

PDU / Adult Reports

Treatment journey

A treatment journey maps a client's movement through the treatment system and in many cases will consist of more than one episode (for example, where a client is transferred between agencies). Two episodes are deemed to form part of the same treatment journey if any of the following criteria are met:-

- The later episode has a modality start date no more than 21 days later than the discharge date of the earlier episode
- The earliest episode is still open

All analysis is conducted using a client's latest treatment journey reported against the client's partnership of residence. A **new treatment journey** is identified as having started if the earliest triage date associated with a client's latest treatment journey is within the reporting period.

In effective treatment (DAT, SHA and England)

"In effective treatment" includes all individuals in contact with tier 3 or 4 services during the period who are recorded as having begun a drug treatment intervention and who fulfil either of the following criteria:-

- They were retained in treatment for 12 or more weeks from their triage date.
- They were subject to a planned discharge following a planned exit from their treatment within 12 weeks of their triage date. A planned exit is denoted by use of the discharge codes; 'Treatment completed' and 'Treatment completed-drug free'.

[Please note: During the finalisation of the technical definition for indicator 1 within PSA 25, it was agreed that "referred on" will not be categorised as a planned exit from the treatment system.]

Note that at agency level, effective treatment definitions also include cases where clients are 'referred into effective treatment'

Treatment exits (DAT, SHA and England)

A client is counted as exiting the treatment system if their latest treatment journey finishes during the reporting period, i.e. all episodes of treatment having ended. A planned exit is denoted by use of the discharge codes; 'Treatment completed' and 'Treatment completed drug free'.

Note that for agency level reports, exit status is taken from the latest episode, and 'referred on' is included as a planned exit.

Problematic Drug User (PDU)

A PDU is defined as a client presenting with opiates and / or crack cocaine as their main, second or third drug recorded at any episode during their latest treatment journey. **[Please note that episodes where alcohol is cited as the primary substance are excluded from all drug reporting so will not be included in PDU figures irrespective of having opiates and / or crack cocaine as second/third drug].**

Age 18 and over

For monthly returns, a client's age is calculated at the midpoint of the period in question. For 'year to date' figures, the midpoint of the relevant financial year is used