

Wednesday, 09 September 2020

Health and Social Wellbeing Improvement

Coronavirus COVID-19

WE ALL MUST DO IT TO GET THROUGH IT STAY SAFE SAVE LIVES

Drug overdose and Coronavirus (COVID-19)
It's an extra risky time. It's safer not to use drugs at all.

There are new risks during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Changes to the drug market could increase your overdose risk.

- You are at greater risk of drug overdose if you have COVID-19.**
- Avoid using more than one drug at a time:** this includes using with alcohol and prescription medication like methadone or benzodiazepines.
- You can't be sure of the contents of drugs or how you will react:** tablets not prescribed to you are also a risk.
- Tolerance:** not taking drugs for a space of time and starting again could lead to overdose.
- Changing the type of drugs you use or using new drugs increases your risk of overdose.**
- Think about Opioid Substitution Treatment.** This could help you manage your use and reduce overdose. Contact your local GP for further information and referral.
- Using alone or in isolation is dangerous:** let someone know.
- Start very low and go very slow** and leave at least two hours before using more.
- Get Naloxone** for you or a friend. This could save your life.

Don't be afraid to get help if you or a friend becomes unwell after using drugs. It's important you get medical support as soon as possible by calling 999.

There is a range of support services available in Northern Ireland for people affected by alcohol and/or drugs. Information on these services can be found at www.drugsandalcoholni.info

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This poster provides harm reduction advice for people who use drugs, highlighting the additional risks in relation to the coronavirus pandemic.

Details

Format

Poster

Target group

People who use drugs

Downloads

Attachment**Size**

[COVID-19 Drug Overdose A3 poster 09_20 final_0.pdf](#) 375.56 KB

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- [drugs](#)
- [harm reduction](#)
- [coronavirus](#)
- [covid-19](#)

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