

# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

# DRUG RELATED DEATH LOCAL MONITORING PROCESS

When client in treatment dies, details are entered by drug/alcohol agencies into bespoke Drug Related Death (DRD) tool

Member of PHI staff attends coroner premises in each area to record details of DRDs once a quarter: Details are entered into DRD tool

Individuals active in drug or alcohol treatment

Coroner reported drug or alcohol related death (not necessarily in treatment)



Local authority public health lead and other drug or alcohol team staff in area receive **automatic notification** new death has occurred



Drug Related Deaths

- Main Details
- Education & Housing
- Details of Death
- Health & Medical
- Substance Misuse Service
- Admin
- Coroner Information

### Details Of Death

Place of death

Cause of death

Persons present

Actions taken

- Reported to
- Key Workers
  - GP
  - Pharmacy
  - Coroner
  - Other ( )

# DRUG RELATED DEATH LOCAL MONITORING PROCESS

Drug/alcohol treatment agency submits other details including client's NDTMS (National Drug Treatment Monitoring System) data and contact details for other agencies involved in their care

PHI links data with locally held datasets including any syringe exchange activity, brief interventions and criminal justice activity

Access to single client record is granted if they have additional information to contribute

Information entered onto online DRD tool



# DRUG RELATED DEATH LOCAL MONITORING PROCESS

Quarterly individual level reports produced for each area collating all information on individual's death. Distributed to agencies and membership of local Drug and Alcohol Related Deaths groups.



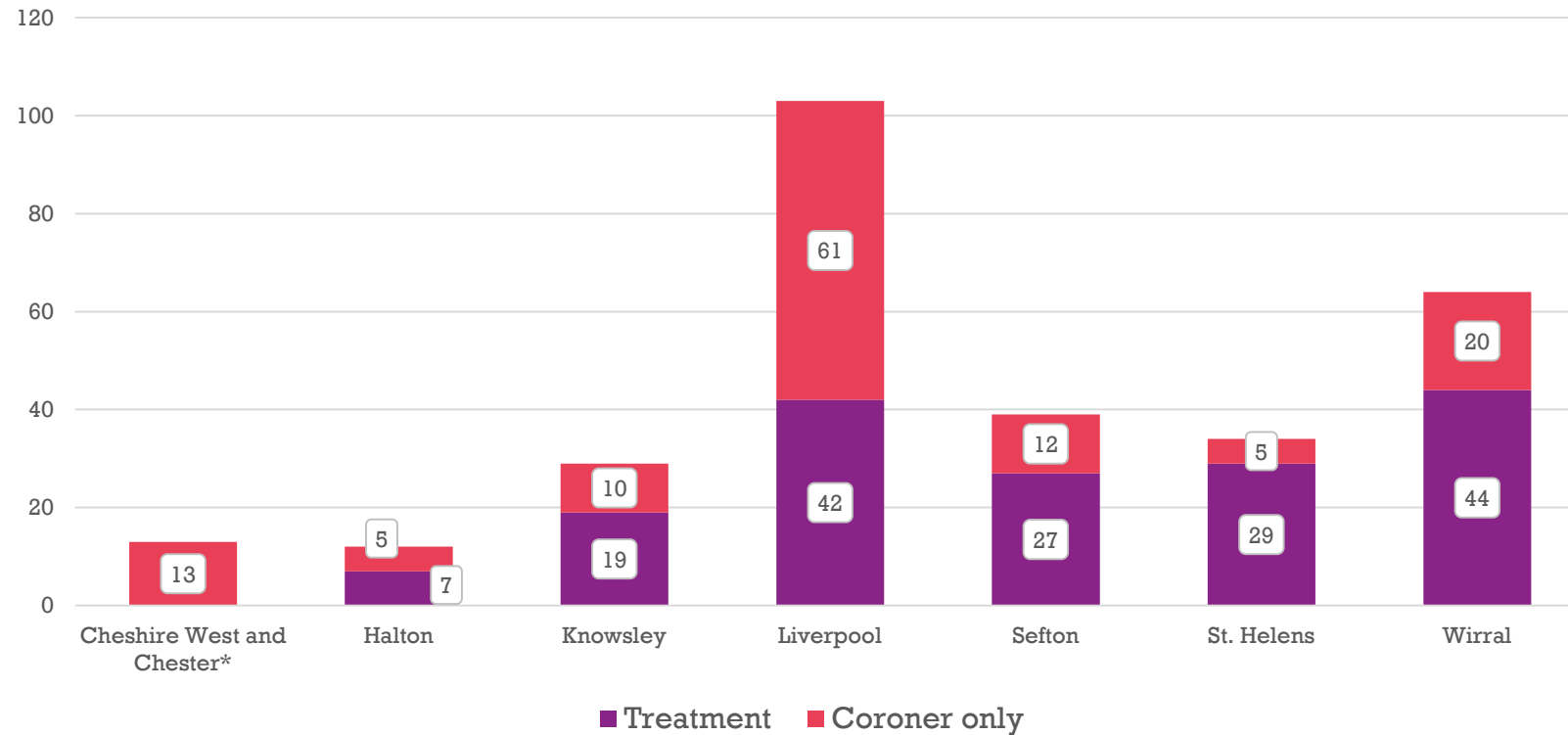
PHI co-ordinate quarterly **Drug and Alcohol Related Death Group** meetings with representative from services/LA/PHI to work through reports, identify issues and reflect on practice in order to help prevent further occurrence of drug and alcohol related death

# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

- System first implemented in Sefton in 2016
- DRD surveillance now in 7 C&M areas, most recently Cheshire West
- Cheshire East coming online by end of 2019
- IMS DRD module development ongoing
- Geographical mapping of deaths available for commissioning areas
- Annual summary reports for contributing areas published in July 2019

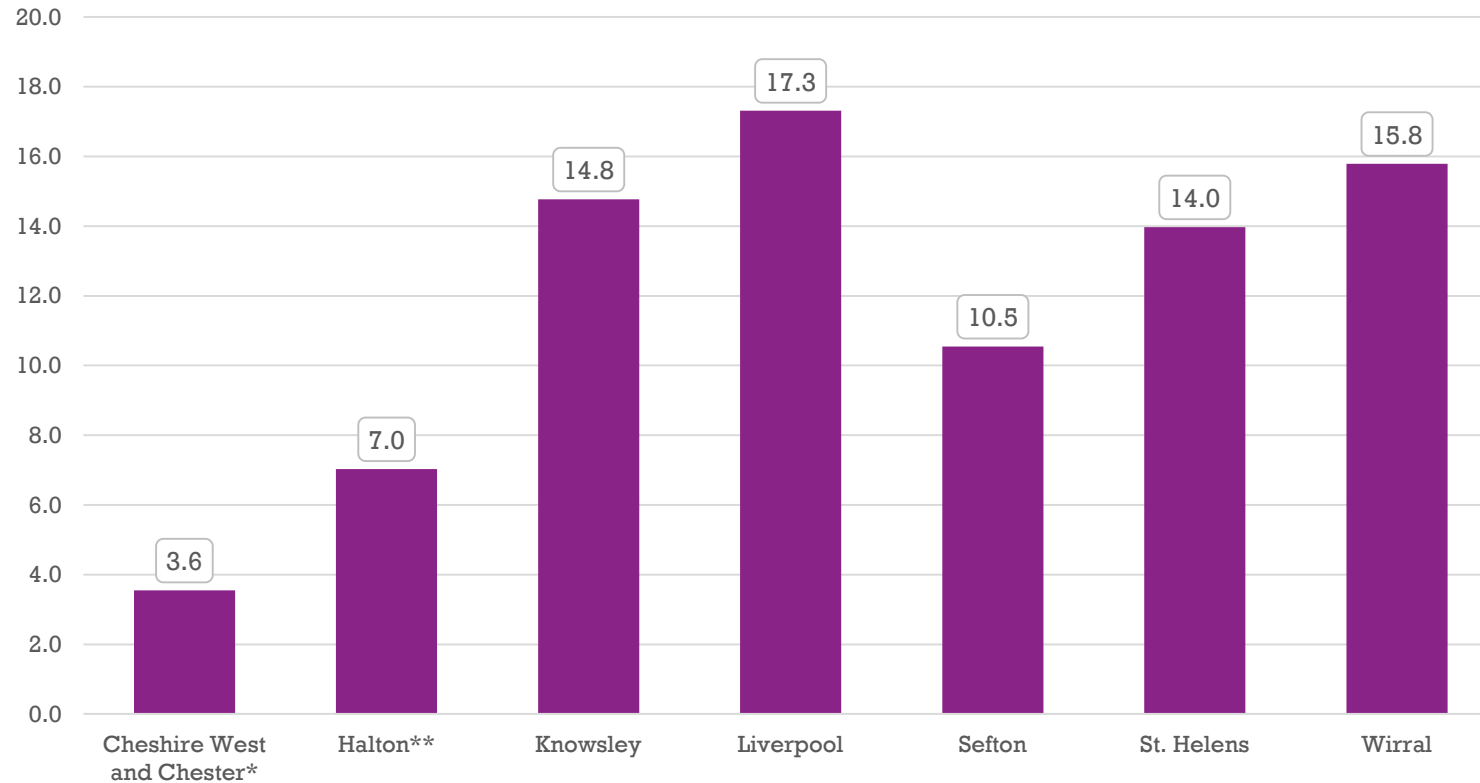
# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

