

## **PINS, PIPES AND PARAPHERNALIA COMMUNITY PREFERENCES IN THE SELECTION OF LOW DEAD SPACE SYRINGES AND NEEDLES AND OTHER HARM REDUCTION COMMODITIES**

### **Background and aims:**

Needle and syringe procurement in international development has tended to procure large amounts of the equipment that PWID have been able to source in criminalized settings. These leads to oversize needles and syringes that are often low quality and sometimes not suitable for PWID. This workshop will help sensitize participants to the choices – optimum and constrained – that PWUD make when selecting which needles, syringes and other paraphernalia people will select to take drugs.

### **Description of workshop:**

10 peer contributors will one after another, run a brief “show and tell” exercise explaining their choice of harm reduction commodities. The peer contributors will be chosen to reflect different country settings, different drugs of choice, different routes of administration, different using sites, and other contextual challenges. Participants will be invited to ask questions of clarification from these experienced and resilient drug user advocates.

### **Methods and format:**

Mat will be joined by a series of people who inject and use drugs from different countries and contexts around the world. Each peer contributor will explain the drugs they would normally use, their preferred routes of administration, their preferred administration sites, and any other factors that would inform their selection and use of equipment. They will also reflect on the more restricted choices that are faced by other people who use drugs in their country.

### **Ideal number and type of delegate, how many people can the workshop accommodate and who is this workshop designed for?**

The workshop would ideally be a balance between 10 PWUD / peer contributors and 30 – 40 allies / professional partners. The workshop will be of value to medical manufacturers, programmers, donors, procurement specialists, academics, and Government officials.

### **Disclosure of Interest Statement:**

Coact works closely with Exchange Supplies as the medical manufacturing and they will provide the equipment modelled in the workshop.