



DIRECT ACCESS TO OST TREATMENT AND INTEGRATED THERAPY : THE COURSE FROM STREETS TO COMMUNITY

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IMPLEMENTATION



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction



**LISBON
ADDICTIONS
2022**

DIRECT ACCESS SUBSTITUTION UNIT **(MYAP)**

- Established in **June 2016**
- At that time **significant waiting list (waiting time 51,6 months)**
- **Referrals** from:
 - ✓ **Patients themselves**
 - ✓ **Direct Access facilities of OKANA** (DCR, Streetwork , Drop in Centres , Hostel, Shelter, Medical Direct Access Unit, SOS Telephone Line)
 - ✓ **Other Service Providers**

SERVICE PROVIDED (1)

Information to addicted people, their relatives or care givers for OKANA's Programs, Services and Facilities

Motivation of addicted people to join therapeutic programs

Awareness Raising of the Community Regarding Substance Use and other Addictive Behaviours

Receives applications from people with drug using problem **for** Opioid Substitution Therapy (**OST**)

SERVICE PROVIDED (2)

Refers patients for medical investigations (examination by physician, blood tests – screening for HIV , Hepatitis status, Chest X Ray , etc.) **and if needed for treatment** to specialist doctors and clinics

Psychiatric assessment (for possible co morbidities) and therapy if needed

Titration of substitution substance (buprenorphine , methadone).
Stabilization of dosage

Administration of **psychometric batteries** and questionnaires (Europ-ASI, TDI)

SERVICE PROVIDED (3)

Assessment of social needs (family, income, feeding, housing, clothing) and referral to relevant services of OKANA or other institutions.

Allocation of the new members to OKANA Substitution Units (Integrated Addiction Treatment Units) with criteria such as residence and work

