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SHEILA PERRY AND ALISTAIR KEELY
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Press Releases
Global burden of disease due to smokeless tobacco consumption in adults: analysis of data from 113 countries

Kamran Siddiqi, Sarwat Shah, Syed Muslim Abbas, Aishwarya Vidyasagar, Mohammed Jawad, Omara Dogar and Aziz Sheikh

Received: 6 May 2015 | Accepted: 17 July 2015 | Published: 17 August 2015

Abstract

Background
Smokeless tobacco is consumed in most countries in the world. In view of its widespread use and increasing awareness of the associated risks, there is a need for a detailed assessment of its impact on health. We present the first global estimates of the burden of disease due to consumption of smokeless tobacco by adults.

Methods
The burden attributable to smokeless tobacco use in adults was estimated as a proportion of the disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) lost and deaths reported in the 2010 Global Burden of Disease study. We used the comparative risk
Something to chew on – millions of lives blighted by smokeless tobacco

Posted on 21 August 2015

More than a quarter of a million people die each year from using smokeless tobacco, researchers at the University of York have concluded.

Edinburgh and Imperial College, London, says governments and public health bodies need to consider incorporating the regulation of smokeless tobacco into policy frameworks.

Dr Kamran Siddiqi, senior lecturer in epidemiology and public health at the Department of Health Sciences/Hull York Medical School, said: “It is possible that these figures are underestimated and future studies may reveal that the impact is even bigger. We need a global effort to try and address and control smokeless tobacco.”

The study, which was funded by Leeds City Council and the Medical Research Council, estimates that in 2010 alone smokeless tobacco resulted in more than 62,000 deaths due to cancers of the mouth, pharynx and oesophagus and accounted for more than 200,00 deaths from heart disease.
India accounts for 74 percent of world's 'smokeless tobacco deaths'

ANI | Washington D.C.
August 22, 2015 Last Updated at 17:47 IST

In a new study, researchers said that India has highest number of smokeless tobacco deaths.

University of York researchers said it was the first time that global impact of smokeless tobacco consumption on adults has been assessed.

Kamran Siddiqi Hull York Medical School said it was possible that these figures were underestimated and future studies might reveal that the impact was even bigger, and added that they need a global effort to try and address and control smokeless tobacco.
Cannabis psychosis, gender matters

Posted on 23 July 2015

New research by health scientists at the University of York has revealed that a greater proportion of men than women suffer from cannabis psychosis.

There has been much research exploring the nature of the relationship between cannabis - the most widely used illicit drug in the United Kingdom - and psychosis, however the role of gender in relation to cannabis psychosis is less well explored and understood.

A new study by researchers in the Department of Health Sciences at York used large datasets over a period of 11 years to investigate the differences in men and women as they progress from exposure to cannabis through to developing cannabis psychosis. The research is published in the Journal of Advances in Dual Diagnosis.

Trends in cannabis use suggest that twice as many males as females use the drug. This gender ratio is mirrored in rates of psychosis with males outnumbering females by 2:1. But the research team of Ian Hamilton, Dr Paul Geddes and Dr Holly Essex found there is a significant widening of this ratio for cannabis psychosis, where males outnumber females by four to one.

Ian Hamilton said: “The marked gender difference in rates of cannabis psychosis is puzzling. It is possible that mental health and specialist drug treatment services, which have a disproportionate number of men, are identifying and treating more males with combined mental health and cannabis problems. “However it is also
Men four times more likely to suffer cannabis psychosis than women

A new study shows that men may be considerably more susceptible to mental and physical effects of the drug
Smoking cannabis is more dangerous for MEN: Drug is 'four times more likely to trigger psychosis in males than females', experts warn

- Gender difference between cannabis use and psychotic episodes explored
- Study: Male users are four times more likely to suffer illness than females
- Twice as many men as women are known to regularly use marijuana
- Investigation has implications for potential gender-specific treatments

By LIZZIE PARRY FOR MAIL ONLINE

Smoking cannabis is more dangerous for men, scientists have discovered.

When it comes to the drug’s mind-altering effects, researchers at the University of York say their new study reveals males are more sensitive to mental health symptoms.

Past research has examined the relationship between marijuana - the most widely used illicit drug in the UK - and psychosis.