All deaths reported by coroner/treatment agency, 2018



# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

DRDs (drugs) per 100,000 of population, 2018



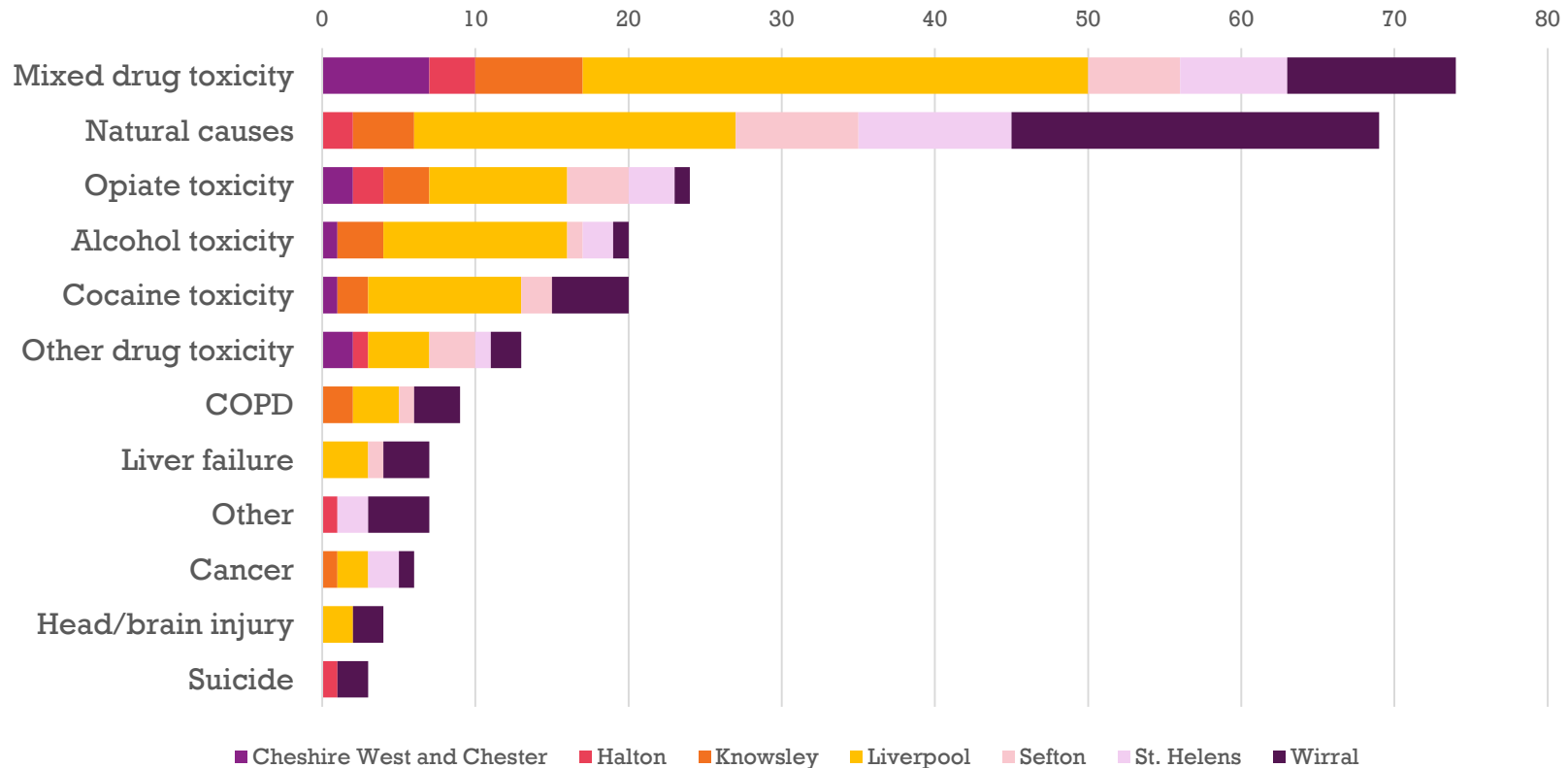


# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

	Average age of death							
	Coroner only drugs		Coroner only alcohol		In treatment drugs		In treatment alcohol	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Halton	45	61*			44	43	47*	36
Knowsley	49	41	55		51	48	52*	51
Liverpool	42	52	54	53	49	49	54	53
Sefton	39	29*	57*	47*	50	52	54	61
St. Helens	51	58		70*	50	48	48	55
Wirral	40	48	48	64*	50	48	50	46
Average	42	50	54	56	50	49	51	52

# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

All deaths by cause of death categorised, 2018



# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

## In treatment cause of death, Liverpool, 2018

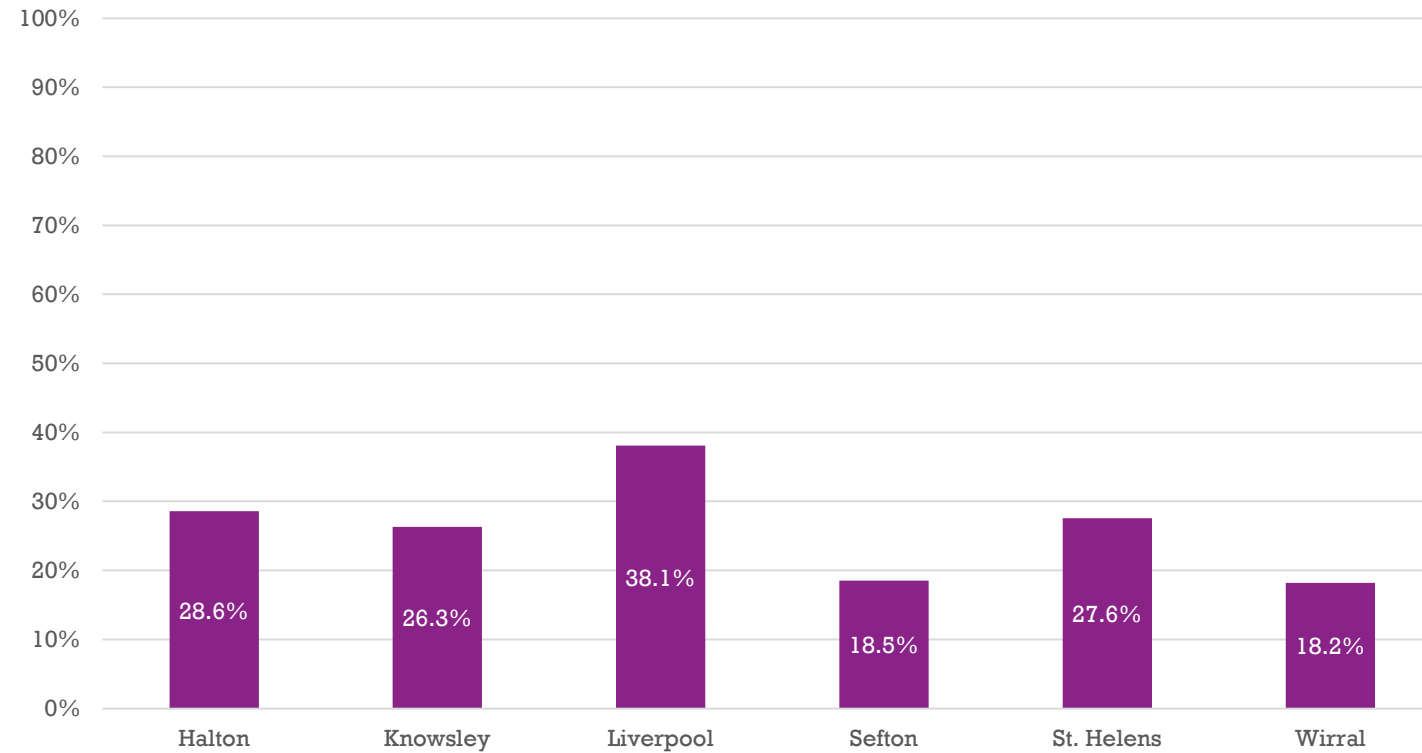
Cause of death	Count
Natural causes	18
Mixed drug toxicity	12
Unknown	3
Opiate toxicity	2
COPD	2
Cancer	2
Alcohol toxicity	2
Head/brain injury	1

## Coroner only cause of death, Liverpool, 2018

Cause of death	Count
Mixed drug toxicity	21
Cocaine toxicity	10
Alcohol toxicity	10
Opiate toxicity	7
Other drug toxicity	4
Natural causes	3
Liver failure	3
Head/brain injury	1
COPD	1
Other	1

