



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Prevention of opioid-related deaths in Europe: focus on take-home naloxone

An EMCDDA harm reduction initiative

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Meeting of the EMCDDA expert network on drug-related deaths

Session 7 – Responses to reduce drug-related overdose morbidity and to prevent DRD

Lisbon, 22 October 2019

An EMCDDA harm reduction initiative

Our objective

- To support EU Member States' efforts in improving national practices in priority areas of harm reduction (HepC, DRD, etc.)

How?

- By producing a **comprehensive toolbox** with high-quality materials to support implementation.

Structured tools

- To identify current barriers and facilitators to evidence-based action; and plan and implement effective responses.

For whom?

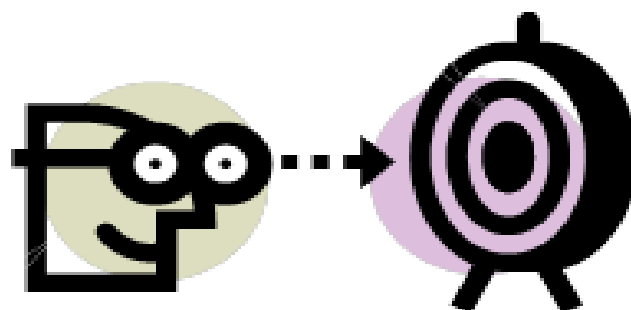
- National and local decision makers & professionals working in the field.



Photo by [Susan Holt Simpson](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Sustainable Development Goals 2030

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being



EMCDDA mission

- ✓ To support countries in monitoring progress towards SDGs;
- ✓ To promote exchange of good practice;
- ✓ To act as catalyst for improving the quality and delivery of responses.

Global health goals

European drug policies



3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature **mortality** from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.

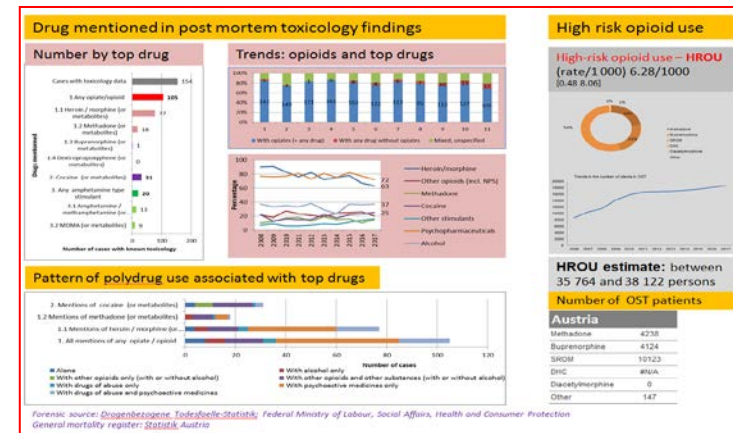
EU Drugs Strategies aim at reduction of the health and social risks and harms caused by drugs, namely the number of drug-related deaths.

The current **EU Action Plan on Drugs** includes an action on providing access to naloxone for trained laypersons who witness overdose (8b)

EMCDDA initiative on DRD: 2 components

Aim: Support to countries' response towards prevention of drug-related deaths, in particular opioid overdose

- ✓ **DRD 'Dashboard'**: to compile available epidemiological data on DRD, to document data validity and to assess 'core data' gaps;
- ✓ to support countries in improving data quality and closing data gaps;
- ✓ to improve "preparedness";
- ✓ to monitor **DRD responses** landscape;
- ✓ to develop new tools and materials to inform practice and policy;
- ✓ to assess barriers/facilitators to take-home naloxone programmes.

