

Sex, Drugs and Hook-Up Apps: Chemsex and Harm Reduction

NEW

30 August to 26 September 2021

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A four week interactive, facilitated online course that focuses on providing care to men engaging in sexualised drug use, a.k.a “chemsex”. Participants will develop an understanding of the chemsex syndemic, and strategies to engage men who participate in chemsex in therapeutic discussions around safer sex and harm minimisation.

Topics covered include:

- Drugs used in chemsex.
- The role hook-up apps play in facilitating chemsex.
- Strategies for engaging men who engage in chemsex in therapeutic conversations.
- Treatment and support options for men who engage in chemsex.

Who should attend? For doctors, nurses and allied health workers in the sexual health and AOD sectors

Requirements: Participants will need an email address and access to the internet. Capacity to undertake a minimum of 3 hours study per week over 4 weeks. There is no set time to be online but participants are expected to log in each week and contribute to discussion fora. This course is counted as 12 hours of continuous professional development.

Course Fees including GST: Introductory price \$170

For enquiries or to register, please contact Albion Education and Development

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The Albion Centre - Working towards the virtual elimination of HIV transmission and the elimination of Hepatitis C as a public health threat by 2030

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course it is anticipated that learners will:

- Be familiar with the drugs used for chemsex: how they are used, risks associated with their use, and how they interact.
- Be familiar with the sexual practices engaged in by MSM involved in chemsex, the health risks associated with these practices and how they can be minimised.
- Be familiar with the most popular “hook-up” apps, how they are used, and the role they play in allowing MSM to meet sexual partners.
- Acquire knowledge on the historical development of gay culture in Australia, and the role illicit drug use has played in that culture.
- Be able to articulate the impact that illicit drug may have upon negotiating sexual consent in the chemsex context.
- Gain an understanding of the motivational interviewing framework for therapeutic conversations, its techniques, and how these can be used among MSM engaging in chemsex.
- Be equipped with techniques to assist in sensitively starting and navigating conversations on sexualised drug use.
- Be equipped to refer MSM engaging in chemsex to appropriate support services.
- Be equipped to refer MSM engaging in chemsex to appropriate treatment services.
- Know where to seek support and professional development resources on the topic of chemsex for themselves.

Course Outline and Schedule:

	Topic	Activities to complete
Week 1	Chemsex 101 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tina, Gina & Friends• Let’s Talk About Sex, Baby• Apps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post Introduction• Chemsex 101 Quiz
Week 2	Hook-Up Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How Did We Get Here?• The Body Beautiful• Safe Sex 2.0• Sex, Drugs & Consent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post to Hook-Up Culture Forum (300 words)
Week 3	Where to Start <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why People Use Drugs and Why They Stop• Chemsex Harm Minimisation• Starting The Conversation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post to Where to Start Resources Forum
Week 4	Treatment and Support <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treatment Options• Support for Clients• Support for you	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case Study Assignment (500 Words)

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