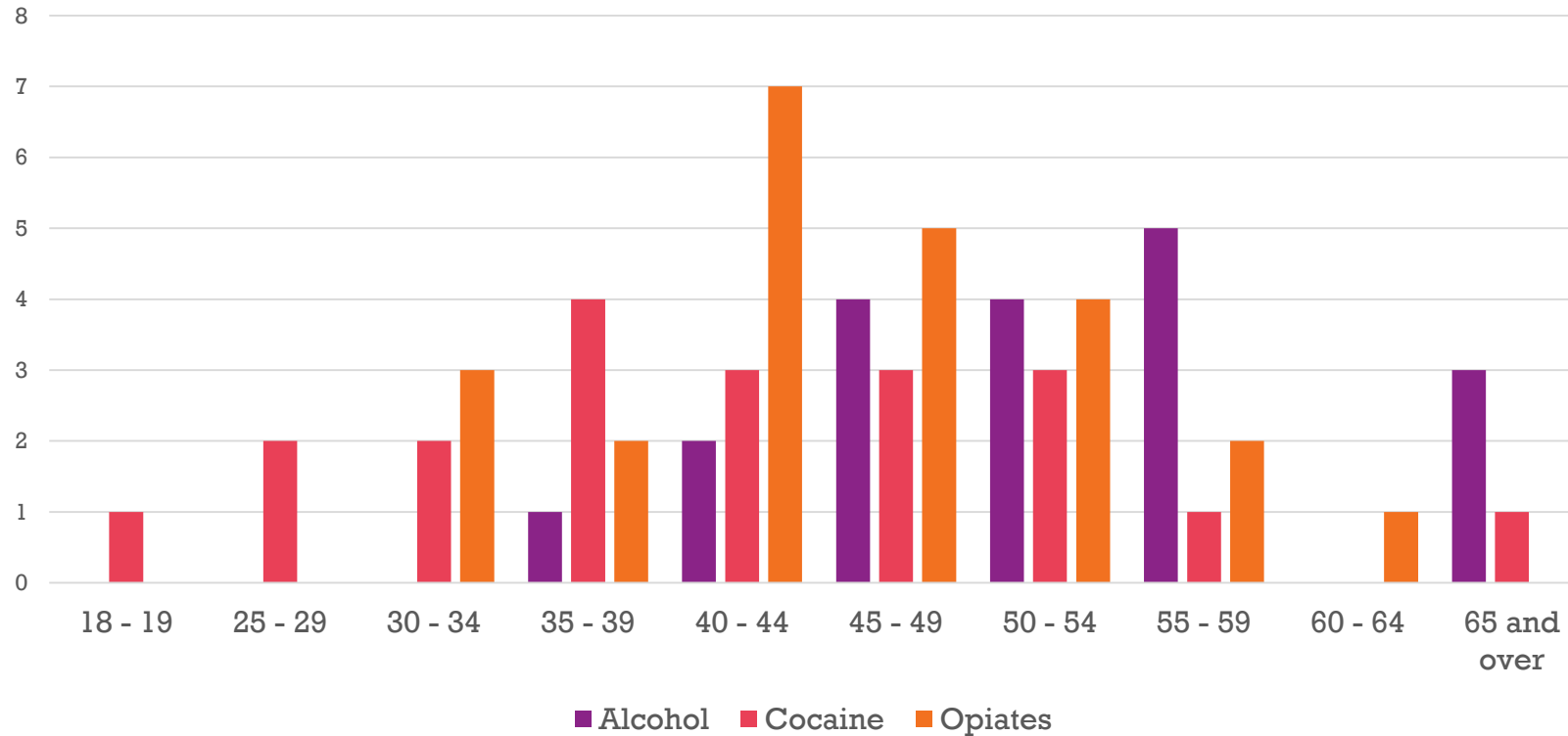
# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

