

EVALUATING THE ACCESSIBILITY AND RELEVANCE OF ONLINE HEALTH PROMOTION RESOURCES ABOUT SEXUALISED DRUG USE

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Background:

Sexualised drug use (SDU) involves the deliberate use of drugs to enhance sexual practices. This paper aims to synthesise research pertaining to the prevalence, high risk practices and outcomes of SDU and hence analyse the relevance of online SDU health promotion.

Methods:

Papers from January 2010 to July 2020 reporting SDU were identified through PubMed, Embase, Medline and the Cochrane Library. Through contacting local sexual health promotion organisations and internet searches, online health promotion resources were evaluated with reference to the Ottawa Charter.

Results:

Our search identified 219 studies of which 17 were included in the final analysis. SDU was associated with greater sexual health risk factors such as condomless anal intercourse (CAI), multiple partners, group sex, loss of consciousness (LOC) and injecting drug use (IDU). Our study demonstrated some positive outcomes associated with SDU such as higher sexually transmitted infection (STI) screening rates and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) adherence. Participants were also susceptible to adverse psychosocial outcomes with those engaging in SDU reporting poorer mental health and susceptibility to non-consensual sex, transactional sex and peer pressure. Our study identified 15 relevant SDU health promotion resources; many were not readily accessible or failed to achieve all five principles outlined in the Ottawa charter.

Conclusion:

Our review highlighted the significant adverse sexual health and psychosocial outcomes associated with SDU. Our review informed our evaluation, demonstrating that there is a lack of accessible, high-quality health promotion resources available for SDU.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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