However the role of gender in relation to the drug’s mental health effects is less well understood.
Research

Larval therapy for leg ulcers (VenUS II): randomised controlled trial

BMJ 2009; 338 doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.b773 (Published 20 March 2009)
Cite this as: BMJ 2009;338:b773

Jo C Dumville, research fellow1, Gill Worthy, trial statistician1, J Martin Bland, professor of health statistics1, Nicky Cullum, professor, deputy head of department1, Christopher Dowson, professor2, Cynthia Iglesias, senior research fellow1, Joanne I Mitchell, research scientist3, E Andrea Nelson, reader in wound healing and director of research4, Marta O Soares, research fellow5, David J Torgerson, professor, director of York trials unit1 on behalf of the VenUS II team

Author affiliations

Correspondence to: Jo C Dumville jd34@york.ac.uk
Accepted 14 January 2009

Abstract

Objective To compare the clinical effectiveness of larval therapy with a standard debridement technique (hydrogel) for sloughy or necrotic leg ulcers.

Design Pragmatic, three armed randomised controlled trial.

Setting Community nurse led services, hospital wards, and hospital outpatient leg ulcer clinics in urban and rural settings, United Kingdom.

Participants 267 patients with at least one venous or mixed venous and arterial ulcer with at least 25% coverage of slough or necrotic tissue, and an ankle brachial pressure index of 0.6 or more.

Interventions Loose larvae, bagged larvae, and hydrogel.

Main outcome measures The primary outcome was time to healing of the largest eligible ulcer. Secondary
Trial reveals leg ulcer treatment dilemma

Posted on 20 March 2009

Using maggots to treat leg ulcers is as effective as more modern methods of wound care, according to a three-year research study led by the University of York.

Academics in the University's Department of Health Sciences coordinated a three-year trial comparing different therapies for treating leg ulcers. The condition affects one per cent of the population and treatment is estimated to cost the NHS £600 million a year.

The trial run in partnership with health trusts across the North, the Midlands and Northern Ireland is the largest clinical study into larval therapy ever mounted.

The results published in BMJ Online today revealed that larval (maggot) therapy has similar health benefits and costs compared with a standard treatment for leg ulcers.

Leg ulcers are chronic wounds most commonly caused by diseased veins in the legs. The removal of dead tissue from the ulcer surface is a common part of ulcer management and is widely viewed as having a role in promoting wound healing.

Although larval therapy is more effective in cleaning wounds than hydrogel, there is no evidence to recommend it for routine use to speed healing

Professor Nicky Cullum

The medical value of maggots for cleaning wounds of dead tissue has been well known to physicians for centuries. They were still used by
Maggots 'as successful at treating leg ulcers as standard dressings'

Maggots are as successful at treating leg ulcers as standard dressings, doctors have found.

by Kate Devlin, Medical Correspondent

They were able to heal the wounds slightly more quickly, although they initially caused patients greater pain, according to a new study.

Maggots have been used for centuries to help the repair process of wounds, because they are effective at clearing away dead skin and stimulating the body to heal itself.
Maggot therapy hope 'premature'

Maggots may not have the miracle healing properties that have been claimed, a UK study suggests.

Researchers comparing maggots with a standard "hydrogel" in treating leg ulcers found little difference.

Recent excitement over using maggots to speed up healing and even reduce MRSA infections in leg ulcers seems to have been premature, they said.

The British Medical Journal study is the first to compare maggots with standard treatment.

Leg ulcers can be very difficult to treat and after use of high-compression bandages only about half are healed within 16 weeks.

One common treatment is to use a water-based gel to keep the wound moist and promote the natural healing process.

Maggots, or larval therapy, are another option - but it can be more tricky to place them in the wound and they have to be specially ordered which takes a few days.

The theory has been that maggots are effective because they "clean out" dead tissue - a process called debridement - stimulating healing and getting rid of bugs such as MRSA in the process.

But although larval therapy is being used more and more, it has only been tested in one randomised controlled trial of 12 patients, the team said.

Healing

In the latest study, 270 patients with leg ulcers from around the UK were treated either with maggots or hydrogel and progress followed for up to a year.
Smokeless tobacco: Published on 112 sites: including BBC News online, India Mirror and Dallas Sun

Cannabis psychosis: Published on 50 sites including the Daily Mail, Nigerian Herald, Mens Health magazine and the Independent
Stem Cells for Osteoarthritis

Published on 3 Jun 2015
Dr. James Fox discusses research into finding the "best" stem cells for osteoarthritis therapy. Dr. Fox is a Research Fellow in Dr. Paul Genever’s Laboratory, Department of Biology, University of York, UK and is part of the Arthritis Research UK Tissue Engineering Centre, with the Universities of Cambridge.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1jjWNaJ_p4&feature=youtu.be
• Your research is newsworthy! Get in touch but give us as much warning as possible

• Think about a top line - headline bullet points/facts and figures

• Quotes - what is the possible impact of your research?

