

07:00 - 08:00	Nurses Breakfast Room: MC3 Chairs: Mia Biondi & Jacqui Richmond										
08:30 - 10:15	Plenary 1: Opening Ceremony Room: Banqueting Hall										
08:30 - 08:40	Welcome to the Conference										
08:40 - 08:45	Government Welcome										
08:45 - 08:50	Community Opening										
08:50 - 09:10	Philip Bruggman Lecture										
09:10 - 09:20	INHSU Awards										
09:20 - 09:40	Drug Policy Reform: Evaluation of decriminalisation and regulation models Alison Ritter, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Australia										
09:40 - 10:00	Safer supply: A critical review of different models and their impact Thomas Kerr, The University of British Columbia, Canada										
10:00 - 10:15	Questions & Discussion										
10:15 - 10:45	Coffee Break										
10:45 - 12:15	Plenary 2 Room: Banqueting Hall										
12:15 - 13:45	Lunch										
12:15 - 13:00	Lunchtime Workshop: Multi-Parameter Estimation of Prevalence (MPEP): a demonstration and discussion of methodology for estimating prevalence of people with opioid dependence from routinely collected linked data Room: MC3 Facilitator: Matt Hickman										
	This workshop will focus on concepts and assumptions underpinning MPEP rather than the statistical details. MPEP is a Bayesian statistical modelling approach developed to estimate the prevalence of opioid dependence. MPEP utilises linkage of opioid agonist therapy (OAT) prescription data to mortality and/or other adverse event data, to estimate prevalence from numbers of adverse events and observed event rates among individuals during periods on and off OAT.										
	We will introduce the concepts and methodology through discussion of our recent application of the MPEP approach to estimate the prevalence of opioid dependence in Scotland and New South Wales. We will describe the assumptions underlying the model										
	The workshop also provides an opportunity for discussion about how the MPEP approach might be applied to estimate prevalence of other drug use.										
13:45 - 15:10	Concurrent 1A: Community involvement and peer-led models Room: Banqueting Hall	13:45 - 15:10	Concurrent 1B: HCV Trends: Are we on Track for Elimination Targets? Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall	13:45 - 15:10	Concurrent 1C: Prison based research and service delivery Room: MC2	13:15 - 15:15	Concurrent 1D: Workshop - Addressing increased mortality and HIV transmission among people who inject drugs Room: MC3 Facilitator: Angelos Hatzakis	13:45 - 15:10	Concurrent 1E: Discussion Space - 'I thought I was helping': Beyond good intentions toward engagement with Indigenous peoples Room: Discussion Space Chair: Kate Dunn		
View the abstracts in the interactive program			View the abstracts in the interactive program			View the abstracts in the interactive program			<p>The aims of this workshop are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Present the latest data for two important outcomes (HIV transmission, mortality) in selected countries with available data on recent trends (Greece and Scotland) discussing the implications for interventions as well as a community perspective on needed interventions Focus on two specific interventions that address one or more risk factors for these outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug consumption rooms Take-home naloxone <p>Increase awareness on Indigenous perspectives and interconnected systems of power within care spaces and the importance of personal investment beyond good intentions.</p>		
15:15 - 16:00	Coffee Break & Poster Tour										
15:25 - 15:50	Poster Tour 01			15:25 - 15:50	Poster Tour 02			15:25 - 15:50	Poster Tour 03		
16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 2A: Other Infections Room: Banqueting Hall	15:45 - 17:30	Concurrent 2B: Big Events and Crises in Drug Harms Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall Chairs: Sarah Larney & Tim Rhodes	16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 2C: Best Brains Exchange: Debating controversies in HCV care in prison Room: MC2	16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 2D: Workshop - Considerations for economic evaluations of harm reduction programs: bridging data and policy Room: MC3 Chair: Sean M. Murphy	16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 2E: Discussion Space - DCR models of care: Collaborative discussion space Room: Discussion Space Facilitator: Roberto Perez Gayo		