Multidisciplinary work & team

1 Psychiatrist

2
Psychologists

2 Social
Workers

3 Nurses

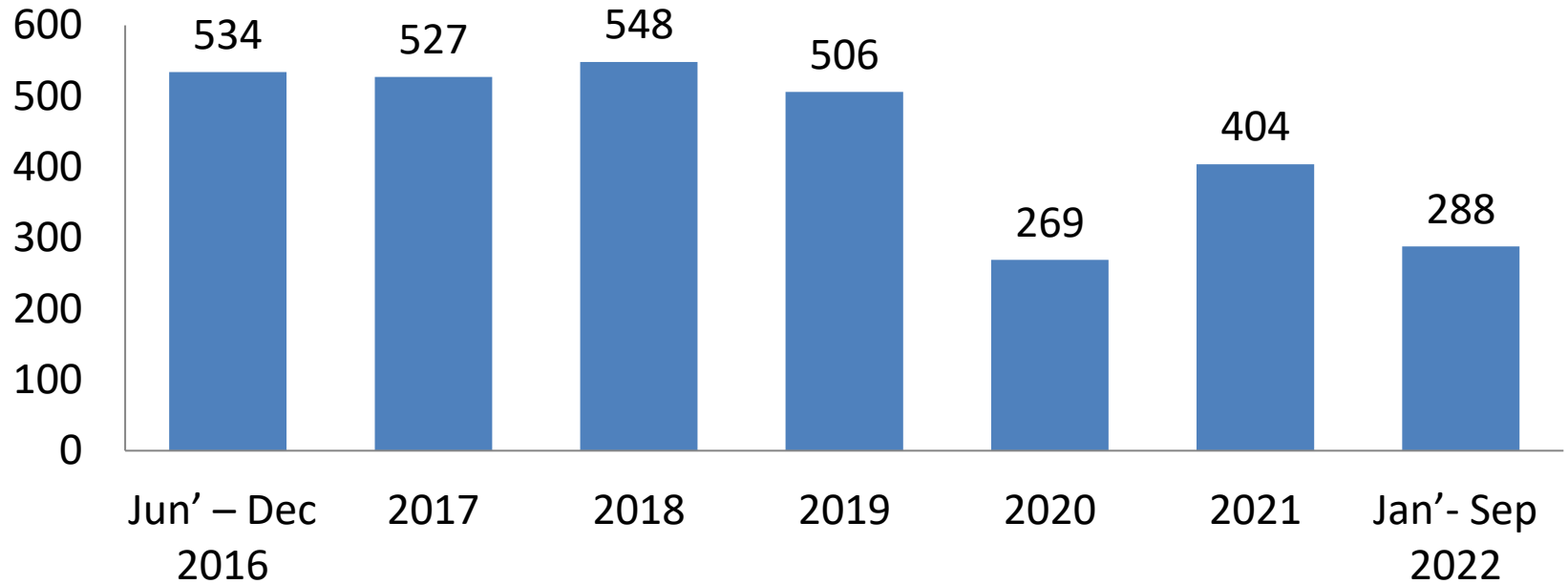
1 Secretary

1 Security
Guard

Progress Made

	June 2016	November 2022
Applications in waiting list	1755	0
Waiting time (in Months)	51,6	0

