



Supporting Information

Supplementary results

**This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed.
It is posted as supplied by the authors.**

Appendix to: Black E, Bruno R, Mammen K, et al. Substance use, socio-demographic characteristics, and self-rated health of people seeking alcohol and other drug treatment in New South Wales: baseline findings from a cohort study. *Med J Aust* 2023; doi: 10.5694/mja2.52039.

Table 1. Socio-demographic characteristics of 14 087 people entering treatment for alcohol, amphetamine-type stimulants, cannabis, cocaine, or opioids use in six New South Wales local health districts or networks, 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2019, by principal drug of concern

Characteristics	Principal drug of concern					Total
	Alcohol	Amphetamine-type stimulants	Cannabis	Cocaine	Opioids	
Number of people	6051	2534	2098	246	3158	14 087
Demographic characteristics						
Age (years), mean, (SD)	44.0 (12.4)	34.7 (9.2)	31.5 (11.2)	32.1 (9.3)	39.2 (10.6)	39.2 (12.3)
Age (years), range	15–88	16–70	14–68	18–60	17–85	14–88
< 20 years	69 (1.1%)	65 (2.6%)	242 (11.5%)	9 (4%)	21 (0.7%)	406 (2.9%)
20–29 years	739 (12.2%)	772 (30.5%)	852 (40.6%)	106 (43%)	595 (18.8%)	3064 (21.8%)
30–39 years	1406 (23.2%)	946 (37.3%)	511 (24.4%)	79 (32%)	1097 (34.7%)	4039 (28.7%)
40–49 years	1869 (30.9%)	595 (23.5%)	320 (15.3%)	37 (15%)	915 (29.0%)	3736 (26.5%)
50–59 years	1304 (21.6%)	140 (5.5%)	140 (6.7%)	14 (6%)	393 (12.4%)	1991 (14.1%)
> 60 years	664 (11.0%)	16 (0.6%)	33 (1.6%)	1 (0.4%)	137 (4.3%)	851 (6.0%)
Sex (male patients)	3916 (64.7%)	1612 (63.6%)	1401 (66.8%)	212 (86.2%)	2232 (70.7%)	9373 (66.5%)
Born in Australia	4345/5441 (79.9%) [§]	2058/2239 (91.9%) [¶]	1758/1909 (92.1%) [§]	198/224 (88.4%) [§]	2575/2575 (91.9%) [§]	10 934/12 616 (86.7%)
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	383/5392 (7.1%) [¶]	353/2205 (16.0%) [¶]	297/1903 (15.6%) [§]	17/223 (7.6%) [§]	633/2773 (22.8%) [§]	1683/12 496 (13.5%)
Preferred language: English	5376/5448 (98.7%) [§]	2218/2231 (99.4%) [¶]	1906/1913 (99.6%) [§]	218/223 (97.8%) [§]	2766/2790 (99.1%) [¶]	4352/12972 (33.6%)

IQR = interquartile range; OAT = opioid agonist therapy; SD = standard deviation.

§ 5–10% missing data.

¶ 11–15% missing data.

Table 2. Social conditions, substance use, and self-reported health during preceding 28 days of 14 087 people entering treatment for alcohol, amphetamine-type stimulants, cannabis, cocaine, or opioids use in six New South Wales local health districts or networks, 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2019, by principal drug of concern

