



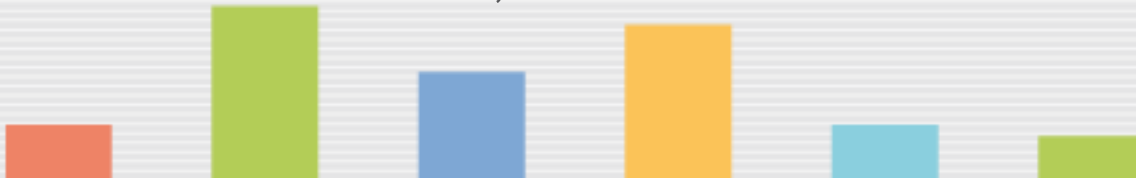
European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Drug use, drug related problems and responses in women

Eleni Kalamara and Linda Montanari

LX Addiction conference 2019

23-25 October 2019, Lisbon



Sustainable Development Goals (UN) and gender mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming:

“The (re)organisation, improvement... of policy processes, so that a gender equality perspective is incorporated in all policies at all levels...”

(Council of Europe, 1998)

UN defined 17 goals to be achieved by 2030



Some figures on women and drugs in EU-28, Norway and Turkey in 2017

Drug consumption:

~**39** millions women have tried any illicit drug at least once in life
(Men= **60 mls**)

~40 % women



Treatment:

More than **100 000** women have entered drug treatment
(Men= **378 000**)

Harms: DRID

176 HIV notifications
(Men= **870**)

Harms: DRD

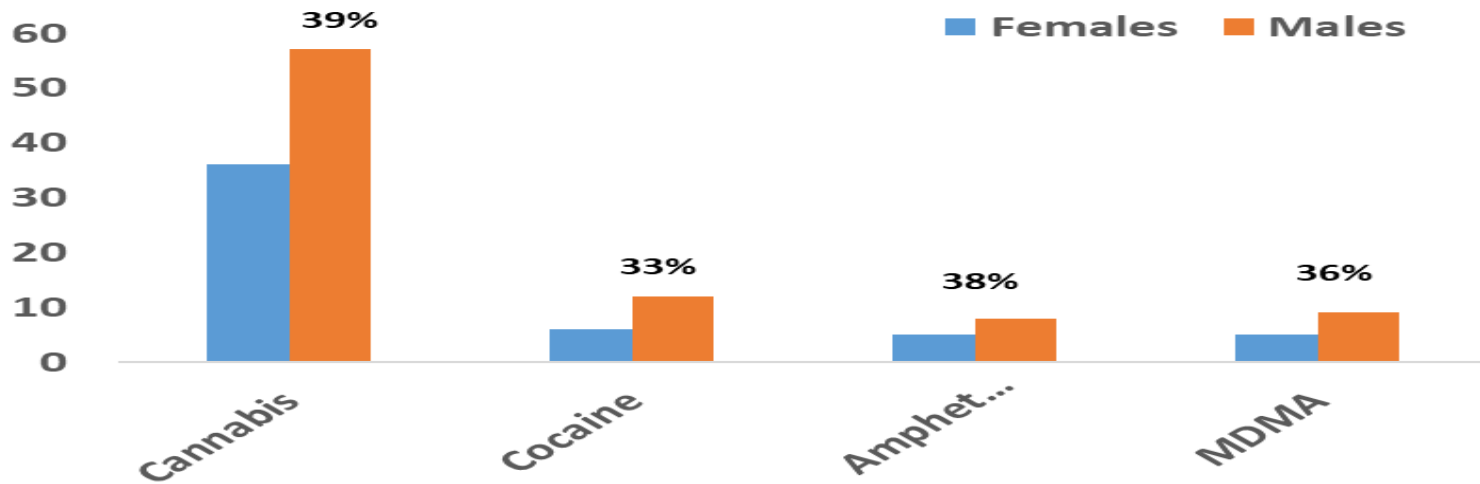
2023 women have died directly because of drugs DRD
(Men= **7229**)

