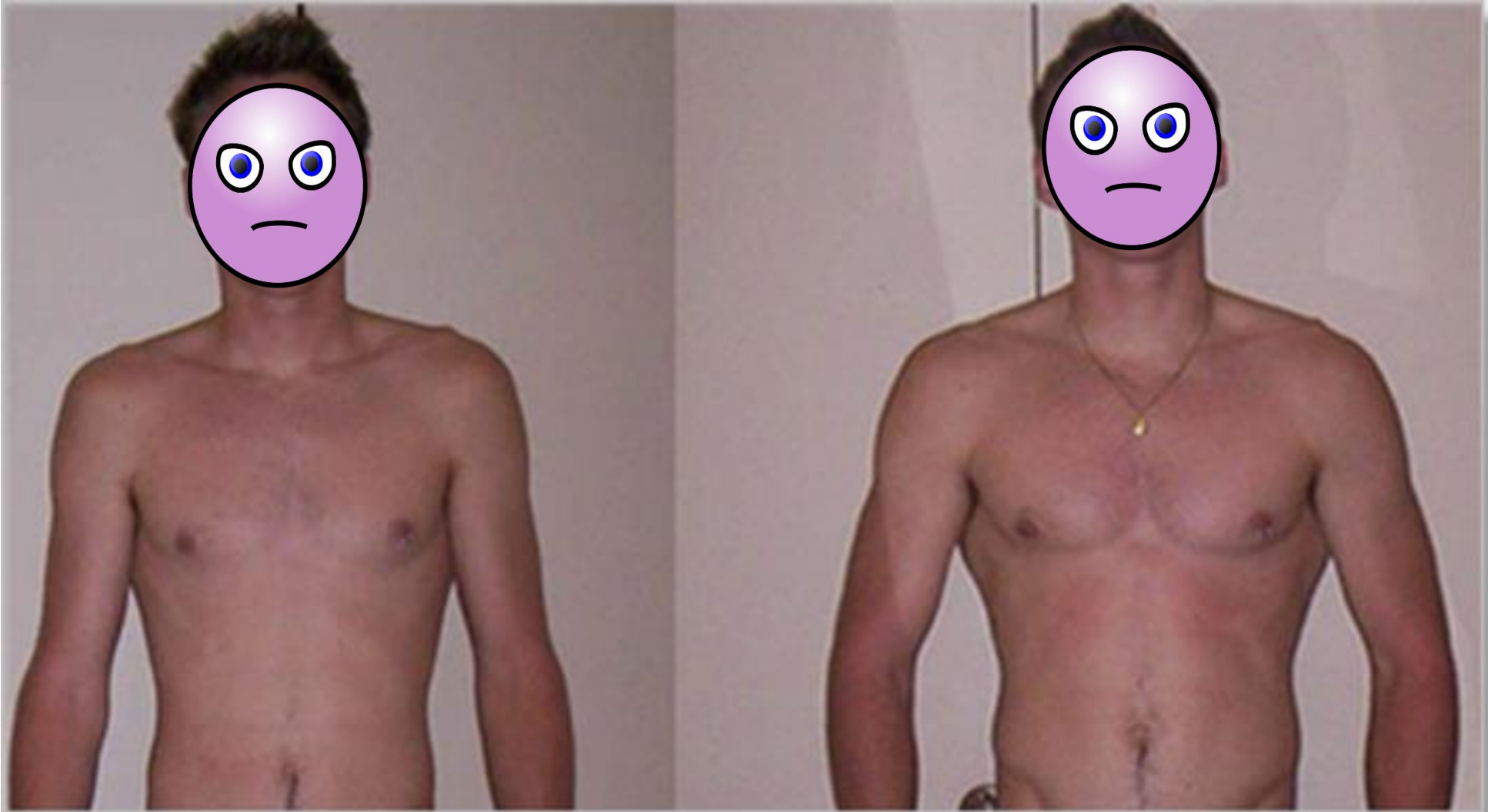
Age of IPED users











158 lbs

175 lbs



HIV and other BBVs

	2010/11	2012/13
Anti-HIV Prevalence	1.5% (400)	2.0% (249)
Anti-HBc Prevalence	8.7% (400)	2.8% (249)
Anti-HCV Prevalence	5.4% (400)	3.6% (249)
Level of sharing (direct & indirect)	8.9% (392)	13% (243)
Hepatitis B vaccine uptake	24% (375)	40% (246)
Symptom of injection site infection	6.9% (389)	16% (238)

