# **Substance Misuse** & Coronavirus 19

**Update June 2021** 



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## **Policy Changes & Delivery of Services**

Drug Harms Assessment & Response Team [DHART]: Quarterly summary for professionals May 2021

Deaths of opiate users in treatment in England are higher than expected and not caused directly by coronavirus (COVID-19) Public Health England

#### **Health & Behaviour**

### Alcohol-related harm during the COVID-19 pandemic

In 2020, deaths from alcohol-specific causes in England and Wales increased by almost 20% compared with 2019 Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Are individuals with substance use disorders at higher risk of SARS-CoV2 infection? Despite higher rates of being tested, those with SUDs are less likely to be tested positive **European Addiction Research** 

## Association of the COVID-19 lockdown with smoking, drinking and attempts to quit in England: an analysis of 2019-2020 data.

High-risk drinking prevalence increased post-lockdown and use of evidence-based support for alcohol reduction by high-risk drinkers decreased with no compensatory increase in use of remote support. Addiction [Full text article]

#### COVID-19 psychological and financial stress and their links to drinking.

Results show that men's psychological and financial stress are related to not only their own extreme drinking, and coping motives, but also to their partner's drinking behaviours. **Psychology of Addictive Behaviours** 

## Socially supportive norms and mutual aid of people who use opioids: an analysis of Reddit during the initial COVID-19 pandemic.

This research used Reddit [a social media forum] to examine the impact of COVID-19 on the social networks of people who use opioids Drug and Alcohol Dependence

#### Research

Randomized controlled trials for alcohol use disorder during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Addresses the successes and limitations of RCTs encountered during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Alcohol

During the current pandemic, the Library and Knowledge Services can provide evidence support with literature searches, current awareness, and assistance with accessing our online resources. For information on our service changes, visit our website at https://www.gmmh.nhs.uk/library-service-changes

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