~20% women

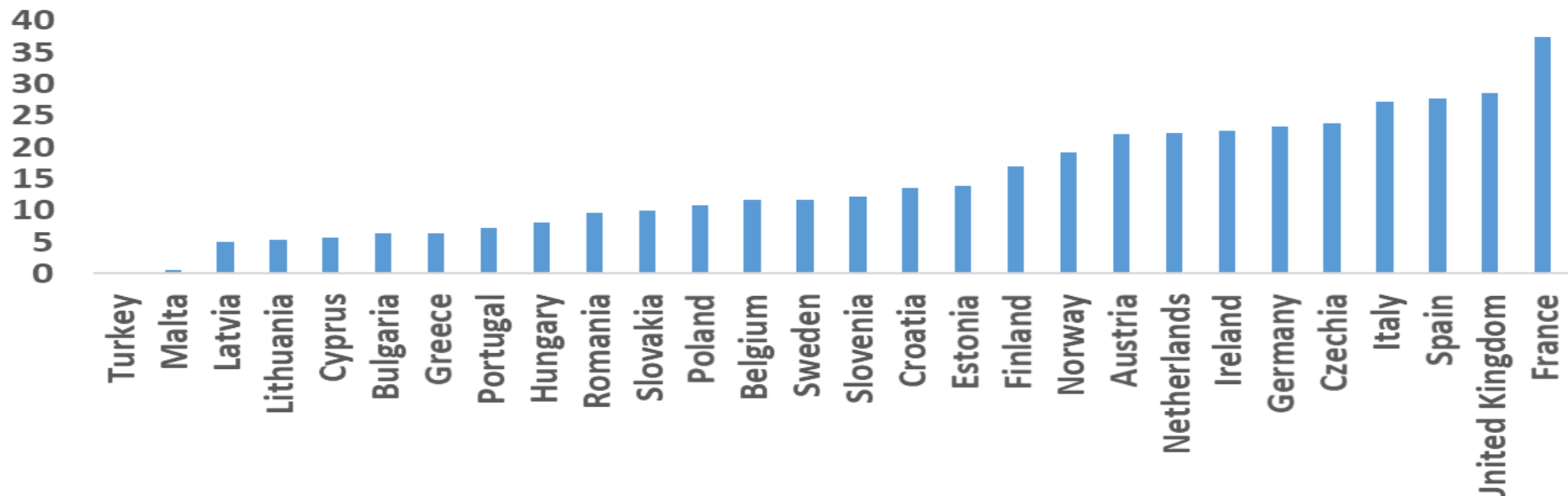


Women and drug use in EU-28, Norway and Turkey in 2017

millions



Female LTP, any illicit drug, by country



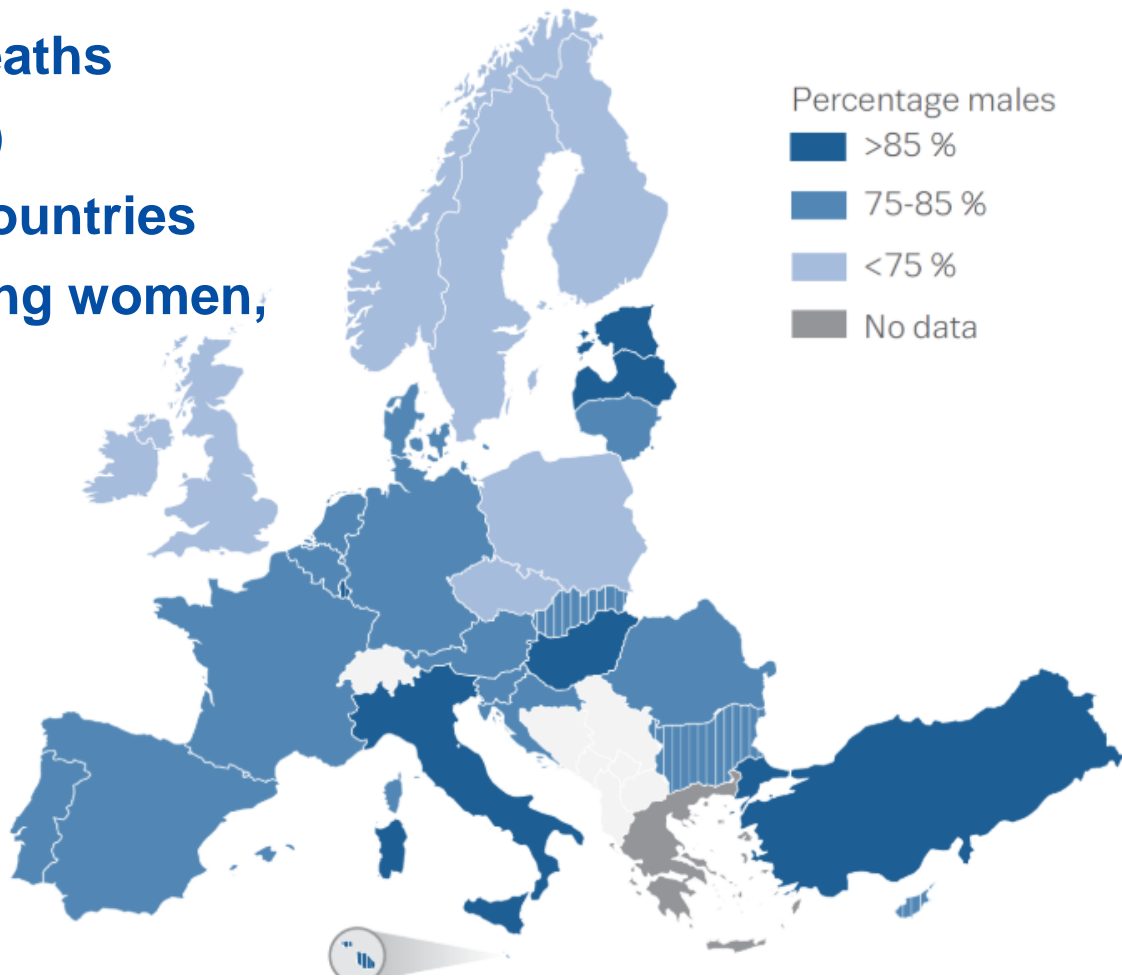
Lifetime prevalence for any illicit drugs in young students 15-16 in 23 EU countries – Trend 1995 -2015



Source: 2018 EDR; ESPAD 2015 (Kraus et al., 2016)

DRD in males and females in Europe, 2017

- ❖ Drug-related deaths predominantly affect men, 22% of DRD females
- ❖ 41% increase in female deaths since 2007 (14% in males)
- ❖ Large variations across countries
- ❖ 18 % suicidal deaths among women, 7 % among men