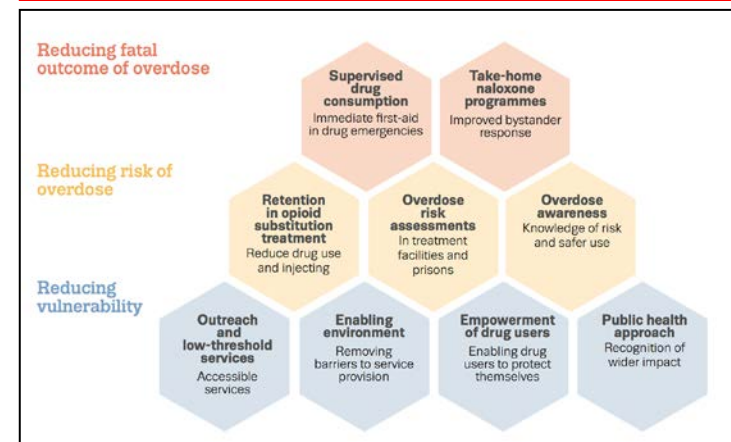
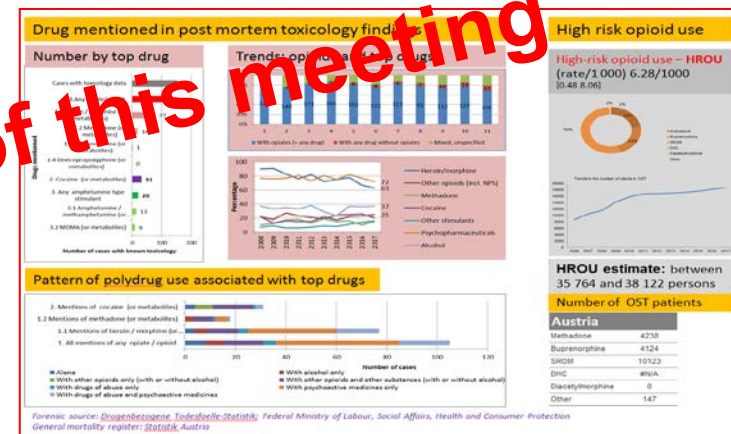


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Component 2: Reducing opioid-related deaths

Overview of the evidence



Overview of the evidence on ... reducing opioid-related deaths



Overdose deaths are reduced among opioid users while they are in opioid substitution treatment.



There is growing evidence that education and training interventions with take-home naloxone prevents deaths from opioid overdose.



Intranasal administration of naloxone is effective in treatment of opioid overdose.



Drug consumption rooms increase safer injecting, reduce blood-borne infections and overdoses and encourage people who inject drugs to engage with care services. These services are furthermore associated with positive effects on public order.

Source: EMCDDA (2017) Health and social responses to drug problems: a European guide.

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Interventions to reduce opioid-related deaths



