A Profile of an Alcohol Related Death in Glasgow City, 2013

**Risk Factors**

75% of all alcohol related deaths were male, 25% were female.

![Figure 7 - SIMD by Gender (Source: NRS)](image)

- 68% SIMD 1
- 23% SIMD 2
- 4% SIMD 3
- 4% SIMD 4
- 2% SIMD 5

75% of the cohort were male, 25% were female.

The majority of the cohort (68%, n=38) lived in the most deprived areas of Glasgow in accordance to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. (Where 1 is the most deprived and 5 is the least deprived)

The average age of death was 54 years.

86% of the cohort lived in their own home. 55% of the cohort lived alone.

Social Isolation was experienced by 66% of the cohort.

The cohort drank, on average, 233 units of alcohol per week.

**Alcohol Problem Drinking**

- <25
  - Just under a third (32%) of the cohort began to experience alcohol related problems under the age of 25 years.

- 71%
  - 71% of the cohort drank alcohol daily.

Qualitative data indicated that the cohort would switch to cheaper alcoholic drinks when finances were constricted.

- Over half (56%)
  - Over half of the cohort reported to drink spirits, a large % of this being vodka.

71% of the cohort drank alcohol daily.
The cohort had attended A&E on average 8 times during a period of 5 years. The most common presenting complaint was injury related. 82% of the cohort had a co-morbid health condition. 48% of the cohort had a diagnosis of Alcohol Related Liver Disease. 70% of the cohort died of a liver related disease. 21% of the cohort had a diagnosis of depression. A further 20% had incidences of low mood documented in their casenotes.

Contact with Primary Care and Acute Services

GPs had noted that almost all 95% of the cohort had an alcohol problem, whilst 63% of the cohort had been referred on to an alcohol treatment service. The cohort had attended A&E on average 8 times during a period of 5 years. The most common presenting complaint was injury related. 89% of the cohort had an inpatient episode within 3 years of death with the average number of episodes being 6. They were usually admitted to a general medicine ward and diagnosed with Alcohol Related Liver Disease.

Contact with Alcohol Services

71% of the cohort had been in contact with an alcohol treatment service (stat or non stat). 59% of the cohort had been in contact with a community addiction team. 41% of the cohort had undergone a medication assisted detox with an alcohol treatment service. 13% of the cohort had ever been prescribed relapse prevention medication.

For further information please contact:
Stephanie Dargan, Drug and Alcohol Related Death Research Assistant.
stephanie.dargan@ggc.scot.nhs.uk