This session will feature presentations on		<p>Innovations in therapeutic developments for HBV and HDV George Papatheodoridis, Medical School of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens & Laiko General Hospital of Athens, Greece</p> <p>Innovations in HIV treatment for people who use drugs Mina Psichogiou, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece</p> <p>Future therapies for skin and soft tissue infections in people who inject drugs Joshua Barocas, University of Colorado School of Medicine, United States</p>			<p>Convened by INHSU Prisons, this session will follow the format of a rolling series of brief debates, where different 'controversies' are discussed between a pair of experts allocated to the affirmative or negative, before switching sides for the next topic. The brief debates cover topical issues pertaining to hepatitis C care in prisons such as prison needle and syringe programs and the feasibility of implementing prison-based hepatitis C services in low-and middle-income countries. The objective of this parallel session is for experts to engage in lively debates on topics which may have diverse opinions. Using this format, the audience will witness two experts passionately discuss controversial topics/complex issues in prison health care, by allowing space for opposing viewpoints on relevant topics.</p>			<p>The workshop will begin with a 15-minute introduction to the importance of health economics in informing policy. Followed by brief talks about real-world partnerships to inform study design/objectives, considerations for data collection alongside harm reduction studies, and the use of simulation modelling to enhance the impact of study findings. Examples will include Low- and Middle-Income Country (LMIC) and non-LMIC contexts. The final 25 minutes will be a question-and-answer period with workshop presenters.</p>			
18:00 - 19:00	Welcome Reception & Poster Viewing										



Day 2 - Thursday 10 October

07:30	Registration Opens								
08:00 - 08:45	Abbvie Sponsored Symposium Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall								
09:00 - 10:45	Plenary 3: Community Leadership Room: Banqueting Hall								
09:00 - 09:05	Jude Byrne Award Introduction								
09:05 - 09:10	Jude Byrne Award Recipient 1								
09:10 - 09:15	Jude Byrne Award Recipient 2								
09:15 - 09:35	Developing, funding, and strengthening drug user organisations Vielta Parkhomenko, NGO "Club Eney", Ukraine								
09:35 - 09:55	Living my activism: What is means to be community led Angela McBride, South African Network of People Who Use Drugs, South Africa								
09:55 - 10:15	Questions & Discussion								
10:15 - 10:30	Gender and drugs: Experiences of stigma/toxicophobia and narcofeminist narratives Marie Jauffret-Roustide, INSERM, France								
10:30 - 10:45	Rapid hepatitis C treatment access with peer support at opioid treatment programs in North America: A multicenter, type 1 hybrid effectiveness implementation randomized control trial. Oluwaseun Falade-Nwulia, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine								
10:45 - 11:15	Coffee Break & Poster Tour								
10:55 - 11:10	Poster Tour 04			10:55 - 11:10	Poster Tour 05			10:55 - 11:10	Poster Tour 06
11:15 - 12:15	Concurrent 3A: Stimulants Room: Banqueting Hall Chairs: Monica Ciupagea & Mat Southwell	11:15 - 12:15	Concurrent 3B: Achieving Equity in Adult Hepatitis B Vaccination Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall Chairs: CGHE	11:15 - 12:15	Concurrent 3C: Impossible is nothing: New opportunities for opioid dependence treatment in resource-constrained settings Room: MC2 Chairs: Giovanna Campello & Karen Timmermans	11:15 - 12:15	Concurrent 3D: Workshop Exploring the role of peer-nurse partnerships in hepatitis C elimination Room: MC3 Facilitators: Jacqui Richmond, Jane Dicka, Emily Adamson & Alexandra Wade	11:15 - 12:15	Concurrent 3E: Discussion Space - Decolonising harm reduction: Care and community engagement Room: Discussion Space