• Images! Great pictures can really lift a piece of research

• Be available. Make sure you are free to talk to journalists
Surgical vs Nonsurgical Treatment of Adults With Displaced Fractures of the Proximal Humerus

The PROFHER Randomized Clinical Trial

Amar Ranjan, FRCS(Tr&Orth); Helen Handoll, DPhi; Stephen Bresley, PhD; Laura Johnston, PhD; Ada Kedling, MSc; Belen Corbacho Martin, MSc; Lorna Goodchild, MSc; Ling-Hsiang Chuang, PhD; Catherine Hewitt, PhD; David Torgerson, PhD; for the PROFHER Trial Collaborators


ABSTRACT

Importance The need for surgery for the majority of patients with displaced proximal humeral fractures is unclear, but its use is increasing.

Objective To evaluate the clinical effectiveness of surgical vs nonsurgical treatment for adults with displaced fractures of the proximal humerus involving the surgical neck.

Design, Setting, and Participants A pragmatic, multicenter, parallel-group, randomized clinical trial, the Proximal Fracture of the Humerus Evaluation by Randomization (PROFHER) trial, recruited 220 patients aged 16 years or older (mean age, 66 years [range, 24-92 years]; 192 [77%] were female; and 2.49 [99.6%] were white) who presented at the orthopaedic departments of 32 acute UK National Health Service hospitals between September 2008 and April 2011 within 3 weeks after sustaining a displaced fracture of the proximal humerus involving the surgical neck. Patients were followed up for 2 years (up to April 2013) and
Surgery v slings: clinical trial finds no major difference for some shoulder fractures

Posted on 5 August 2015

Patients with some types of serious upper arm injuries can be treated just as effectively with a simple sling, rather than surgery, according to research by our health scientists.
Abstract

Improving care for people with dementia: development and initial feasibility study for evaluation of life story work in dementia care

Kate Gridley, Jenni Brooks, Yvonne Birks, Kate Baxter and Gillian Parker*

Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York, UK

*Corresponding author gillian.parker@york.ac.uk

Background: Improving dementia care quality is an urgent priority nationally and internationally. Life story work (LSW) is an intervention that aims to improve individual outcomes and care for people with dementia and their carers. LSW gathers information and artefacts about the person, their history and interests, and produces a tangible output: the 'life story'.

Objective: To establish whether or not full evaluation of LSW was feasible.

Design: Mixed-methods feasibility study.

Methods: In-depth interviews and focus groups explored experiences of LSW and best practice with people with dementia, family members and dementia care staff. A systematic review explored best practice and theories of change for LSW. These stages helped to identify the outcomes and resources to explore in the feasibility study. A representative sample survey of health and social care dementia care providers in England established LSW practice in different settings. A survey of a self-selected sample of family members of people with dementia explored how LSW is experienced. Two small outcome studies (stepped-wedge study in six care homes and pre-test post-test study in inpatient specialist dementia care wards) explored the feasibility of full evaluation of LSW in these settings.

Settings: Survey: generalist and specialist care homes; NHS dementia care settings, and community dementia services. Feasibility study: care homes and NHS inpatient dementia care wards.

Participants: NHS and social care services, people with dementia, family carers, care home staff and NHS staff.

Interventions: LSW.

Main outcome measures: Spread of LSW and good practice, quality of life (QoL) for the person with dementia and carers, relationships between people with dementia and family carers, staff attitudes about dementia, staff burnout, resource use and costs.
Living with dementia: could life story work help?

Posted on 1 September 2016

A pioneering study led by researchers at the University of York’s Social Policy Research Unit (SPRU) shows that life story work has the potential to help people with dementia.

Life story work involves helping people to record aspects of their past and present lives along with future hopes and wishes, often in a book or folder or, increasingly, in music, film and multi-media formats.

The study found that many health and social care services in England now use life story work, but the ways in which they do this vary considerably.

Researchers compiled evidence on life story work in dementia care through a systematic literature review, in addition to listening first-hand to views of people with dementia, family carers and professionals through
Why a walk down memory lane could be good for people with dementia

Posted on 22 September 2016

Health and Wellbeing

Capturing the life stories of people with dementia could improve the way we care for them, according to research by our social policy experts.

We’ve all got life stories. Where we grew up, where we worked, our families and our hobbies. These details define us and tell people who we are.

