**Additional file 3: Table S3: Health behaviours of participants in current study at baseline compared with previous Irish studies**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Holohan et al 1997 (n=502)%(n) | O’Carroll et al 2005 (n=356)%(n) | Current study 2011 baseline data (n=105)%(n) |
| Smoking |  |  |  |
|  Smoking (current)  | 78% (373/480) | 90% (321) | 82% (86/105) |
|  Smoking past user >30 cigarettes a day or 3oz per week | 6% (30/480)32% (120/370) | - | 9% (9/105)13% (11/86) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Alcohol  |  |  |  |
|  Alcohol use (current or past) | - | - | 90% (95/105) |
|  Alcohol use current  | 53% (266/502) | - | 58% (61/105) |
|  Alcohol use past | - | - | 32% (34/105) |
|  AUDIT-C problem drinking Problem drinking (>14 units\* for women or 21 units for men) | -25% (127/502) | -- | 53% (56/105)26% (27/105) |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  Drug use (current or past) | 29% (136/470) | 64% (228) | 60% (63/105) |
|  Drug use current user | - | 23% (83/354) | 33% (35/105) |
|  Drug use past user | - | 42% (147/354) | 27% (28/105) |
|  Accidental overdose - in last 3 months |  |  | 3% (3/105) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Injecting behaviours |  |  |  |
|  Injected drugs – ever | - | 48% (168/348) | 44% (46/105) |
|  Injected with a needle/syringe used by  someone else – ever | - | - | 39% (18/46) |
|  Re-used own needle/syringe – ever | - | - | 56% (26/46) |
|  Used a filter/spoon/flush used by  someone else – ever | - | - | 43% (20/46) |
|  Injected drugs in last three months  | - | - | 22% (23/105) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Sex and condom use |  |  |  |
|  Sex with regular partner in last 3 months  | - | - | 33% (35/105) |
|  Condoms used on every occasion | - | - | 23% (8/35) |
|  Sex with someone other than regular  partner in last three months | - | - | 10% (10/103) |
|  Condoms used on every occasion | - | - | 40% (4/10) |
|  Ever paid for sex | - | - | 20% (21/104) |
|  Condoms used on every occasion | - | - | 71% (15/21) |
|  Ever sold sex | - | - | 0% (0/104) |

\*For this study units per week were based on units per typical drinking day X frequency of drinking. For previous studies, units per week were based on units drank on an average day X 7.