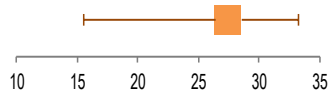


Women entering drug treatment in EU28 + Norway in 2016

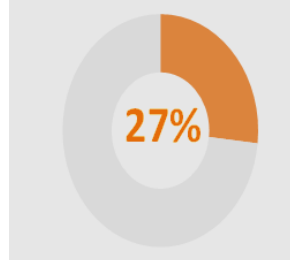
PROFILE OF WOMEN ENTERING TREATMENT

Entered treatment
102 000

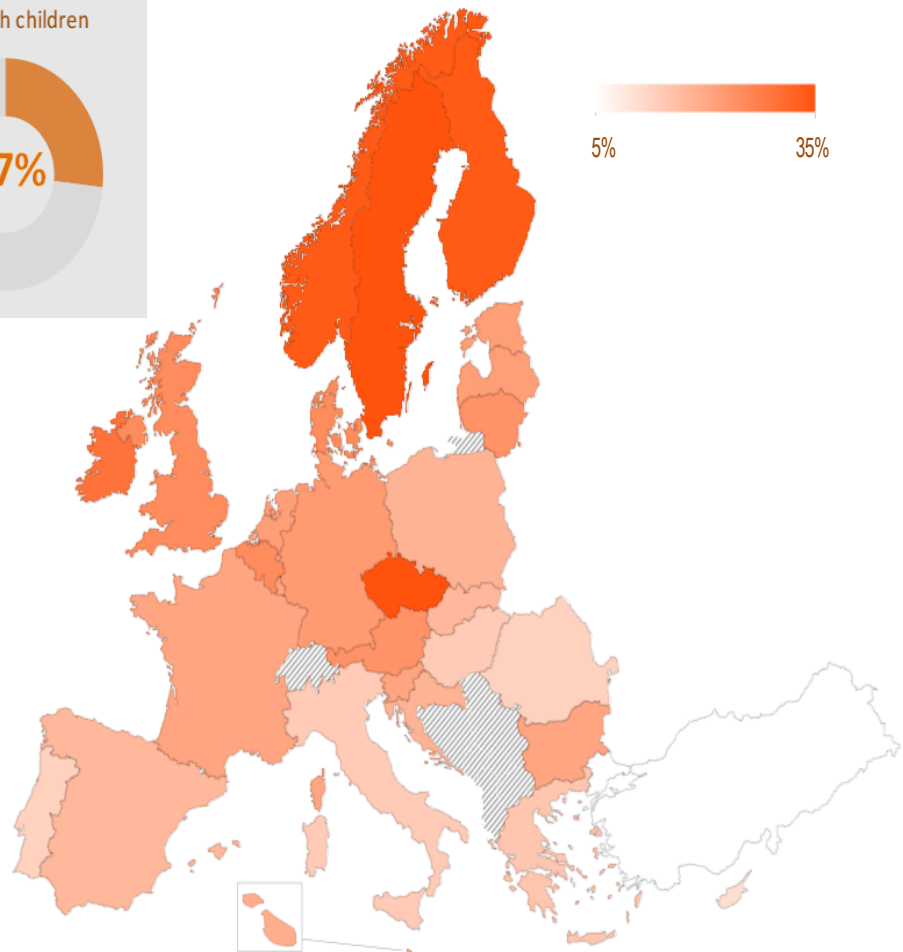
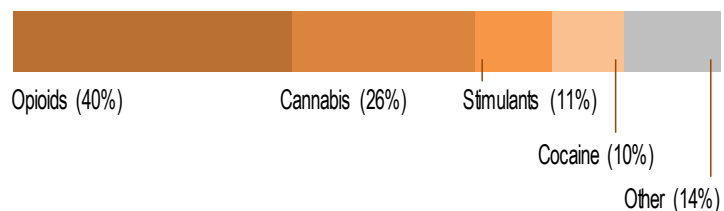
Age at entering treatment



