

## **SMOKING CESSATION INTERVENTIONS IN SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT SERVICE: STAFF AND CLIENT PERSPECTIVES**

Swithenbank Z<sup>1</sup>, Porcellato L<sup>1</sup>, Watson P<sup>2</sup>, Hay G<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Public Health Institute, Liverpool John Moores University <sup>2</sup>School of Sport and Exercise Science, Liverpool John Moores University

### **Background:**

Smoking prevalence among adults in substance use treatment is estimated at between 74% and 98% (Thurgood et al, 2016), putting them at a much greater risk of tobacco related morbidity and mortality than the wider population. Research suggests that behavioural interventions can be effective (Hartmann-Boyce et al, 2021), yet more research is needed on the content of these interventions in this population. It is important to gather perspectives from both staff and service users in order to ensure the acceptability as well as the effectiveness of any proposed intervention.

### **Methods:**

This study took a qualitative approach, with semi structured interviews conducted with both staff and service users in substance use treatment. 17 interviews took place either face to face or via video conference, with participants asked about their experiences and perceptions of smoking cessation interventions in this setting, as well as suggestions for future interventions. Interviews were transcribed verbatim, removing any identifiable data, imported into NVivo and analysed thematically (Clarke & Braun, 2017).

### **Results:**

The key themes that were identified included the role of the treatment service; risk prioritization; barriers and facilitators to smoking cessation in substance use treatment services; and content and acceptability of interventions. These will be discussed and illustrated with relevant quotes from participants.

### **Conclusion:**

Despite differing opinions on the role of the treatment service in offering smoking cessation, both staff and service users broadly agreed that this is an important issue and one that should be more consistently addressed. The need for an intervention to be acceptable as well as effective was echoed by many participants, suggesting that further research is needed into the appropriate components of a behavioural intervention which can be implemented here to reduce the harms of tobacco smoking in this population.

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

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.