Reducing fatal outcome of overdose

Supervised drug consumption
Immediate first-aid in drug emergencies

Take-home naloxone programmes
Improved bystander response

Reducing risk of overdose

Retention in opioid substitution treatment
Reduce drug use and injecting

Overdose risk assessments
In treatment facilities and prisons

Overdose awareness
Knowledge of risk and safer use

Reducing vulnerability

Outreach and low-threshold services
Accessible services

Enabling environment
Removing barriers to service provision

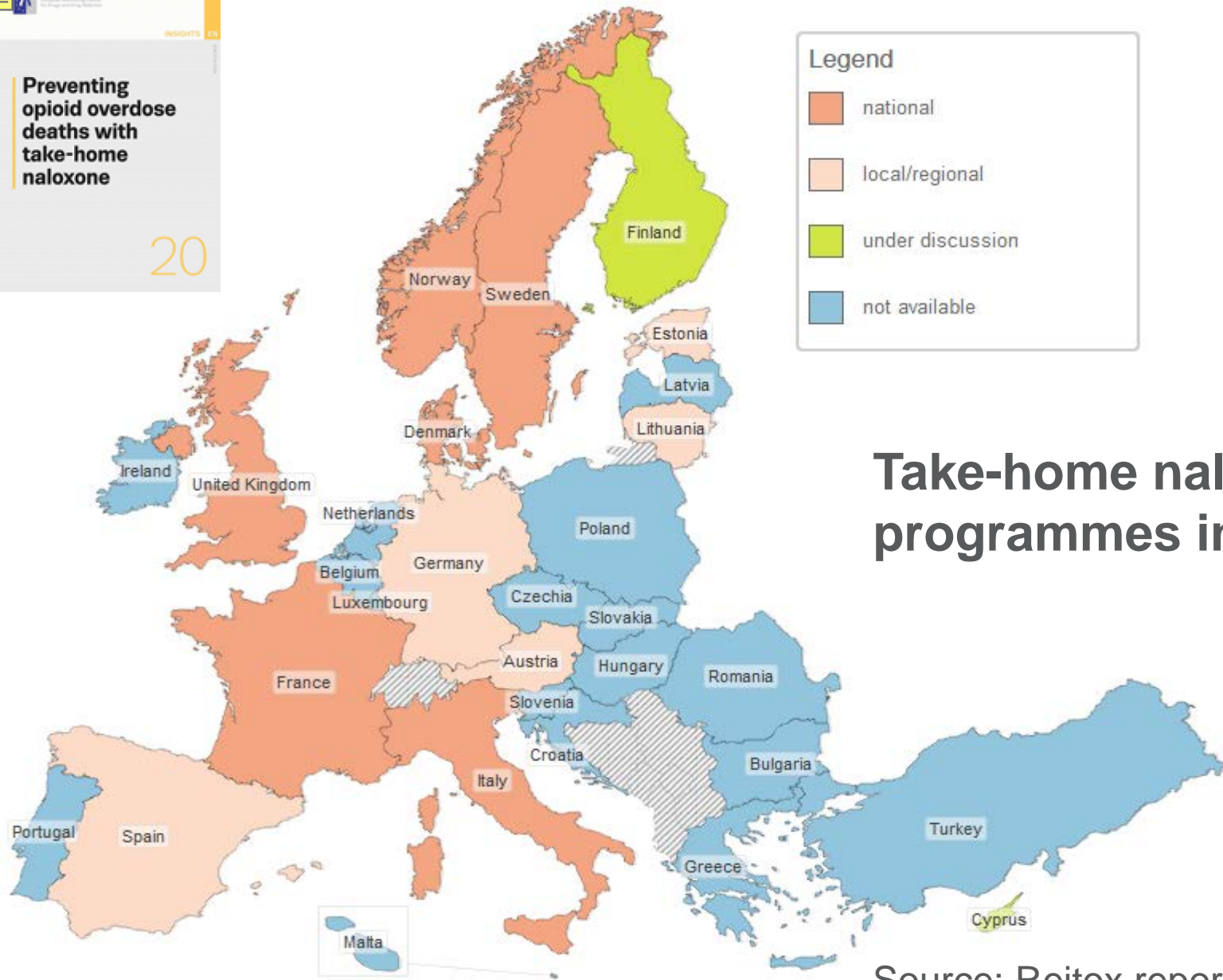
Empowerment of drug users
Enabling drug users to protect themselves

Public health approach
Recognition of wider impact

Availability of selected interventions (2019)



Source: EMCDDA
Health and social
responses to drug
problems: a European
guide, 2017 (updated
for AT, BE, PT & SE).



Take-home naloxone programmes in Europe

Source: Reitox reporting 2018/2019

Since 2015: New Nasal Kits

USA (Nov 2015)
Canada (Oct 2016; OTC)
France



NARCAN 4mg/0.1ml
(also 1.8mg/3.6mg/0.1ml)

Adapt Pharma



France:
July 2016 (temp.),
July 2017 (Marketing
Authorization)



NALSCUE 0.9mg/0.1ml

Indivior



EMA Nov 2017
(EU-wide Marketing
authorization)



NYXOID 1.8mg/0.1ml
Mundipharma



Quick introduction of nasal naloxone

Since 2015: New Nasal Kits

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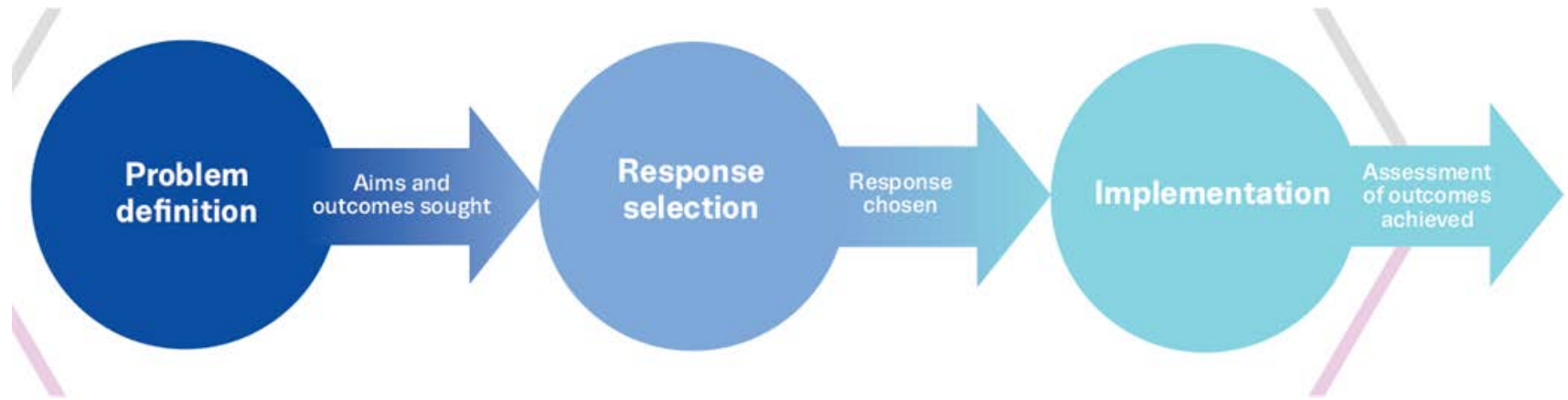
NYXOID 1.8mg/0.1ml