<p>This session will spotlight good practice and research that supports the development of good practice for people who use stimulants as defined in the UNODC UNAIDS and WHO Technical Guide on HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for people who use stimulant drugs (2019).</p> <p>The United Nations worked with an informal group of community-led experts on stimulants to research and draft a set of guidelines on stimulants and HIV in 2019. The guidelines were founded on a series of robust literature reviews and community-led expertise of the writing team and their networks.</p> <p>The guidelines have been championed through UN sponsored country training events, a webinar series, an e-learning course, and a train-the-trainers programme. At the heart of the guidelines and training kit are 8 recommended interventions supported by a series of critical enablers.</p> <p>This session and the invited speakers will showcase good practice relating to the recommended interventions through the lens of cutting edge practice or research.</p>		<p>With an effective vaccine available, every hepatitis B infection is preventable. Persons who use drugs are at increased risk of hepatitis B infection. Although infant HepB vaccine coverage is high in most countries, persons born pre-vaccine introduction, migrants and refugees, and persons from historically marginalised communities may not be protected. To ensure all persons are protected against hepatitis B, robust adult HepB vaccination policies and implementation strategies are required. Many countries have recently developed universal adult HepB vaccination recommendations, but there is limited global dialogue on strategies to effectively implement adult HepB vaccination programs. This session will provide an overview of the global status of adult HepB vaccination, showcase real-world programs, and identify challenges and opportunities for future attention.</p>		<p>New formulations for opioid dependence treatment, including long-acting buprenorphine, as an additional option for people in need of OAMT is still limited to high-income settings. This session will highlight how some countries are starting implementation of novel formulations.</p>		<p>Two peer-nurse partnership models, from different geographic areas will be presented. Presenters will describe their model (context, role of peer and nurse, client journey) and share their implementation learnings.</p>		<p>Drug policy is a feminist issue. Drawn on the experiences of women and non-binaries using drugs coming from Global South and Global North Movements and Networks, lived experience has here a key role including storytelling on topics such as how the war on drugs impacts us, community experiences and network roles on enabling organizing of women, including those living with Hepatitis C. Here, LANPUJ (Latin America Network of People Using Drugs), YouthRise, EuroNPUD (European Network of People Who Use Drugs and its SisterWUD alliances, who include GAT Portugal and Metzineres, will be discussing the potential of grassroots activism to visibilize feminist harm reduction strategies to address health and social problems, namely through the experiences of women who have lived with hepatitis C and network roles that enable women to organize.</p>	
12:15 - 13:45	Lunch								
12:30 - 13:30	Gilead Sponsored Symposium Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall								
13:45 - 15:25	Concurrent 4A: Harm Reduction Interventions and Innovations Room: Banqueting Hall	13:45 - 15:30	Concurrent 4B: Scaling HCV Treatment Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall	13:45 - 15:05	Concurrent 4C: Drug Use Trends and Treatment Room: MC2	13:45 - 15:30	Concurrent 4D: Workshop - An introduction to theory in qualitative research: How to use theory in your own research and how to read papers using theory Room: MC3 Chair: Carla Trelor	13:45 - 15:30	Discussion Space 4E: Not just a number: Lived experiences of women impacted by the drug war Room: Discussion Space Chair: Jess Morales
View the abstracts in the interactive program		View the abstracts in the interactive program		View the abstracts in the interactive program		This workshop is designed for early/mid career researchers from clinical, epidemiological and public health disciplines (including Masters and PhD students) who are new to using theory in qualitative research. Participants will be presented and overview of why and how to use theory, with three examples presented of the use of theory in qualitative projects.		The session explores the disproportionate impact of the war on drugs on women and non-binary individuals who use drugs, emphasizing lived experiences and community resistance including those living with Hepatitis C.	