	Principal drug of concern					Total
	Alcohol	Amphetamine-type stimulants	Cannabis	Cocaine	Opioids	
Total number of people	6051	2534	2098	246	3158	14 087
Social conditions						
Any work/study	2470/5488 (45.0%) [§]	578/2365 (24.4%) [§]	711/1917 (37.1%) [§]	151/205 (73.7%) [¶]	442/2996 (14.8%) [§]	4352/12 971 (33.6%)
Housing stress	629/6009 (10.5%)	534/2524 (21.2%)	220/2087 (10.5%)	17 (6.9%)	665/3123 (21.3%)	2065/13 989 (14.8%)
Living with children under 5 years of age	508/5955 (8.5%)	264/2494 (10.6%)	292/2073 (14.1%)	28/242 (12%)	242/3077 (7.9%)	1334/13 841 (9.6%)
Living with children aged 5–15 years	995/5961 (16.7%)	301/2493 (12.1%)	285/2074 (13.7%)	33/243 (14%)	319/3080 (10.4%)	1933/13 851 (14.0%)
Living with children under 16 years of age	1265/5959 (21.2%)	468/2492 (18.8%)	462/2073 (22.3%)	52/242 (22%)	461/3080 (15.0%)	2708/13 846 (19.6%)
Arrest	685/6013 (11.4%)	422/2522 (16.7%)	226/2091 (10.8%)	33 (13%)	249/3107 (8.0%)	1615/13 979 (11.6%)
Violence to self	439/5988 (7.3%)	249/2520 (9.9%)	176/2090 (8.4%)	17/245 (6.9%)	127/3109 (4.1%)	1008/13 952 (7.2%)
Violence to others	434/5992 (7.2%)	275/2512 (10.9%)	163/2090 (7.8%)	13/245 (5.3%)	174/3108 (5.6%)	1059/13 947 (7.6%)
Any violence	702/5990 (11.7%)	406/2519 (16.1%)	258/2090 (12.3%)	23/245 (9.4%)	246/3109 (7.9%)	1635/13 953 (11.7%)
Substance use						
Any alcohol use	5485 (90.6%)	1082/2447 (44.2%)	959/2011 (47.7%)	186/237 (78.5%)	931/3067 (30.4%)	8642/13 813 (62.6%)
Frequency (days), median (IQR) [†]	24 (12–28)	4 (2–12)	6 (2–12)	8 (4–16)	4 (1–12)	16 (5–28)
Any amphetamine-type stimulants use	312/5602 (5.6%) [§]	1770 (69.9%)	332/1959 (16.9%) [§]	26/230 (11%) [§]	772/3061 (25.2%)	3212/13 386 (24.0%)
Frequency (days), median (IQR) [†]	2 (1–8)	13 (4–25)	3 (1–10)	4 (2–12)	3 (1–9)	8 (2–18)
Any cannabis use	1095/5661 (19.3%) [§]	943/2452 (38.5%)	1796 (85.6%)	44/226 (20%) [§]	1055/3062 (34.5%)	4933/13 499 (36.5%)
Frequency (days), median (IQR) [†]	16 (4–28)	18 (4–28)	28 (18–28)	10 (2–27)	14 (4–28)	24 (8–28)
Any cocaine use	252/5494 (4.6%) [§]	119/2340 (5.1%) [§]	75/1913 (3.9%) [§]	194 (78.9%)	72/2925 (2.5%) [§]	712/12 918 (5.5%)
Frequency (days), median (IQR) [†]	3 (1–8)	1 (1–4)	1 (1–4)	8 (4–16)	2 (1–8)	3 (1–8)