Proportion of in treatment deaths due to overdose, 2018

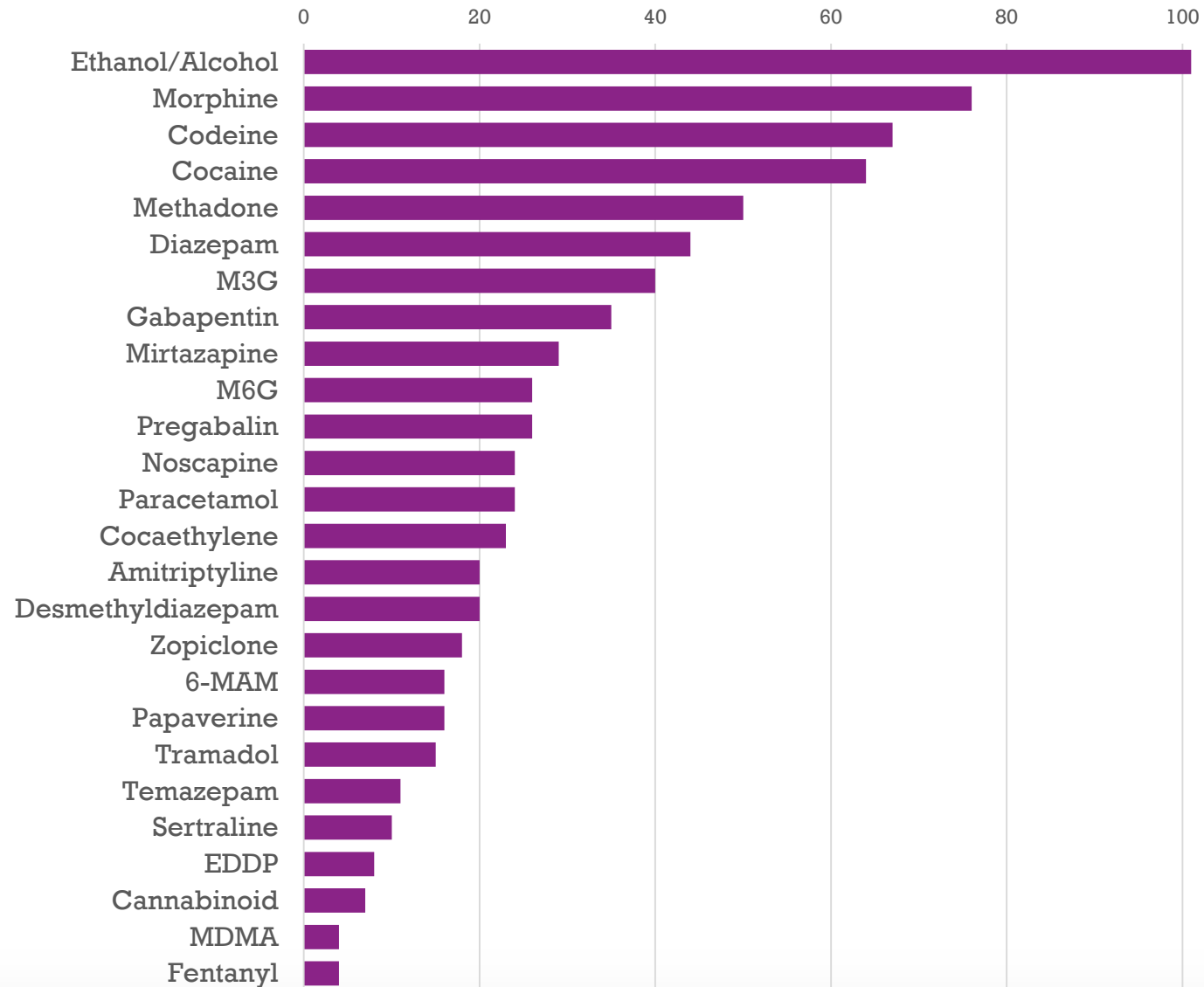


# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

Age of death by implicated substance, all areas, 2018