“...it helps staff to see the person behind the illness”

Kate Gridley
Eat your fibre or face the flesh-eating microbe cannibals

Tim Spector, King's College London
Low fibre eaters gain weight more quickly and may be more susceptible to certain illnesses.

Why young women need to be given a louder voice in the obesity debate
Josie de Frenciis-Webb, University of Bath, Annalika Copper, University of Bath, and Emma Rich, University of Bath
The people at risk are the ones who need to be listened to.
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<th>Reads this month</th>
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**Engagement - all time**

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**Your most read articles this month**

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<td>There’s a way to turn almost any object into a computer – and it could cause shockwaves in AI</td>
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<td>By Mark Douthwaite and Matt Dale — October 11, 2016</td>
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<td>How the rise in TV ‘crime porn’ normalises violence against women</td>
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<td>By Ruth Penfold-Mounce — October 24, 2016</td>
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<td>Bacchus Marsh baby deaths: Australia should learn from the UK and publish clinician performance data</td>
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<td>By Andrew Street — October 13, 2016</td>
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<td>Theresa May has a very special technique for avoiding questions</td>
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<td>By Peter Bull — October 24, 2016</td>
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Dry January: is it worth giving up alcohol for a month?

January 1, 2016 10.17am GMT

Author

Ian Hamilton
Lecturer in Mental Health, University of York

Disclosure statement

Ian Hamilton does not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organization that would benefit from this article, and has disclosed no relevant affiliations beyond their academic appointment above.

Partners

University of York
Does Dry January do more harm than good?

It's doubtful that a month of abstinence improves our relationship with alcohol.

Alcohol Concern has thrown down the gauntlet to drinkers: can you manage a month without alcohol? The campaign, Dry January, aims to attract funding through donations, raise awareness of alcohol-related problems and educate people about the health benefits of abstaining from alcohol.
Is it REALLY worth doing 'Dry January'? 
One expert weighs up the pros and cons of going booze free for a month

- Alcohol Concern is urging people to give up alcohol for 30 days
- Main ambition is to change UK drinking culture and reduce consumption
- Expert Ian Hamilton says it may not induce long term changes in habits
- For some heavy drinkers, abstaining can actually cause seizures and hallucinations as well as anxiety, sleep disruption and restlessness

By IAN HAMILTON FOR THE CONVERSATION
PUBLISHED: 11.06, 4 January 2016 | UPDATED: 22.41, 4 January 2016

Could you manage a month without alcohol?

Alcohol Concern has thrown down the gauntlet to drinkers: avoid drinking for the whole of January.

And after a Christmas heavy on the sauce, it seems like a tempting idea for many of us.

Advocates say abstention is the route to clearer skin, better sleep and a revitalised liver.

But one expert questions whether a booze-free month can really change a person's long term drinking behaviour and lead to lasting change.

Writing for The Conversation, Ian Hamilton, a lecturer in mental health at the University of York, discusses the pros and cons of the campaign...

The campaign, Dry January, aims to attract funding through donations, raise awareness of alcohol-related problems and educate people about the health benefits of abstaining from alcohol.

Aside from saving money, Alcohol Concern claims that abstaining will help you lose weight

Alcohol Concern's Dry January campaign urges people to give up alcohol for 30 days
Could campaigns like Dry January do more harm than good?

BMJ 2016;352 i143 doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.i143 (Published 13 January 2016)
Cite this as: BMJ 2016;352:i143

Lack of evidence that such campaigns work and don’t have unintended consequences, concerns Ian Hamilton. But Ian Gilmore thinks they are likely to help people at least reflect on their drinking

Yes—Ian Hamilton

Two questions should be asked of any public health message about alcohol: is it evidence based and who is the target audience? Now in its fourth year, the Dry January campaign, which uses peer pressure to encourage abstinence from alcohol for the month, is promoted by the charity Alcohol Concern in England and Wales. It is
Social Media
 PHONE-IN: @kayeadams asks - Is it time to start treating alcohol like tobacco? CALL 0500 92 95 00 or tweet #alcohol

Is it time to start treating alcohol like tobacco?
If the #NHS wants to survive in its current form it will have to tackle healthcare inequality bit.ly/23cgvtw @RichardACookson

England's A&E crisis is fuelled by inequality
Solving the problem could save a fortune.
theconversation.com
Web (last week)
• 600,000 unique page views
• Homepage – 80,000 unique page views
• News – 10,000 unique page views

Twitter
• 50,000 followers

The Conversation
• 130 academics
• 250 articles
• 3 million reads in 18 months

Facebook
• 37,000 page likes

300 press releases
Events

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Any questions?