Frequency of injecting among people who inject drugs: a systematic review and meta-analysis

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Background

• ~15 million PWID
Background

• ~15 million PWID
• Frequency?
Background

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• NSP coverage
Background

• ~15 million PWID
• Frequency?

• NSP coverage
• Harms
  • Overdose
  • Injection site infection
  • Injecting risk behaviour
Background

- ~15 million PWID
- Frequency?
- NSP coverage
- Harms
  - Overdose
  - Injection site infection
  - Injecting risk behaviour
- Variation
  - Drug type
  - Treatment availability/engagement
Aims

• Estimate
Aims

- Estimate

- Associations:
  - Socio-demographic sample characteristics → Daily+ injecting
  - Daily+ injecting → Harms
Aims

• Estimate

• Associations:
  • Socio-demographic sample characteristics $\rightarrow$ Daily+ injecting
  • Daily+ injecting $\rightarrow$ Harms

• Compare:
  • NSP coverage
Methods

- Screening
  - 2008-2018
  - 60,000+ articles
Methods

• Screening
  • 2008-2018
  • 60,000+ articles

• Measures
  • Daily+ vs. < Daily
Methods

- Screening
  - 2008-2018
  - 60,000+ articles
- Measures
  - Daily+ vs. < Daily
- Analysis
  - STATA
Results

• Daily or more vs. less than daily
Results

- Daily or more vs. less than daily
- 74/179 countries with data
Results

• Daily or more vs. less than daily

• 74/179 countries with data

• 68.1% or 10.5 million people
Estimated proportion of PWID injecting daily or more (Top 15)
Results

Lower daily injecting:
Recent studies
Longer duration of injecting
Results

Lower daily injecting:
Recent studies
Longer duration of injecting

Higher daily injecting:
Higher HIV
Higher hepatitis C
Higher injecting risk
Higher overdose
Needle and syringe distribution coverage data

Implications

• Insufficient data
Implications

- Insufficient data
- Evidence to support daily+ injecting > harmful outcomes
Implications

• Insufficient data

• Evidence to support daily+ injecting > harmful outcomes

• Insufficient NSP coverage
  • Estimate 33 needles per PWID per year
  • Target 300 needles per PWID per year
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