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break								
16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 5A: HCV Room: Banqueting Hall	16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 5B: Needle and syringe programs: what's the hold-up? Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall Chairs: Ernst Wisse & Annie Madden	16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 5C: Evaluating the impact of supervised consumption sites across the world: methodological considerations in diverse political and socioeconomic contexts Room: MC2 Chairs: Magdalena Cerda & Brandon Marshall	16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 5D: Workshop - Developing diverse strategies for academic knowledge translation Room: MC3	16:00 - 17:30	Concurrent 5E: Discussion Space - From Stigma to Strength: Creating Safe Spaces for Storytelling Room: Discussion Space Facilitator: Brooke Nolan
<p>This session will feature presentations on</p> <p>HCV elimination progress in people who inject drugs Vana Sypsa, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece</p> <p>Innovations in testing for HCV Saeed Hamid, The Aga Khan University, Pakistan</p> <p>Addressing gender disparities in HCV testing and treatment uptake: Providing gender responsive models of care Sarah Larney, Université de Montréal, Canada</p>		<p>NSP is one of the core interventions in Harm Reduction. Despite it being one of the most cost-effective public health interventions in HIV and HCV prevention, global NSP coverage is still very low.</p>		<p>This session will provide attendees with key insights on the methodological issues that arise when evaluating sanctioned supervised consumption sites (SCS) in middle/high-income countries that have contrasting socioeconomic and cultural settings and diverse political and organisational constraints.</p>		<p>To progress their research careers, early- and mid-career researchers often experience pressure to disseminate their research findings via peer-reviewed journals and academic conferences. However, for research findings to have real impact, dissemination should extend beyond these academic audiences – to reach, for example, the general community, industry partners, the communities being researched, or the policy makers who can make the changes to address the problem being examined.</p> <p>The aim of this workshop is to showcase the creative and novel ways INHSU EMCRs and others can communicate research findings back to communities and key stakeholders (e.g., policy makers, funders) via non-traditional academic dissemination methods (journal articles, books, conference presentations). Diverse strategies might include social media, participatory methods, photo voice, podcasts, traditional media (newspapers, TV, radio), video abstracts, science mags, etc.</p>		<p>Join us in the Discussion Space for a session focused on creating safe spaces for storytelling, a cornerstone of effective advocacy. Chaired by INHSU communications manager and journalist Brooke Nolan, this session will delve into the challenges of sharing personal stories and offer practical guidance on providing support. The session aims to educate organisations and researchers on how to appropriately support community members and approach stories with compassion and empathy. Visual storyteller and filmmaker Conor Ashleigh, along with a panel of expert speakers, will share insights from global storytelling initiatives. The session will conclude with a panel discussion on ethical considerations, informed consent, emotional well-being, and the broader impact of storytelling. Attendees are encouraged to engage, ask questions, and share their own experiences.</p>	
19:00 - 23:00	Conference Dinner								



09:30 - 11:00	Plenary 4: Harm Reduction Room: Banqueting Hall								
09:30 - 09:50	Innovation in NSP programming: what works and what's coming Mat Southwell, Coact Technical Support, UK								
09:50 - 10:10	Global Picture of Harm Reduction Programming in Prisons Nadine Kronfli, McGill University, Canada								
10:10 - 10:30	Questions & Discussion								
10:30 - 10:45	Evaluating the cost-effectiveness of prison needle and syringe programs in preventing hepatitis C infection among people who inject drugs in Canadian federal prisons Farah Houdroge, Burnet Institute, Australia								
10:45 - 11:00	Exploring the shift from injecting to smoking among people who smoke drugs in Vancouver, British Columbia Matt Bonn, Canadian AIDS Society, Canada								
11:00 - 11:45	Coffee Break								
11:10 - 11:25	Poster Tour 07		11:10 - 11:25 Poster Tour 08						
