**Additional file 5: Table S5: Use of health services by participants in current study 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) |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Current medical card  | 55% (257/467) | 55% (196/354) | 59% (62/105) |
| Reasons for no medical card: No stable address Applied, waiting for response Don’t know how to get one Problems with form Difficulty in getting a GP Other reason  | ------ | ----25%- | 7% (3/41)44% (18/41)5% (2/41)15% (6/41)029% (12/41) |
| Rating health services for homeless Very good to excellent  Good Fair to poorUse of medical services in last 6 months | --- | --- | 61% (63/103)29% (29/103)11% (11/103) |
| Visiting GP  Average number of times visiting GP (self report)  | 52% (262/502)5.1 (range 1-48, n=262)\* | 62% (221/356) | 82% (86/105)6.5 (range = 1-30, n=81) |
| Nurse in Safetynet clinic (Granby & MQI) | - |  | 44% (46/105) |
| Attended A&E  Average number of times visiting A & E  | 22% (112/502)1.7 (range 1-20, n=112) | 37% (128/346) | 29% (30/105)2.0 (range 1-10, n=30) |
| Attended OPD  | 20% (102/502) | 27% (93/347) | 17% (18/105) |
| Hospital inpatient  | - | 19% (68/356) | 22% (23/105) |
| Public health nurse | 1% (39/502) | - | 9% (9/105) |
| Nurse in any other hostel DentistOpticianSocial workerCommunity welfare officer | ---17% (85/502)41% (208/502) | ----- | 3% (3/105)16% (17/105)12% (13/105)24% (25/105)27% (28/105) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Use of mental health services in last 6 months |  |  |  |
| One to one counselling/therapy | - | - | 23% (24/104) |
| Group counselling/therapy  | - | - | 4% (4/104) |
| Alcoholics anonymous | - | - | 6% (6/104) |
| Narcotics anonymous | - | - | 11% (11/104) |
| Residential drug treatment | - | - | 2% (2/104) |
| Supervised detox (outpatient) | - | - | 1% (1/104) |
| Psychiatric inpatient unit | - | - | 6% (6/104) |
| Psychiatric outpatient unit | 15% (76/502) | - | 17% (18/104) |
| Community psychiatric nurse | 13% (65/502) | - | 2% (2/104) |
| Addiction psychiatry  | - | - | 1% (1/104) |
| Phoneline service (e.g. Samaritans) | - | - | 1% (1/104) |
| On waiting list for any of these services  | - | - | 3% (3/104) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Use of drug services  |  |  |  |
| Methadone (past or present) | - | - | 35% (37/105) |
| Methadone current use  | - | - | 29% (30/105) |
| On waiting list for methadone treatment | - | - | 4% (4/105) |
| Needle exchange (in last 6 months) | - | - | 21% (22/104) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Other service  |  |  |  |
| Day care centre | - | - | 38% (39/104) |
| Social worker | - | - | 24% (25/105) |
| Community welfare officer  | - | - | 26% (28/105) |
| Dentist  | - | - | 16% (17/105) |
| Optician | - | - | 12% (13/105) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Vaccinations  |  |  |  |
| Flu vaccine in last year | - | - | 56% (58/103) |
| Hepatitis B (at least one vaccine) | - | - | 33% (34/103) |
| Hepatitis B (all three vaccines) | - | - | 17% (17/103) |
| Hepatitis B blood test (post-vaccine) | - | - | 88% (15/17) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Blood tests (ever received) |  |  |  |
| Hepatitis B | - | - | 57% (59/103) |
| Hepatitis C | - | - | 57% (59/103) |
| HIV | - | - | 56% (58/103) |
| AIDS | - | - | 56% (58/103) |
| Tuberculosis  | - | - | 37% (38/103) |