

Peer Involvement in Research

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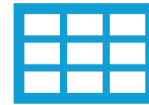
Peer involvement in research



What?



Why?



How?



Examples

What is peer involvement in research?



Lived/living
experience



Subjects of
research

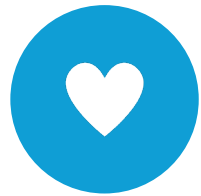


Conducting
research



Variation in
role/extent

Why involve peers in research?



Authenticity



Understanding



Empowerment



Quality/Validity



Acceptance/trust



Advocacy

How to involve peers in research

Engage early in the process

Training

Supportive

Respectful

Compensate fairly

Feedback and reflection

Peer-led research

- Lessons learned from COVID-19 for substance use services
- Three strands of research
- Service-user strand **led** by a team of seven peer researchers:
 - Telephone ‘survey interviews’
 - Covering three broad themes:
 - Substance use
 - Personal lives
 - Access to treatment/support



**PEER-LED
COVID-19
IMPACT
SURVEY**

Peer-led research

Big sample

A more representative sample

Honest views

Benefits to the peers and the
participants

Important lessons

Peer-led research

- Peer-led review of Buvidal
 - Built on the success of the ‘lessons learned’ project
 - Team of peers with lived experience of OST
 - Designed and conducted interviews
 - Sample of 94 people who had been prescribed Buvidal
 - Important recommendations:
 - Initial assessment
 - Mental health and trauma
 - Connection and community
 - Clinical provision and advice





Peer-led research

- Ongoing research on introducing an Enhanced Harm Reduction Facility in Wales
 - Survey of people who might use the facility (n=60)
 - To help justify the need for an EHRF
 - To inform the design of the EHRF
- Analysis is underway

13. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your thoughts on EHRFs?

I think there are so many positive things about a EHRFs.

13. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your thoughts on EHRFs?

Please hurry up and do it plz

Peer-guided research



Lived Experience Expert Panel (LEEP)



Research Advisory Groups (e.g. MPA, Buvidal, SUOs)



Peers as guest lecturers



Informal support

Peer-guided research



Volunteering in
GDAS in 2022



To get a better
understanding of
services



One day a week for a
period of several
months



Time in methadone
clinics chatting with
patients



Time with the
Assertive Outreach
Team



Eye-opening

Peer-guided research



Poor health condition



Vulnerability



Barriers to healthcare



Compassion

Summary

- Peers have a huge role to play in research
- Peers as researchers
- Peers as guides
- A no-brainer!
- Many benefits to all involved