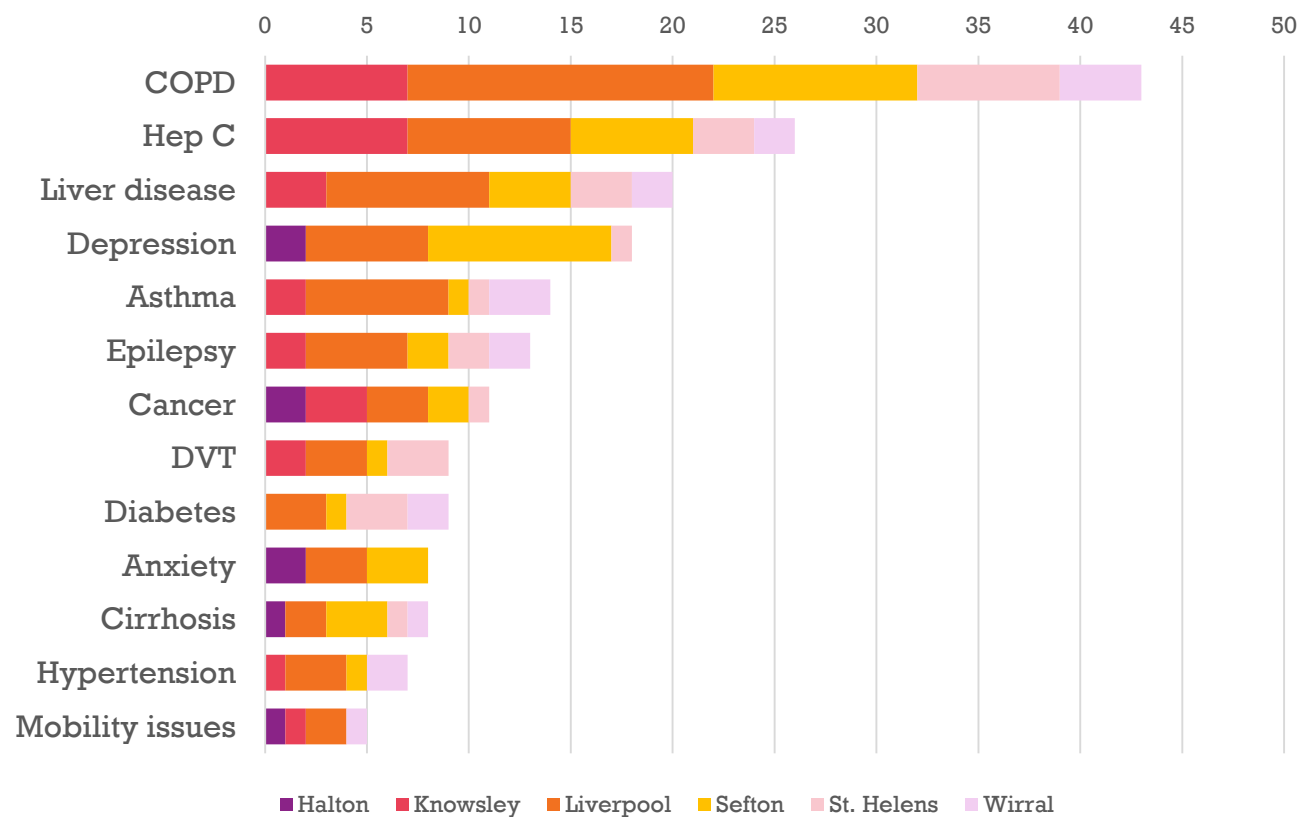


## Substances identified in toxicology, 2018



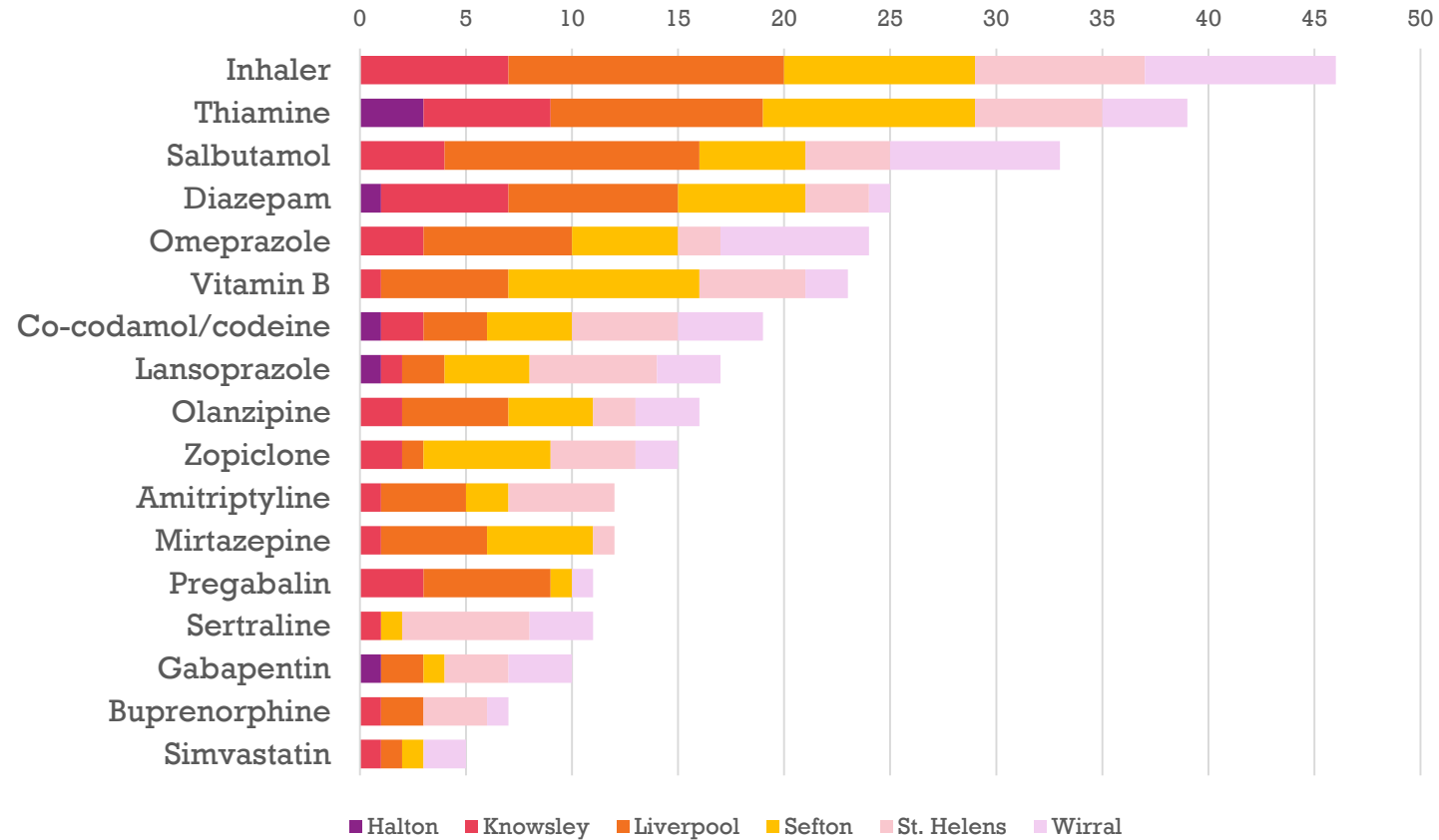
# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