11:45 - 13:15	Concurrent 6A: Drug Treatment Room: Banqueting Hall	11:45 - 13:15 Concurrent 6B: Safer Supply programs: Lessons for policy and practice from Canada Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall	11:45 - 13:15 Concurrent 6C: Beyond Hep C: Reducing deaths from chronic liver disease in people who inject drugs through holistic models of care Room: MC2	11:45 - 13:15 Concurrent 6D: Workshop - Emerging issues for nurses: Chemsex, PrEP and harm reduction among people who use drugs Room: MC3	11:45 - 13:15 Concurrent 6E: Discussion Space - Healthcare Challenges of People Who Use Drugs in Latin American countries and ongoing network responses Room: Discussion Space Chairs: Erika Castro & Pedro Mateu Gelabert				
This session will feature presentations on Clinical considerations for opioid agonist treatment (OAT) selection and delivery Julie Bruneau, Université de Montréal, Canada Understanding patient preferences and decision making for opioid agonist therapies Charles Henderson, Burnet Institute, Australia Understanding patient preferences and decision making for opioid agonist therapies Thiago Fidalgo, Universidade Federal De São Paulo, Brazil		Safer supply is a newer response to the toxic drug and overdose crisis in Canada. It involves providing people with pharmaceutical alternatives to the unregulated drugs they use with the primary goal of reducing their risk of drug toxicity death. This session will aim to share Canada's experience with this new approach. This includes how safer supply has developed, successes and challenges with the approach, and emerging evidence. Panellists will discuss implications and lessons learned to inform policy and practice in other countries and regions.		To describe the prevalence of chronic liver disease and hepatocellular carcinoma among people who inject drugs To highlight the prevalence of risks for chronic liver diseases other than hepatitis C among people who inject drugs To demonstrate examples of effective, holistic models of liver disease prevention and care that concurrently address diverse causes of chronic liver disease among people who inject drugs To demonstrate examples of effective models of care for specific subpopulations of people who inject drugs (First Nations people, homeless people, migrant and refugee people, incarcerated people).		State-of-the-art presentations on three key subjects concerning community-led harm reduction services, burden and management of HIV and viral hepatitis, and drug war in Latin American countries. Hybrid session with Spanish and Portuguese simultaneous translation.			
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch								
14:15 - 15:30	Concurrent 7A: Understanding other harms and barriers to care Room: Banqueting Hall	14:15 - 15:30 Concurrent 7B: HIV and Other Infectious Diseases Room: Nikos Skalkotas Hall	14:15 - 15:30 Concurrent 7C: Interventions to Improve the HCV Care Cascade Room: MC2	14:15 - 15:30 Concurrent 7D: Workshop - Global changes to the drug market and the increasing harms of synthetic opioids Room: MC3 Chair: Peter Furlong	14:15 - 15:30 Concurrent 7E: Discussion Space - Responding to evolving harm reduction needs: New drugs, new challenges, new ideas Room: Discussion Space Chair: Jennifer Hasselgard-Rowe				
View the abstracts in the interactive program		View the abstracts in the interactive program		View the abstracts in the interactive program		Global perspectives on the rise and harms of synthetic opioids and other adulterants in the illicit drug market and harm reduction responses discussed and a workshop to share and develop improved interventions.		In 2021, a sharp rise in crack cocaine use, particularly among already marginalized people who use drugs, became an issue of significant concern in Geneva, Switzerland. Drug consumption in public spaces increased, mirroring open drug scenes in other Swiss cities from many years ago; and the surge exacerbated the often times pre-existing precarious physical, mental and general living conditions of people using drugs, while posing a number of challenges for harm reduction service providers. This session will delve into various aspects of the health, social and political context surrounding this phenomenon and outline the discussions and steps taken by Première Ligne (the association which runs the drug consumption room in Geneva), in collaboration with local authorities. In particular, the need for more holistic policies and the importance of finding ways to address the social and health needs of people who use drugs, both individually as well as more broadly will be highlighted, thereby also raising a number of important questions for the future of harm reduction.	
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break								
16:00 - 17:00	Plenary Session 5: Conference Closing Room: Banqueting Hall								

