

“Factors associated with drug use in prison- Norwegian offender mental health and addiction study”

Research Questions

- What are the patterns of drug use *before* and *during* imprisonment?
- What are the identifying factors associated with drug use in prison?

Sample

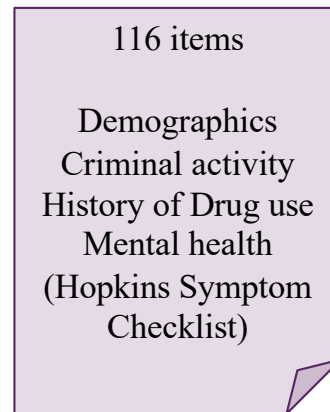
- 1,499 incarcerated individuals
- Average age 34.6 years old
- 6.4% women, 93.6% men
- 8% no education, 30% primary school education only
- 40% sentence related to drug crime
- 63% intoxicated when committed crime

Findings

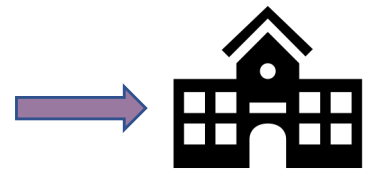
Prior drug use predicts in-prison drug use. Specifically:

- # of drugs use in lifetime
- daily drug use 6 months prior
- Being intoxicated when committing crime

Methods



Sent surveys out to 57 prisons June 2013 – June 2014



Findings

Pre-incarceration drug use patterns

65% Lifetime Use
(46% used five or more types of drugs, and 30% had used ten or more types)

54% Used 6 months prior

47% Used daily 6 months prior

Incarceration drug use patterns

35% Used in previous or current incarceration

3% Initiated drug use in prison

TAKE-AWAYS

Carceral settings should pre-screen incoming residents for drug use...current, past, or lifetime. For those who test positively for drug use before their sentence or report prior drug use, proper services should be provided