Medical conditions noted in case notes, all areas, 2018








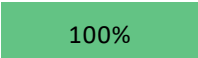


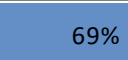
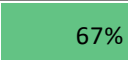




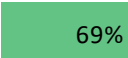



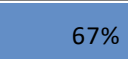




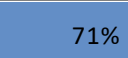
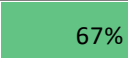



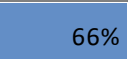
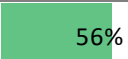
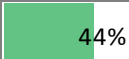


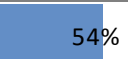
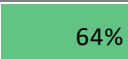
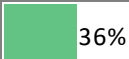
# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

Medication prescribed, all areas, 2018





# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

	Total DRDs	Proportion with IMS	IMS current / last year	Proportion with NDTMS	Proportion with Both	Match	Don't match
Cheshire West & Chester	14	 36%	 21%	0%	0%		
Halton	12	 33%	 8%	 33%	8%	 100%	0%
Knowsley	29	 24%	 10%	 69%	21%	 67%	 33%
Liverpool	103	 39%	 12%	 41%	25%	 69%	 31%
Sefton	39	 31%	 8%	 67%	23%	 56%	 44%
St. Helens	34	 35%	 12%	 71%	35%	 67%	 33%
Wirral	64	 41%	 8%	 66%	28%	 56%	 44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>295</b>	 36%	 11%	 54%	24%	 64%	 36%

Themes/Action/Discussion	Topic/Area
To hinder diversion of methadone, pharmacies could report cases where client has not consumed whole amount and/or do supervision on pick up day	Pharmacies
Development of pathway from prison services	Development of pathways
Review local protocols around bridging scripts and responsibility for overall care in cases of failed transfers	Prescribing practice
Day programme in signing skills for staff	Staff development
Awareness package for staff in COPD symptoms and solutions to give them greater confidence	COPD/Staff development
Interrogation of DRD cases to examine how many deaths are related to pharmacy issues	Pharmacies
QT should not be summarised but sent in full to allow staff to see where it is raised, even when presented as "normal"	Treatment provider practice
Veterans and naloxone fields/options to be added to IMS DRD Online module	DRD surveillance system
Send information out on BEAD project for people bereaved through drugs and alcohol	Bereavement
Circulate list of toxic dosage for medication to group, to allow for better interpretation of coroner toxicology	Toxicology reports
Discussion with staff and ensure Naloxone kit isn't just being given out on perceived injecting practice	Naloxone
Liaison with senior support worker at Ambition Sefton, around joint discharge plans with HALT where appropriate.	Relationship with other providers
Delivery of recovery position advice to MCT staff	Staff development
MCT to look at more innovative strategies may need to be developed for engaging long term clients	Engagement

# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS UPDATE

## Themes:

- Increase in alcohol and cocaine related deaths
- People are increasingly dying alone
- Deaths due to overdose/toxicity still represent high number of cases
- Many service users are still using substances “on top” of their script
- A substantial proportion of service users are still actively injecting
  
- [Maps](#)

# IMS DRUG RELATED DEATHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEY EVENT

**PHI** | Public  
Health  
Institute  
LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES UNIVERSITY



Public Health  
England

24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 9am-4pm  
Quaker Meeting House, Liverpool

To attend please email me at [m.whitfield@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:m.whitfield@ljmu.ac.uk)