Bilateral deltoid abscesses

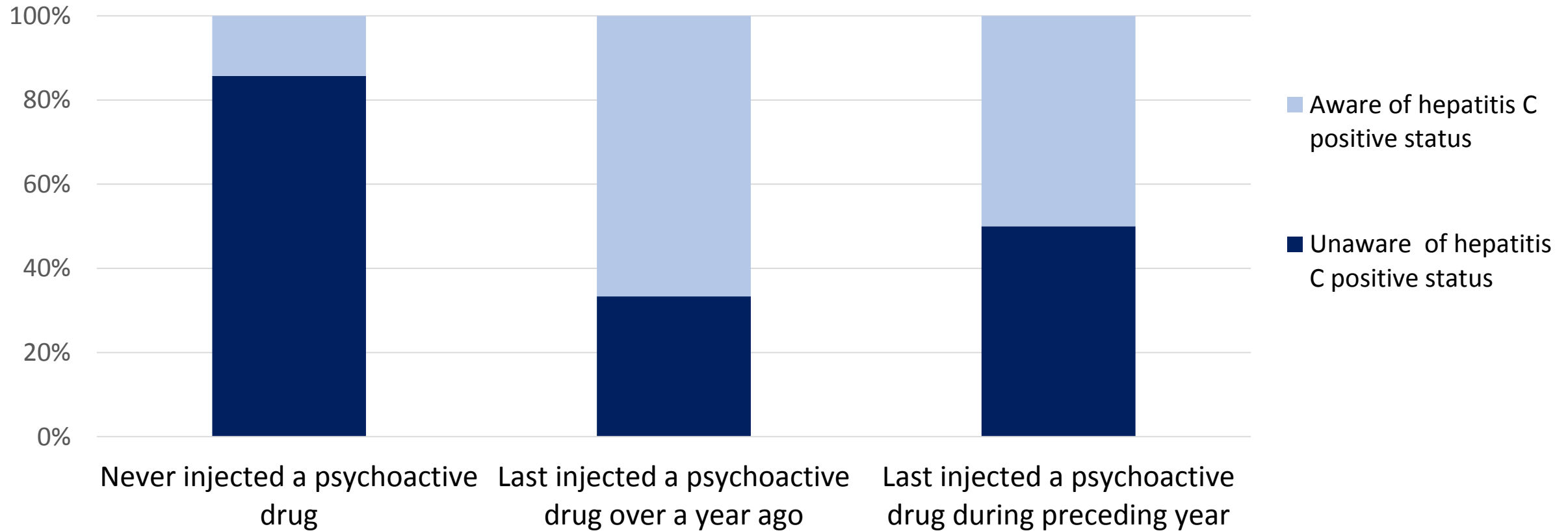


Before



During

The majority of hepatitis C virus infections are undiagnosed

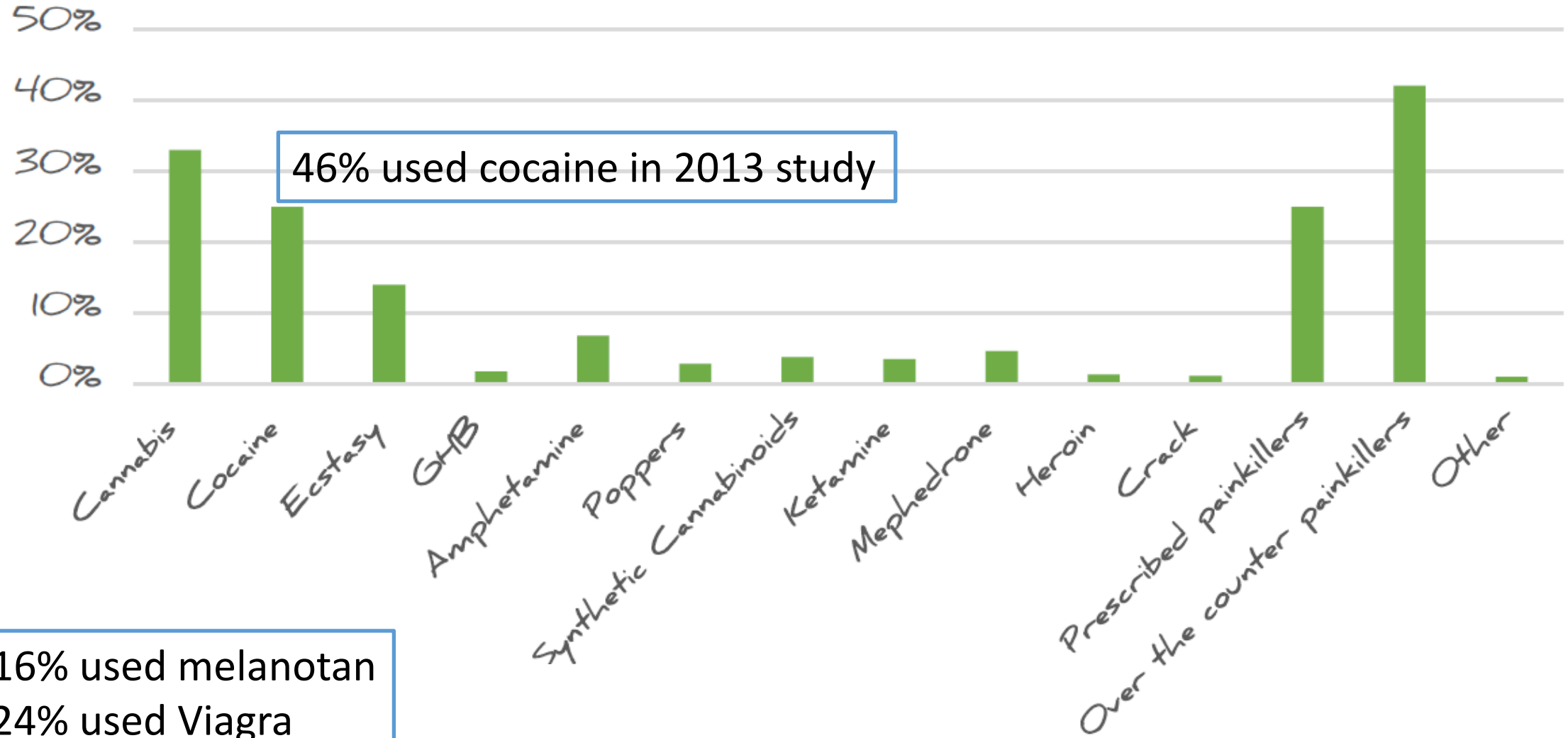


BBV transmission risks

Risk	Yes
Ever reused injecting equipment used by someone else?	11 (2%)
Ever reused your own injecting equipment?	102 (18%)
Ever shared a multi-dose vial ?	84 (15%)
Injected a psychoactive drug? (2013 data)	19 (4.8%)
Been incarcerated	112 (17%)
Used IPEDs whilst incarcerated?	33 (29.4%)

Sexual risk behaviour	Proportion
Had sex in the past year	90%
Had >10 sexual partners in past year	10%
Men who have sex with men	4%
Always use condoms (2 or more sexual partners)	15%
Never use condoms	40%

Other drugs used in previous year (2016)



Unpredictable content



Melanotan

73 vials of melanotan II 10mg purchased

10mg Melanotan II ranged between 4.32 to 8.84 mg

Contained impurities ranged from 4.1% to 5.9%

MELANOTAN MAGIC

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- Melanotan II 30mg Package
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- GHRP-6



The strange case of GHRP-6

“We aim for a high standard....”