Living with children



Percentage of women entering treatment



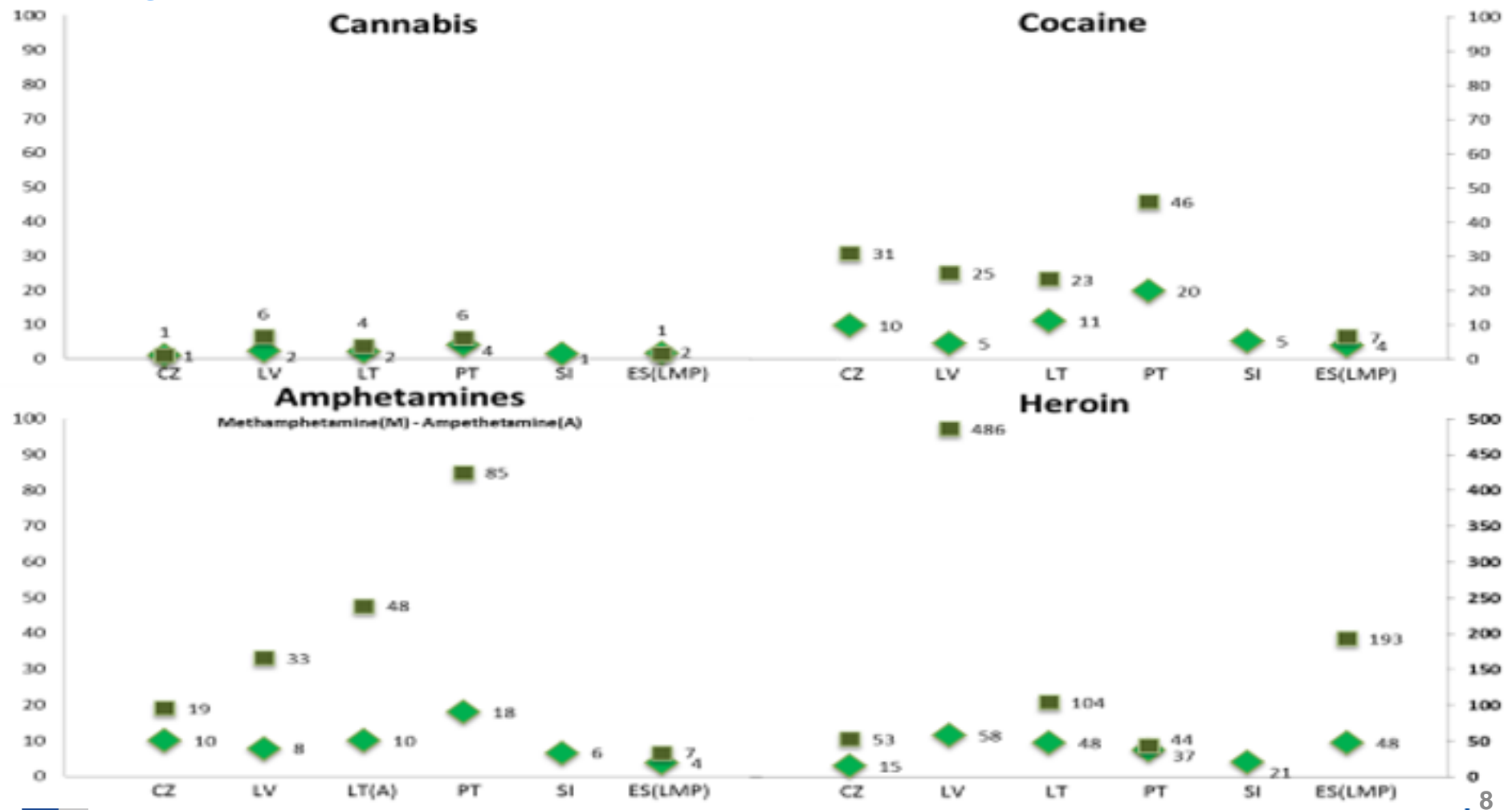
Drugs	Male / Female
Cocaine	6.1
Cannabis	5.3
Opioids	4
Amphetamines	2.7
Hypnotics and sedatives	2.1



