

Global development

WHO declares loneliness a 'global public health concern'

The World Health Organization has launched an international commission on loneliness, which can be as bad for people's health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day

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Thu 16 Nov 2023 08.00 GMT





■ Between 5% and 15% of adolescents are lonely, according to figures that are likely to be underestimates. Photograph: Manish Swarup/AP

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared loneliness to be a pressing global health threat, with the US surgeon general saying that its mortality effects are equivalent to smoking 15 cigarettes a day.



Individuals dying in 2022 from drug overdose alone

70%

Lived alone - Greater Manchester

75%

Overdosed alone - Greater Manchester



50%

Lived alone – Cheshire & Merseyside

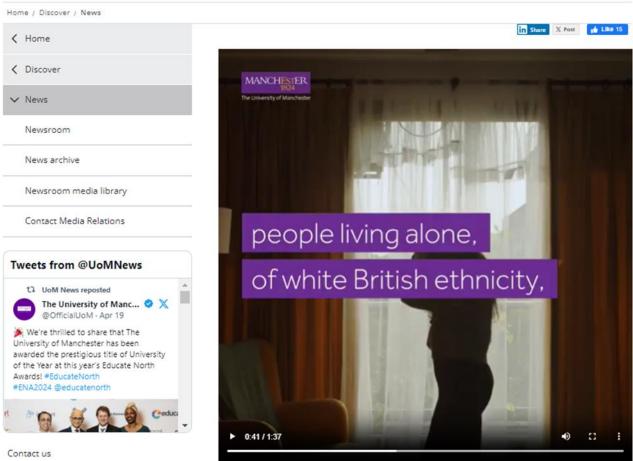
86%

Overdosed alone - Cheshire & Merseyside









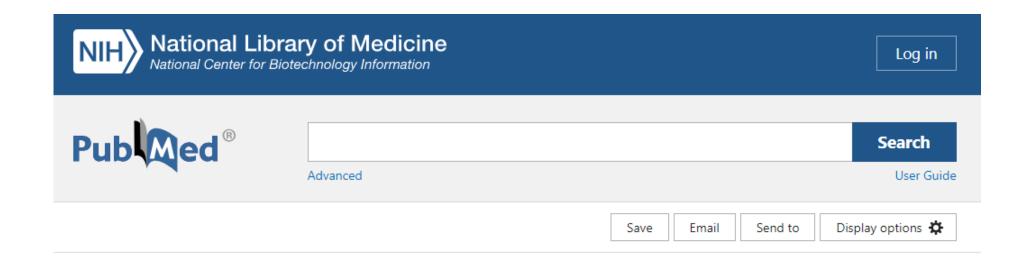
Michael Addelman

News and Media Relations Officer and animal research comms lead- Faculty of Biology, Medicine, and Health michael.addelman@manchester.ac.uk +44 (0)161 275 2111/+44 (0)7717 881567 Deaths of despair

15 March 2024

Living in the North of England increases risk of death from alcohol, drugs and suicide





> Addiction. 2019 Mar;114(3):574-575. doi: 10.1111/add.14508. Epub 2018 Dec 19.

Dying alone: the sad irrelevance of naloxone in the context of solitary opiate use



Janet M Wojcicki 1

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 30461114 DOI: 10.1111/add.14508











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Naloxone \$\mathbb{G}\$

Over 60% of people who died from drug overdoses were using **alone**.

Naloxone is only useful if there's someone there to administer it.

Complete an overdose safety & rescue plan today.





Credit: North West Fatal and Non-Fatal Overdose Prevention Task & Finish Group