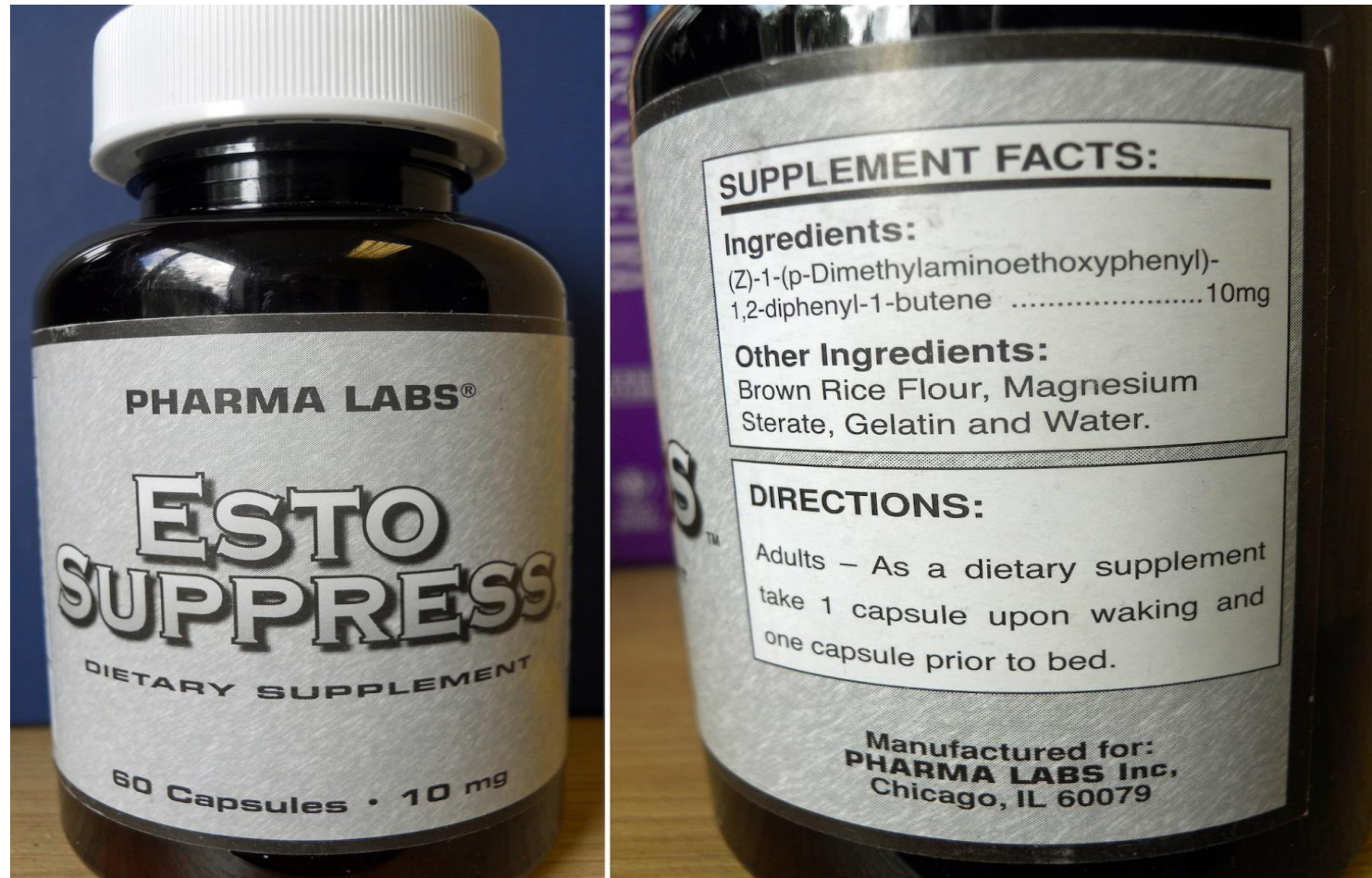
EU PEPTIDES

We Are Sorry For The Inconvenience
Currently Our Site Is Under Construction

Supplements – they are safer!

#	Product Name	Steroid Identified	Estimated amount per tablet/capsule
1	Super Tren-MG	DHEA	28 mg
2	19-Nor Tren	DHEA	16 mg
3	Tren Bomb	Methyl-1-Testosterone	7 mg
4	Super Halo	DHEA	20 mg
5	Straight Epi	DMT	12 mg*
6	Straight Drol	Androstenedione	9 mg
7	Straight Phlexed	DMT	7 mg♦
		Androstenedione	4 mg
12	Ultra Mass	DMT	17 mg♦
		Methasterone	
13	11-Sterone	Androst-4-ene-3,11,17-trione	61 mg
15	Furuza-A	Furazabol	31 mg
16	Epivol	DMT	36 mg♦
19	Epivol Black	Androstenedione	~1 mg
		Methasterone	2.4 mg♦
20	S-Drol-17-Black	Methasterone	8 mg*
21	Straight Phlexed	Androstenedione	9 mg
22	Super Halo	Methasterone	5 mg*
23	Super Tren-MG	DHEA	21 mg
24	Tren Bomb	Methyl-1-Testosterone	7 mg

Supplements – they are safer!



Tamoxifen (Nolvadex)

Difficult population to engage

HIV and hepatitis B and C present in IPED using population
Significant proportion undiagnosed

Complex multiple risk factors:

IPED injecting, sex, incarceration, previous psychoactive use

Implications for BBV treatment:

Extensive polydrug use (known and unknown)

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