

## A toolkit of sexual health educational resources for alcohol and other drug (AOD) workers.

Designed to enhance AOD workers' knowledge, skills and confidence to tailor a sexual health intervention based on a functional understanding of how sex and drugs work to together for an individual person. The toolkit contains:

- Three free eLearning modules
  - ♦ Foundational concepts
  - Understanding risks, STIs, prevention, testing and treatment
  - ♦ How to deliver a sexual health intervention
- Explainer videos
- Downloadable resources

# APPROACH Literature review Scoping questionnaire Establish project advisory group Online sexual health & AOD forum

#### **KEY FINDINGS**

- Association between problematic substance use and/or mental health co-morbidities and poor sexual health outcomes including complex STIs, syphilis and congenital syphilis.
- Stigma and discrimination concerning substance use is a major barrier to engaging with sexual health care.
- There is limited knowledge of sexual health among surveyed AOD workforce and low confidence in 'broaching the topic' with clients.
- There is interest among the QLD AOD workforce in responding to the sexual health needs of clients however educational resources and support is required.

#### **IMPACT**

Timeframe: 30/11/2022 - 31/08/2023

• Unique views of the toolkit

1017

Module survey results



- Module completions
  - ♦ Foundational concepts **222**
  - ♦ Understanding risks, STIs, prevention, testing and treatment 139
  - ♦ How to deliver a sexual health intervention 126
- Most popular video:
  - "Why sexual health is essential to AOD practice"



- Most popular resource:

Talking about sexual health
A tool for workers

Talking about a sexually and sexual health with cleans as important are of practice. By using your existing side and appearance to health grow and appearance and appearance to health grow and several practices of your services by an appearance to the services of the services of

(The modules) give you the space to explore how you can better prepare yourself for the conversation. It's difficult to talk about the subject, however, this course provides a good foundation for building upon this.

### SIGNIFICANCE



The Sex and Drugs Toolkit is the only publicly available training resource in Australia focusing on the general intersection between sexual health and substance use.

2

The training draws upon skills and competencies already core to AOD practice, and articulates how these can be applied to help meet sexual health wellbeing needs across a variety of service settings.

3

By building capacity within the AOD sector, clients who face barriers in accessing mainstream services can be better supported with their sexual health concerns.

View the Sex and Drugs toolkit here - insight.qld.edu.au
Poster publication date: 31/08/2023
Contact: BBVCDU@health.qld.gov.au; insight@health.qld.gov.au

Emily Buster, Benjamin Walters, Jeff Buckley 1 BBV/STI Unit, Communicable Diseases Branch, Queensland Health, Brisbane, Queensland,

2 Insight: Centre for alcohol and other drug training and workforce development, Metro North Hospital and Health Service, Brisbane, Queensland