Excess drug use in PLIP compared with general population

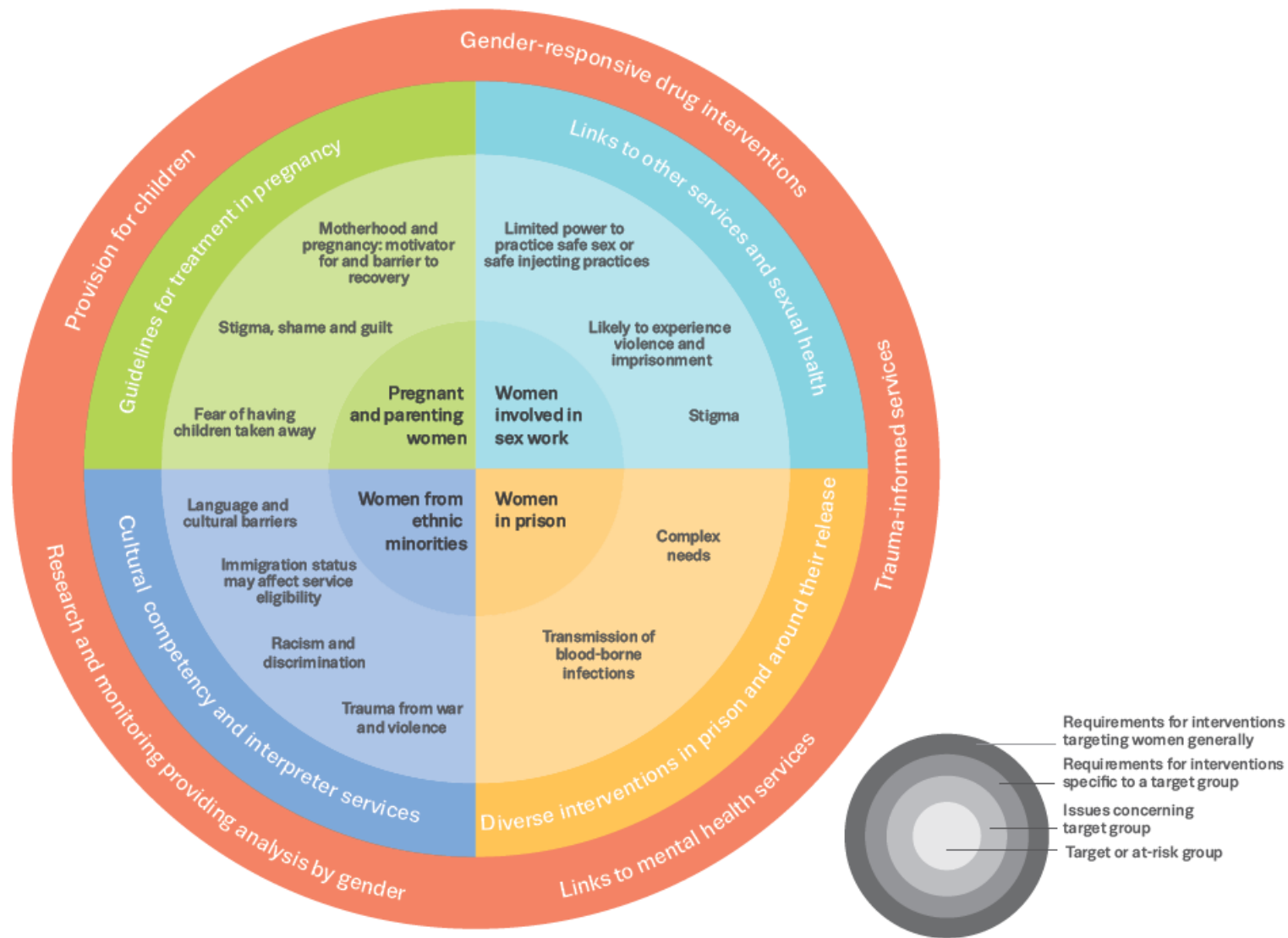
LTP among PLIP/ LTP in general population > 1 : higher LTP of substance use in PLIP

◆ Male ■ Female



Source: EODP article- under publication

Services provision for specific groups of women with drugs problems



Implications for monitoring and research

Still little is known about women and drug use

Most studies focus on motherhood, pregnancy, children...

Few European comparable data on women and drug use

- **Data collection need to consider gender perspective**
- **Reporting should include gender breakdowns in routine statistics**
- **Reduce knowledge gaps through research addressing gender issues, looking at specific areas related to the women key issues**





emcdda

why gender matters



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for Drugs and Drug Addiction


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