

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH LOW RATES OF ENGAGEMENT ON OPIOID SUBSTITUTION TREATMENT AMONG PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS IN ATHENS



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BACKGROUND

In 2016:

17,067 estimate population

size of high risk people who use drugs (PWUD) in Greece of whom 50.0% were in Athens.

During 2011-2013:

This population experienced an **HIV outbreak** that resulted to the rise of HIV prevalence at 16.5%. **HCV prevalence** is also high in this population (**85.0%**)

STUDY

In 2018:

A study was implemented in the **center of Athens** to elucidate the **anthropogeography of PWUD.**

METHODS

Semi-structured interviews were conducted by assigned **Street-Work Team**, who approached individuals in **Open drug scenes in Athens**

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Provided written informed consent.
Over **18 years old.**
Use of psychoactive substances during the previous week.

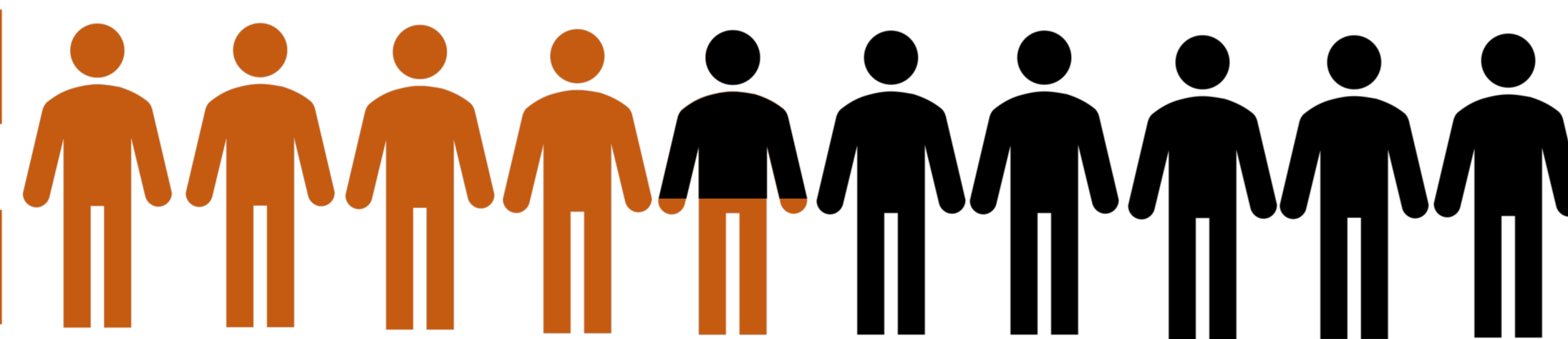
ANALYSIS

Multiple Logistic Regression was used to identify factors associated with engagement in OST. **Odd Ratios** and 95% confidence intervals were estimated.