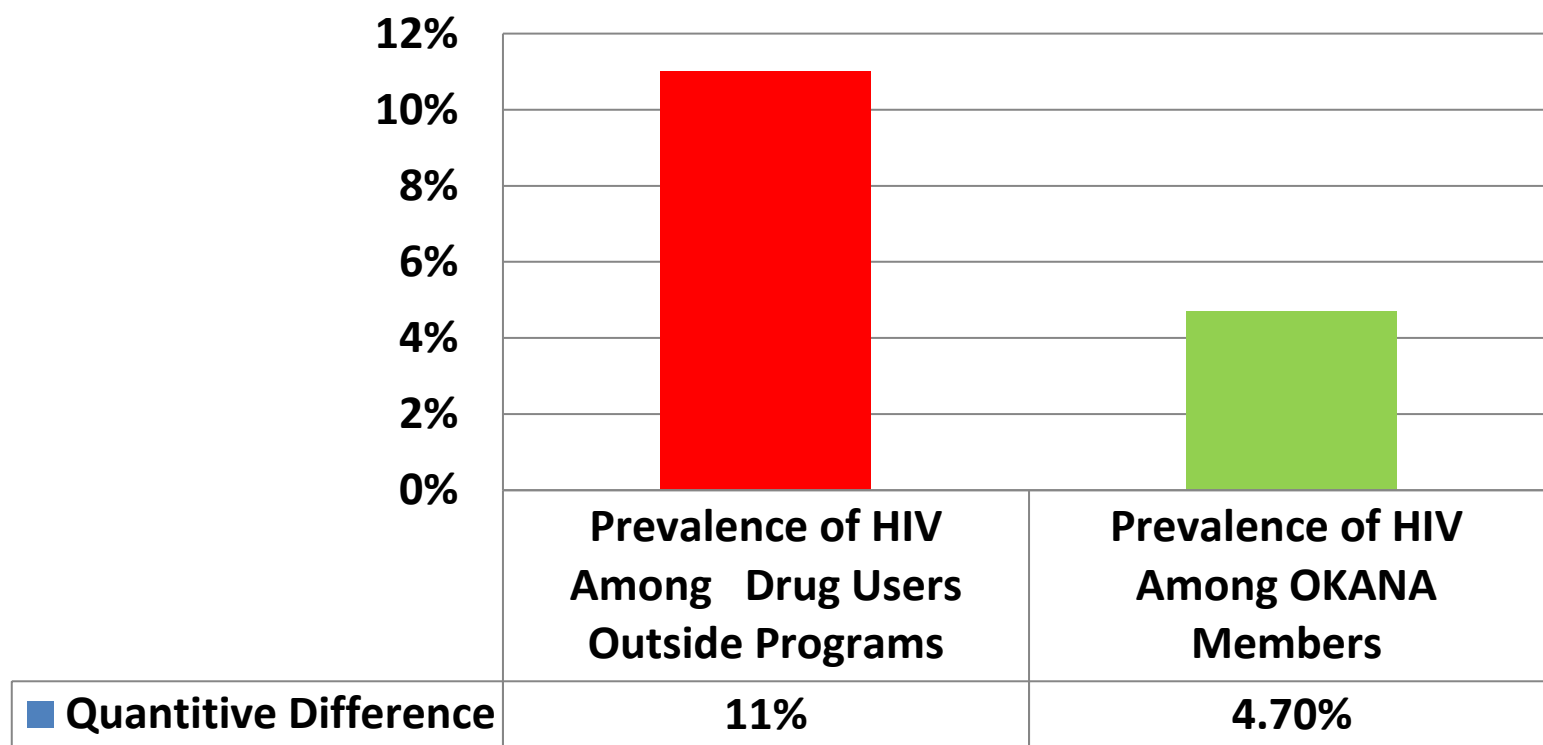
New admissions per year



■ Total
3076

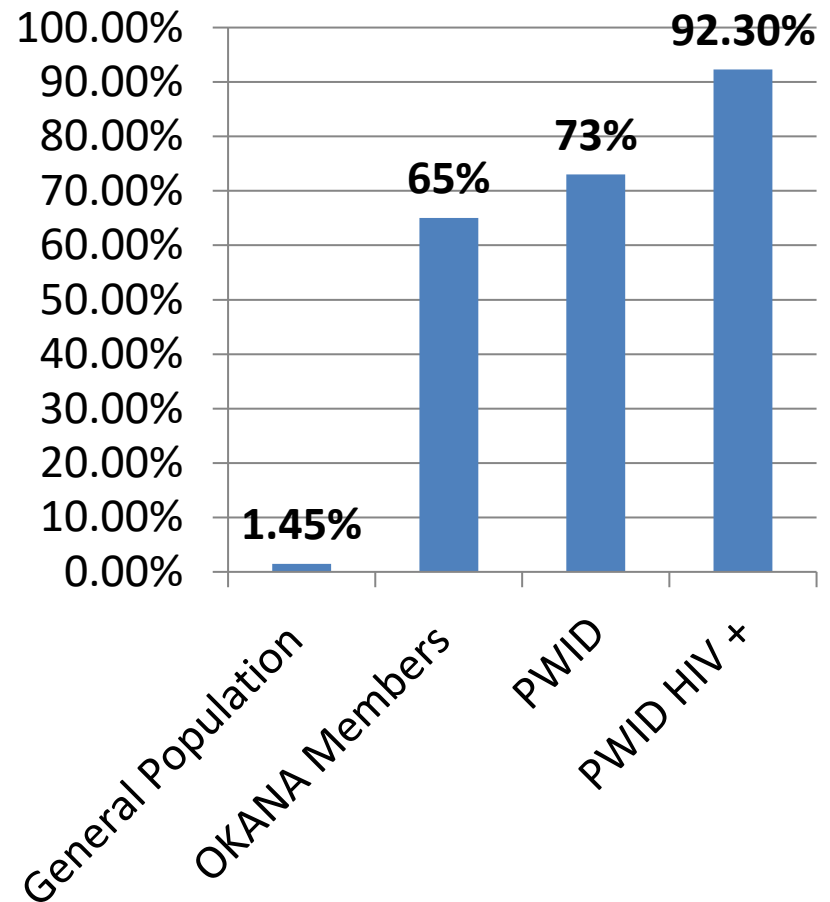
2019:

230 deaths from drug overdoses in Greece (83% from opioid overdoses)