Mundipharma



Use of nasal naloxone is reported in take-home naloxone programmes in Austria, Denmark, Estonia, France, Norway, Sweden and the UK.

EMCDDA Initiative Take-home naloxone: Learning from experiences in 12 countries



Module 1

Stakeholder consultation: barriers and facilitators for THN programmes

Module 3

Brief descriptions (vignettes) how to overcome barriers; implementation practices

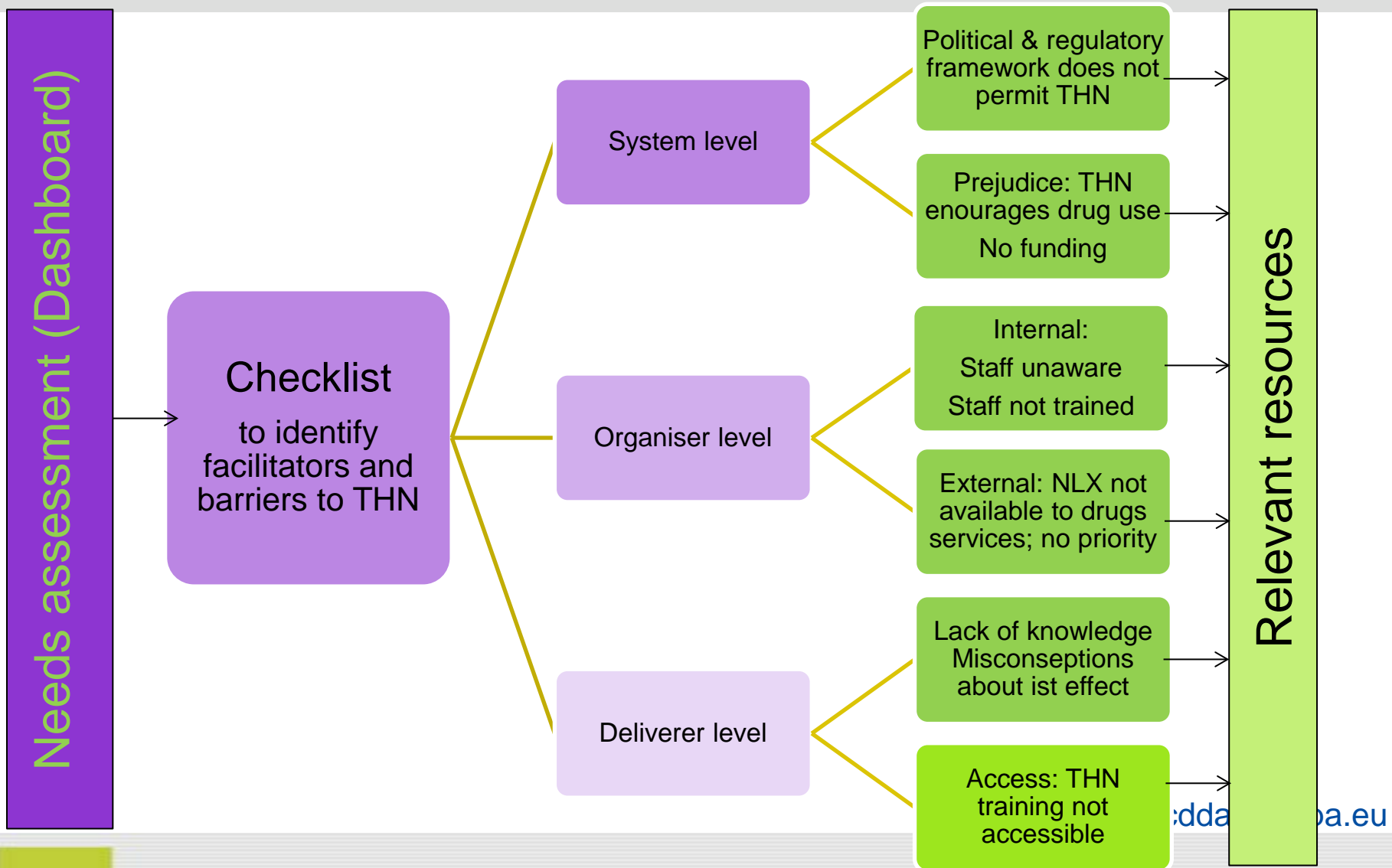
Module 3

Information materials, Overdose knowledge questionnaire, THN training curricula.

Three Modules providing materials and tools for independent use

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Module 1: Diagnostic process



Toolbox to improve implementation

Module 1: Piloting diagnostic process in 2020

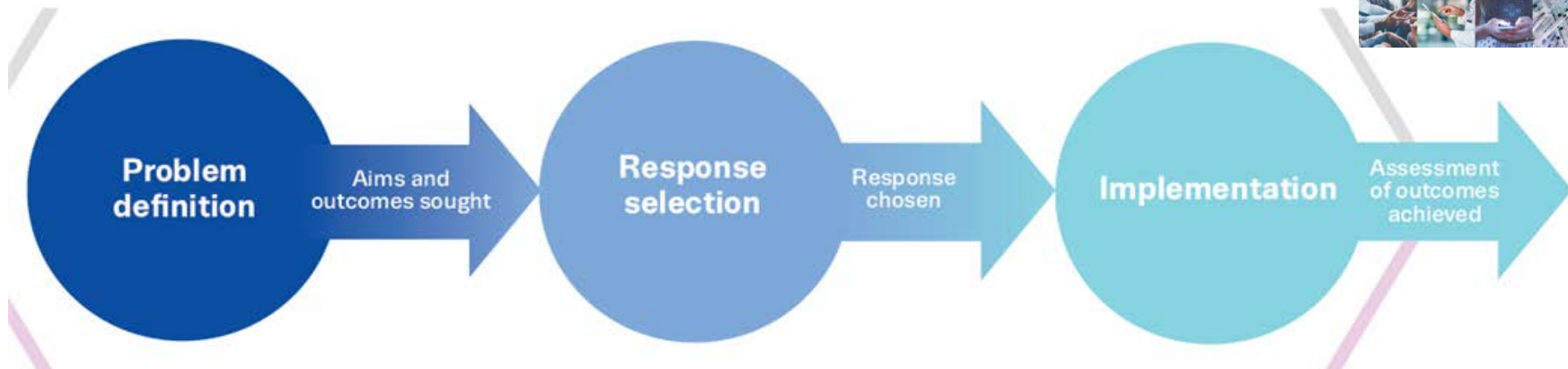
Module 2: Vignettes (brief illustrative descriptions)

- overcoming system level barriers,
- overcoming organiser level barriers,
- overcoming deliverer level barriers.

Module 3: Materials

- Manual for structured stakeholder consultation;
- Knowledge questionnaire opioid overdose;
- Collection of Take-home training curricula.

Toolbox: THN programmes



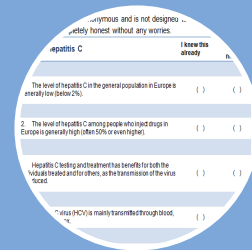
Diagnostic process

- Mapping the current DRD situation – Dashboard; Checklist of Barriers to THN, Manual for Roundtable discussion & Action planning



Models of care

- Factsheets THN programmes in Europe; Compilation of case studies (vignettes) illustrate how to overcome barriers; 'real-life' Implementation experience



Materials for action

- Information material for drug services to raise OD awareness among staff and clients; Knowledge Questionnaire, Training curricula



Many thanks for your attention.

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