

RESULT

Representing & Empowering Service Users & Liaising with Treatment

EDITION 1
November 2007

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Needle Exchange

Please remember all used 'works' can be handed into IDAS or Cranstoun

Be Aware: sharp bins are provided and are for your own benefit, please make use of them and take them with you at all times.

**DO NOT
FLUSH USED
'WORKS'
DOWN
PUBLIC
TOILETS.....!**

Rise in Drug admissions.....

The number of hospital admissions for mental health problems caused by Cannabis has increased by nearly 2/3rds in the past 5 yrs.

There were 510 admissions in 96/97 and 946 in 2005/2007; According to Dept. of Health, said the increase in the number of admissions relating to the class C drug showed, 'why Conservatives have opposed the downgrading of cannabis and pledged to have it reclassified?'

We want to hear from you...

RESULT – considered 'experts by experience', drawing on personal experience enables us to speak for on-going users too busy to keep their habit fed to be attending meetings, even if they wanted to!

**We meet once a fortnight for forum – open to all drug/service users
Once a new member has shown his or her commitment to long term involvement with RESULT we would consider them for the Core Group.**

**Currently based at Cranstoun – 17 Melville Street, Ryde
The RESULT forum will meet here every Monday between 11.00 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. so join us.**

Peer mentoring available

Advocacy Service

RESULT are working towards the successful implementation of a substance misuse Advocacy service, to advocate on behalf of the IV drug /service users to resolve issues and problems with their treatment.

Help, advice and information around drug treatment and relating issues.

All strictly confidential

Our aim is to raise awareness of the risks of infection along with harm reduction advice

Regular Doctor Reviews.....

"I was really angry, they promised everything and delivered nothing"

Have you had your Care Plan reviewed lately?

Or a Doctor's review (every 3 months)?

Do you feel powerless over addiction and your lives unmanageable?

Need someone to talk to about any problems you may be facing?

RESULT are here to help.

Hepatitis C – Do you know enough about it?

(information taken from 'FACE IT' NHS Leaflet)
Hepatitis C is a virus that can damage the liver. Unlike Hep A and B, there is no vaccine to protect against Hep C.

Hep C is carried in the blood, the virus is mainly spread through contact with the blood of a person who has Hep C.

You can't catch it through every day contact such as holding hands or hugging or kissing, or through sharing toilets, plates and cups and kitchen utensils.

It can be passed on in the following ways:

By sharing equipment for injecting drugs (even if you did this a long time ago)

Needles, syringes are the greatest risk but spoons, filters and water can carry infection if they are contaminated with blood from someone who has the virus.

Through a blood transfusion before Sept. 1991, or blood products like clotting factors before 1986.

All blood in the UK is now screened for Hep C.

Through unprotected sex with someone who has the virus.

By having a tattoo, an ear/ body piercing with equipment that is not sterile.

By sharing razors or toothbrushes which have been contaminated with blood from someone who has the virus.

If you think you could have been in contact with the Hepatitis C Virus at anytime in the past, you can have a test to find out if you have been infected.

IDAS are now offering finger prick testing (no needles)

your doctor or sexual health clinic will also be able to test you.

WARNINGS

Drug Alert....

5/11/07

(Hampshire police)

Heroin

Current information that there is a bad batch of heroin in circulation in Andover; it is thought to have come from either London or Southampton. It is described as dark brown in colour but more crystalline than normal powder. Sold as injecting gear and not suitable for the foil. If its broken it goes flat and shiny like plastic. When cooked up it goes like a 'sludge' with sediment sinking to the bottom – leaving a watery top which could be drawn up and leaves a red sediment residue around the spoon.

Symptoms described as the user being knocked out cold until the next morning with no memory of what has happened.

Cocaine

Samples of white powder that have been analysed show that cocaine pre-mixed with ecstasy is being sold in Andover .
2/11/07

BZP / PEP PILLS

Clubbers warned against 'legal' alternative to ecstasy.....

Clubbers in search of a legal alternative to ecstasy have been warned against the use of benzylpiperazine, known as BZP or PEP pills, 'Synthesised from the pepper plant, BZP was originally used as a worming treatment to internal parasites in cattle'. (Guardian Newspaper 13/12/05) One 18-year old had bought BZP pills thinking them to be ecstasy or amphetamines and collapsed after taking five. The user appeared to have had a seizure lasting ten minutes. (Reports the Guardian Newspaper May 07) BZP is not controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act, meaning it is legal to possess the drug, although sales to the public are banned under the Medicines Act. Medical experts are warning that it carries risks of serious and potentially fatal side effects.

Heroin in Whiskas – By Pete Doherty

There's heroin in Whiskas, I'm reasonably sure,
The cat's getting desperate, pacing the floor.
He hangs round the food cupboard, waiting to score
Wild-eyed and reckless, Quick on the claw.
He's sharing a needle with the cat from next door,
Comes round at mealtimes and ties-off his paw.
They shoot up together and beg me for more,
Who should I turn to? The vet or the law?

There's heroin in Whiskas, I don't think it's crack
He said he could handle it, lying on his back
But last night the chemists came under attack
The only things missing were chocolate and smack
And some halibut oil from the vitamin rack
He won't have the dried stuff which comes in a pack
If it ain't got the tincture - He reckons it's cack

There's heroin in Whiskas, and reasonably pure
He completely refuses to go for a cure,
He just lies around Till it's time for his feed
But what makes it worse.....
Is that the dog's taking speed!

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For more info, friendly, helpful advice, just contact us:

Email:
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