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Primary health care in criminal justice settings with alcohol identification and brief advice: What are the best settings for a randomised controlled trial?

To identify areas in the English criminal justice system where deployment of alcohol screening and brief interventions could reduce alcohol consumption and its related harms. This paper is about rapid review of the existing evidence, both for prevalence of alcohol use disorders and the effectiveness of screening and brief interventions in criminal justice settings as well as conducting key informant interviews. There have been no randomised controlled trials in police custody settings, although there have been feasibility studies. There has been only one trial in the magistrates court, and those incarcerated and released from prison would be novel subjects for an RCT. However, with young offenders, there is lack of trials and none from the United Kingdom and with the advancement of AssesPlus screening, it would appear more feasible to embed a research team here than in other criminal justice settings. Suggested settings for further research of alcohol brief interventions are from the magistrates court, prison and youth justice settings. Each presents methodological challenges with regards to conducting a RCT, however Youth Justice Settings may offer an advantage above other settings.

Biography

Clive Tobutt is a Registered Nurse (Adult & Mental Health Nursing and Practice Educator). He completed a Post-graduate Diploma in Addiction Studies at the Institute of Psychiatry, London University and an MSc degree in Sociology (Health & Illness) from London South Bank University. He is currently pursuing PhD at the University of Winchester. He is a Teaching Fellow (Mental Health Nursing) at Surrey University and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member of the *Advances of Dual Diagnosis Journal*.

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