

COV/STG/20/10 - Understanding the health impacts of the Covid-19 response on people who use drugs in Scotland (PWUD): implications for Covid-19 infection/transmission and impacts on harm reduction, treatment and recovery

People Who Use Drugs (PWUD) are at increased risk of acquiring and transmitting the virus through their social drug purchasing and using behaviours. Lack of availability of illicit drugs may put some PWUD at increased risk of Covid-19 through changing patterns of drug purchasing/use whilst others may reduce/stop drug use to avoid social contact. Altered drug service provision may expose PWUD to harm through overdose or relapse (ISAM, 2020). We will interview PWUD to understand the risk environment and implications for public health responses to Covid-19.