	Principal drug of concern					
	Alcohol	Amphetamine-type stimulants	Cannabis	Cocaine	Opioids	Total
Any opioid use (excluding OAT)	203/5526 (3.7%) [§]	181/2374 (7.6%) [§]	76/1926 (3.9%) [§]	13/221 (5.9%) [§]	1806 (57.2%)	2279/13 195 (17.3%)
Frequency (days), median (IQR) [†]	12 (4–28)	8 (2–22)	12 (1–28)	4 (1–10)	28 (14–28)	27 (10–28)
Any benzodiazepine use	767/5572 (13.8%) [§]	335/2389 (14.0%) [§]	212/1945 (10.9%) [§]	42/225 (19%) [§]	919/3052 (30.1%)	2275/13 183 (17.3%)
Frequency (days), median (IQR) [†]	8 (3–27)	7 (2–20)	8 (3–28)	4 (1–12)	14 (3–28)	10 (3–28)
Any injecting drug use	118/5729 (2.1%) [§]	797/2402 (33.2%) [§]	88/2032 (4.3%)	11/234 (4.7%)	1302/3035 (42.9%)	2316/13 442 (17.2%)
Frequency (days), median (IQR) [†]	4 (2–10)	14 (5–26)	6 (2–15)	10 (2–20)	23 (7–28)	16 (4–28)
Shared equipment [‡]	31 (26%)	125 (16.0%)	13 (15%)	1 (9%)	204 (15.8%)	374/2284 (16.4%)
Daily tobacco use	3316 (57.0%)	1968/2434 (80.9%)	1619/2044 (79.2%)	124/235 (52.8%)	2506/3055 (82.0%)	9533/13 587 (70.2%)
Self-rated health and wellbeing						
Psychological health (mean), SD	5.03 (2.19)	5.25 (2.20)	5.42 (2.16)	5.10 (2.14)	5.74 (2.20)	5.29 (2.21)
Clinically significant problems (≤ 5)	2948/5151 (57.2%)	1270/2281 (55.7%)	902/1811 (59.0%)	124/210 (59.0%)	1355/2854 (47.5%)	6599/12 307 (53.6%)
Physical health (mean), SD	5.75 (2.13)	6.16 (2.00)	6.23 (2.09)	6.37 (1.82)	5.95 (2.07)	5.95 (2.09)
Clinically significant problems (≤ 5)	2289/5145 (44.5%)	844/2279 (37.0%)	642/1814 (35.4%)	67/210 (32%)	1189/2847 (41.8%)	5031/12 295 (59.1%)
Overall quality of life (mean), SD	5.38 (2.30)	5.52 (2.32)	5.79 (2.23)	5.59 (2.14)	5.95 (2.25)	5.60 (2.29)
Clinically significant problems (≤ 5)	2679/5123 (52.3%)	1134/2269 (50.0%)	775/1802 (43.0%)	97/208 (47%)	1216/2840 (42.8%)	5901/12 242 (48.2%)

IQR = interquartile range; OAT = opioid agonist therapy; SD = standard deviation.

[†] For those who reported using the substance in the preceding 28 days.

[‡] For those reporting any injecting drug use.

[§] 5–10% missing data.

[¶] 11–15% missing data.

Table 3. Self-rated health and wellbeing (scale of 1 to 10) during the preceding 28 days, by principal drug of concern: Bayesian analysis of variance and pairwise comparisons

Characteristic	Number*	Mean (95% CrI)	Principal drug of concern (<i>post hoc</i> comparator): Bayesian factor/Cohen <i>d</i>			
			Alcohol	Amphetamine-type stimulants	Cannabis	Cocaine
Psychological health						
Alcohol	5151	5.03 (4.97–5.09)	—	—	—	—
Amphetamine-type stimulants	2281	5.25 (5.16–5.34)	62.9/–0.10	—	—	—
Cannabis	1811	5.42 (5.32–5.52)	> 300/–0.18	0.84/–0.08	—	—
Cocaine	210	5.10 (4.81–5.52)	0.09/–0.03	0.12/0.07	0.62/0.15	—
Opioids	2854	5.74 (5.66–5.82)	> 300/–0.33	> 300/–0.23	> 300/–0.15	296/–0.29
Physical health						
Alcohol	5145	5.75 (5.69–5.81)	—	—	—	—
Amphetamine-type stimulants	2279	6.16 (6.08–6.24)	> 300/–0.20	—	—	—
Cannabis	1814	6.24 (6.14–6.33)	> 300/–0.23	0.07/–0.04	—	—
Cocaine	210	6.37 (6.12–6.61)	364/–0.30	0.22/–0.10	0.12/–0.06	—
Opioids	2847	5.95 (5.88–6.03)	121/–0.10	27.83/0.10	> 300/0.14	4.1/0.20
Quality of life						
Alcohol	5123	5.38 (5.31–5.44)	—	—	—	—
Amphetamine-type stimulants	2269	5.52 (5.43–5.62)	0.65/–0.06	—	—	—
Cannabis	1802	5.79 (5.70–5.90)	> 300/–0.18	44.4/–0.12	—	—
Cocaine	208	5.59 (5.30–5.88)	0.19/–0.10	0.09/–0.03	0.18/0.09	—
Opioids	2840	5.95 (5.87–6.03)	> 300/–0.25	> 300/–0.19	0.48/–0.07	0.91/–0.16

* Number of people for whom relevant data were available.

None of the pairwise comparisons identified meaningful differences of at least moderate evidence level (Bayes factor ≥ 30 and Cohen's *d* of 0.5 to < 0.8).