

# Substance Misuse & Coronavirus 19

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## Policy & Guidance

### COVID-19: Guidance for commissioners and providers of services for people who use drugs or alcohol

Updated guidance (16 October) in line with recent changes to national restrictions [Gov.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

### Government portal to order supplies of PPE

PHE encourages all drug and alcohol services to register on the portal to start benefiting from the offer of free PPE to protect their staff and service users.

*Note: only email addresses provided to the portal by NDTMS/CQC are valid for registration. Contact your regional NDTMS team if you have not yet received an invitation email or if you need to register. Access the portal: <https://nhs-ppe.co.uk>*

## Delivery of Services

### Addiction services not equipped to treat the 8 million people drinking at high risk during pandemic

Years of cuts means services are ill-equipped to cope with the post-pandemic surge in problem drinking and immediate investment is needed [Royal College of Psychiatrists](https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk)

### Addressing the syndemic of HIV, hepatitis C, overdose and COVID-19 among people who use drugs

US study on the potential roles of decriminalization and safe supply

[Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs](https://www.jstudies.org)

## Health & Behaviour

### Shifts in alcohol consumption during the COVID-19 pandemic: early indications

Study aimed to provide early estimates of how stress and demographics will interact with shifts in consumption from before the outbreak to 2 months into social distancing [Addiction](https://www.addictionjournal.com)

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