RESULTS

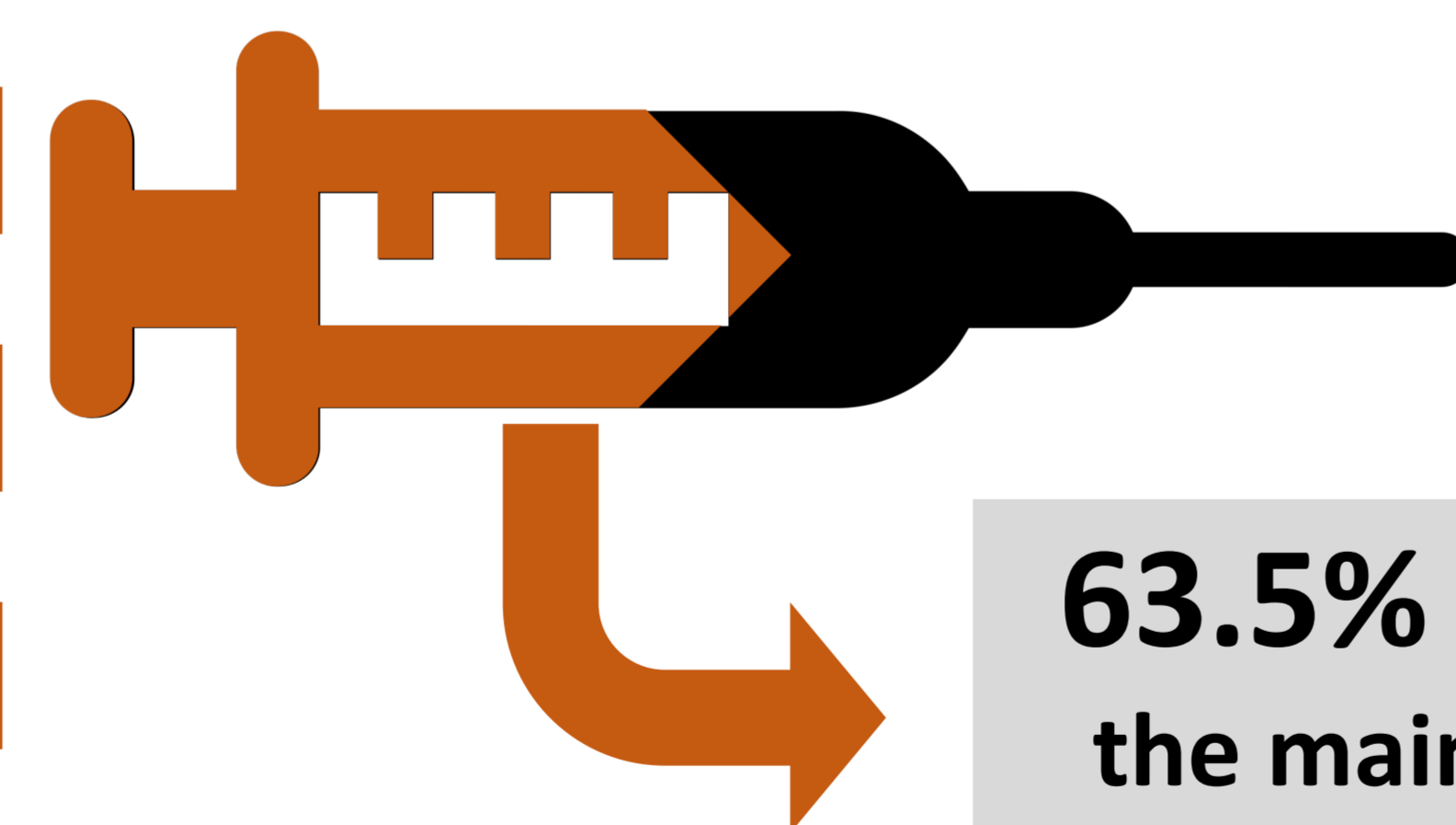
Period_ 3 Weeks
Participants _ n= 200 PWUD

37.5 mean age



56.1%
Used to stay/sleep out during night

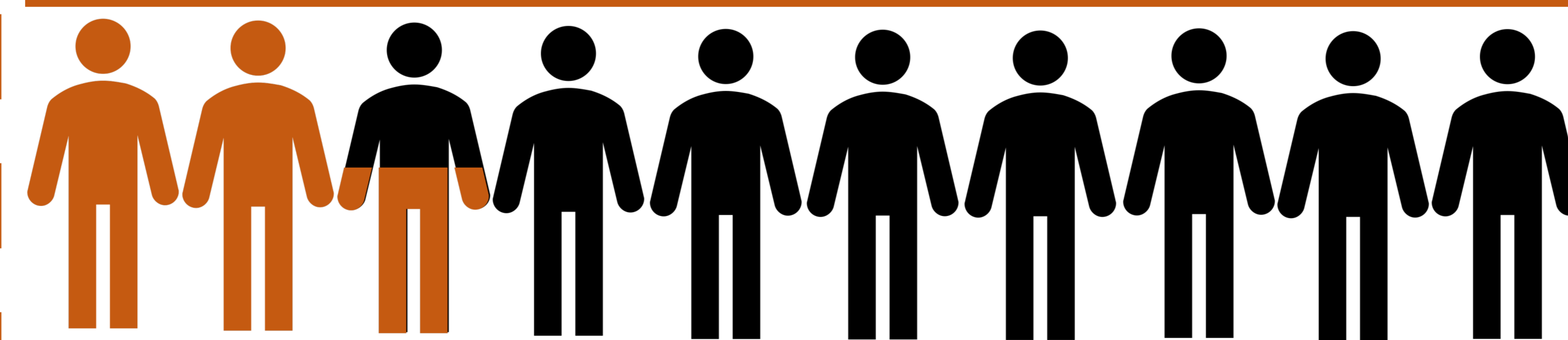
45.5% homeless



45.0%
Intravenous use

63.5% reported heroin as the main substance of use

24.8% being currently engaged in OST



PWUD of Greek origin are 5.15 times more likely to be engaged in OST than immigrants.

OR (95%CI)
Greek vs. Other: 5,15
(1.66, 16.01), p-value=0.005

Non-Homeless persons are 3.17 times more likely to be engaged in OST than homeless.

OR (95%CI)
No vs. Yes: 3,17
(1.37, 7.33), p-value=0.007

A large proportion of Active PWUD in the center of Athens are not engaged in OST with homeless and migrants being a particularly underserved population