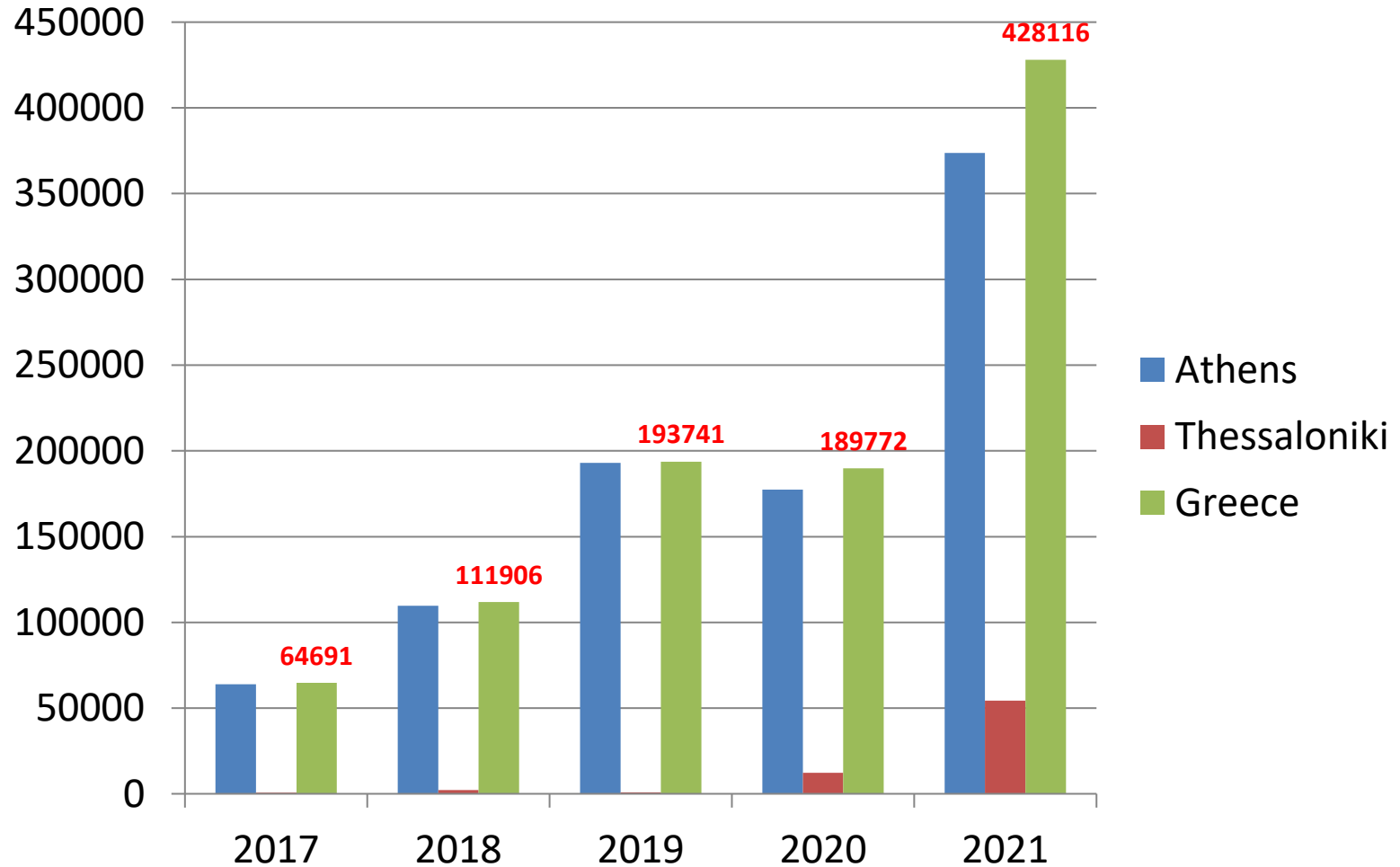


Greece : Anti HCV(+)

- ✓ **Already cured 1595** OKANA members
- ✓ **Still to receive treatment 2500-2600** OKANA members (TITYOS project)



OKANA'S NEEDLE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM



IN CONCLUSION

MYAP since June 2016

- **Connects the Harm Reduction Network of OKANA** (DCR , Street work , Medical Direct Access Unit , Drop In Centers, Hostel , Shelter) **with 24 OST Units** (18 Buprenorphine and 6 Methadone Units)
- Provides : **Information** about OKANA's programs, **Education** about psychoactive substances and other addictive behaviours
- Receives **applications for** entry to **OST**
- Refers patients for **medical investigations**
- First **assessment of psychiatric – social needs**
- **Titration of the substitution substance** up to the proper dose
- **Allocation of new members** to OKANA OST Units
- Multidisciplinary team and work
- **Patient centered, integrated – holistic approach**, based on a **biopsychosocial model of care**

Thank you!!!

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