

## EMCDDA activities related to infectious diseases among people who inject drugs

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### Update December 2013

1. HIV risk assessment in EU/EEA countries;
2. Preventing and controlling infectious diseases among PWID – joint ECDC-EMCDDA meetings;
3. EMCDDA toolkit for monitoring infectious diseases among PWID;
4. Other updates:
  - Cooperation with non-EU countries
  - 2nd follow-up to the Council Recommendation of 18 June 2003 on the prevention and reduction of health-related harm associated with drug dependence (EC funded project)
  - Some planned activities in 2013-2014

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### 20 years of EMCDDA — 30 October 2013

The EMCDDA was set up in the first half of the 1990s — a period when **heroin use and drug-related deaths** were rising rapidly in Europe. Transmission of **HIV among injecting drug users** was increasing in many EU Member States



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### 1. HIV Risk Assessment in EU/EEA countries

- Joint EMCDDA and ECDC risk assessment (November 2011);
- Expert meetings March (Tallinn) and October (Lisbon) 2012;
- 2013 update of HIV risk assessment in EU/EEA countries;
- Results published in Eurosurveillance on 28 November 2013



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### 1. HIV Risk Assessment in EU/EEA countries – main conclusions

- While reports of new HIV diagnoses among PWID have been stable or declining in most EU/EEA countries, serious outbreaks in Greece and Romania continued while economic conditions hindered provision of effective response coverage.
- In at least eight other countries, data suggests that substantial populations of PWID have limited access to OST and NSP services and may therefore be vulnerable with regard to outbreaks in the future. Urgent consideration to scale up prevention efforts is merited.

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### 2. HIV Risk Assessment in EU/EEA countries – key meetings

**DRD-DRID key indicator meeting, EMCDDA**, Lisbon 18 October 2013  
**HIV among PWID in Europe: Update of a regional risk assessment**  
Joint project by EMCDDA and ECDC

**EMCDDA-ECDC Expert meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting on Detecting and responding to outbreaks of HIV among people who inject drugs**, 18–19 November 2013, Bucharest, Romania (Romania, Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary, Malta, Sweden and Finland)

**Reitox regional academy for Baltic countries:** Monitoring trends and responses to drug-related infectious diseases among PWID, ECDC and EMCDDA, 21–22 November 2013, Tallinn, Estonia (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland)

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### 3. Cooperation with non-EU countries



- IPA-4 Programme candidate and potential candidate countries as part of their accession process to the EU;
- Range: technical assistance; ad-hoc training; consultancy.

**Reitox Academy for IPA4 beneficiaries 'Prevention of infectious diseases among people who use drugs', Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 29–30 October, 2013**

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### 3. EMCDDA new guidance for monitoring infectious diseases among PWID



- The latest guidance on monitoring infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS and HEP B and C among PWID
- Designed to help health professionals improve their monitoring practice in order to reduce the burden of disease in this vulnerable group and improve the coverage and quality of services delivered,
- Prepared closely with experts, country representatives and international and EU agencies
  - Module 1: Behavioural indicators
  - Module 2: Example questionnaire
  - Module 3: Methods of bio-behavioural surveys

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### 4. Council Recommendation follow-up

- 2nd follow-up Council Recommendation of 18 June 2003 (CT, with EAHC, DG-Sanco, DG-Just)
- **Harm reduction in Europe 2003–13**
- Stakeholder and policy maker perspectives on harm reduction in the EU; impact of the CR on drug-related harm.
- Three priority areas of action: the reduction of drug-induced deaths; the improvement of harm reduction in prisons; and the reduction of harm caused by drug-related infections.



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### 4. Other planned activities in 2013-2014

- DRID Toolkit – 3 modules
- Behavioral data report – 45 geographical regions in 16 countries (years 1998-2010)
- Modeling network studies – Hep C and injecting risks in Eastern and Western Europe
- Outbreaks activities - HIV, anthrax
- HCV systematic review
- Project IDUs / non-IDUs and stimulants

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### 4. Ongoing work on Insights on Hep C treatment

To provide evidence that HCV antiviral treatment is an effective approach to reducing the prevalence of HCV among people who inject drugs



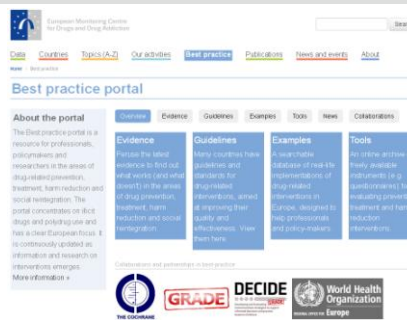
Manual for building integrated HCV-addiction treatment services in Europe.

Targeted audience: scientists, researchers, training institutions; managers and practitioners in drugs field; policy makers and planners.

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### 4. Best practice portal



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## European summer school 2014



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Lisbon, 30 June–11 July 2014

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Thank you!