

FUNDED BY

**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research

PROGRAMME  
**ADVANCE**

# Addressing intimate partner abuse (IPA) perpetrated by heterosexual men in substance use treatment: the ADVANCE programme

Gail Gilchrist, Polly Radcliffe & Liz Gilchrist



UNIVERSITY  
*of York*



University of  
**BRISTOL**

**Respect**



The University of Manchester

South London  
and Maudsley

NHS Foundation Trust







FUNDED BY

**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research

PROGRAMME  
**ADVANCE**

This presentation summarises independent research funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) under its Programme Grants for Applied Research programme (RP-PG-1214-20009). **The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors** and not necessarily those of the NHS, the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care

**WARNING: Presentation contains direct quotes and scenes of intimate partner violence and abuse which some may find distressing**

**No conflicts of interest**



# Need targeted perpetrator interventions for men who use substances

- Men who use substances infrequently meet criteria for perpetrator programmes. Men in substance use treatment are rarely referred to perpetrator programmes. When they are, **completion is low and attendance and uptake is poor**
- Substance use treatment alone **will not stop IPA**

Delivering interventions to address IPA in substance use treatment settings  
**COULD INCREASE THEIR REACH**

# Developing the ADVANCE integrated perpetrator programme

1. Evidence of what works

2. Reviews of existing approaches/ manuals

3. Meta-ethnography role of substance use in IPV perpetration

4. Interviews with men in substance use treatment & (ex)-partners

5 Expert opinion including those of service providers, perpetrators and survivors



# Intoxication

*'Alcohol, it brings out the worst in me, you know'*

# Acquiring substances

*'My son's father used to beat me when he didn't have money to get straight [use heroin]. He used to hit me when he was going through withdrawal, when I didn't give him money'*

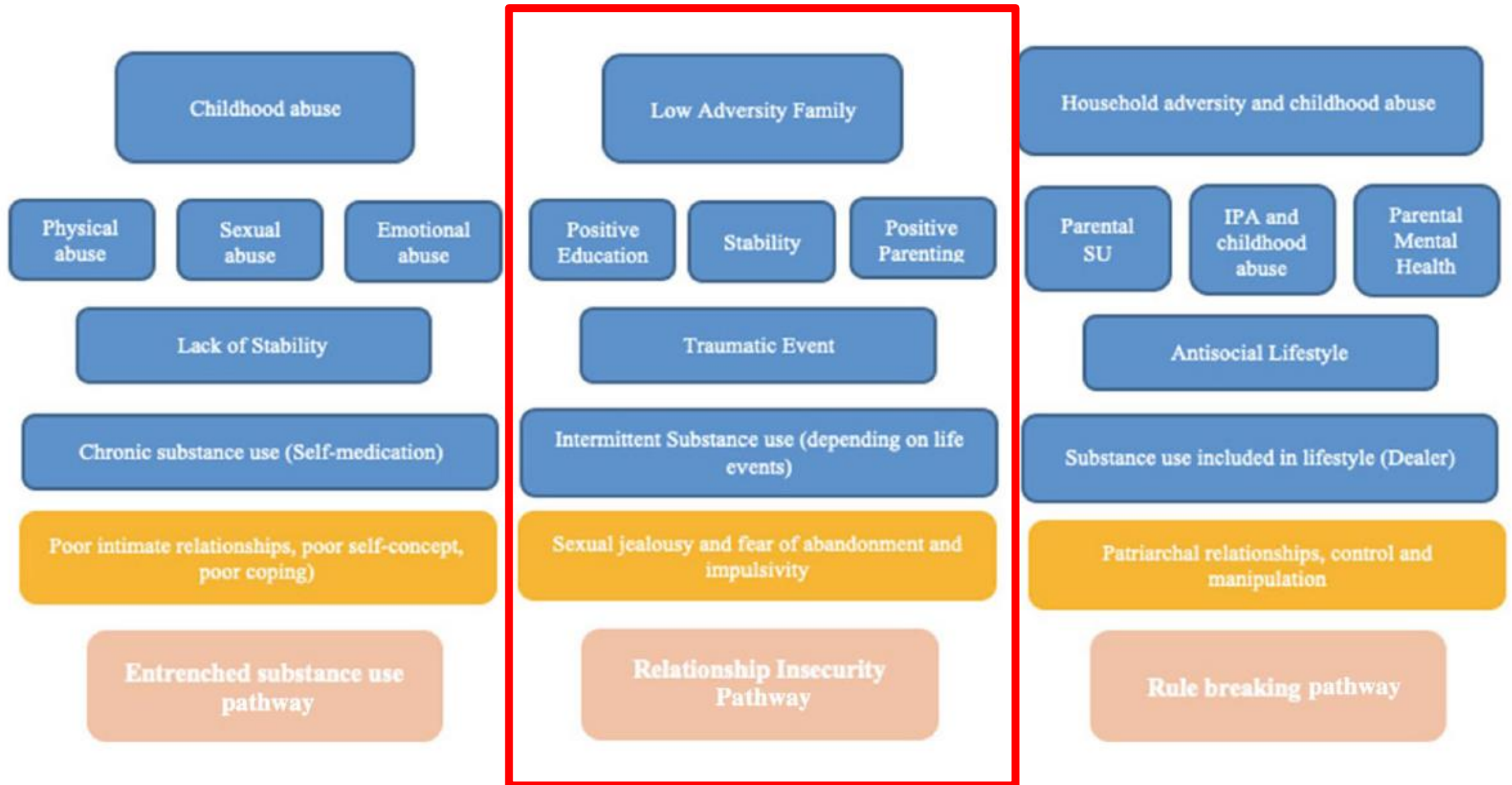
# Craving & Withdrawal

*'I was agitated...and like, the come down, I was coming down, so like I needed something, so when she was speaking to me, I wasn't really taking notice because I was telling her, like, listen, we've got to go here, we've got to do this and all that, and she was saying like, Iten, I'm going ....., I pushed them [his partner] from there...yeah, and I just got arrested*

# Pathways into IPA and substance use

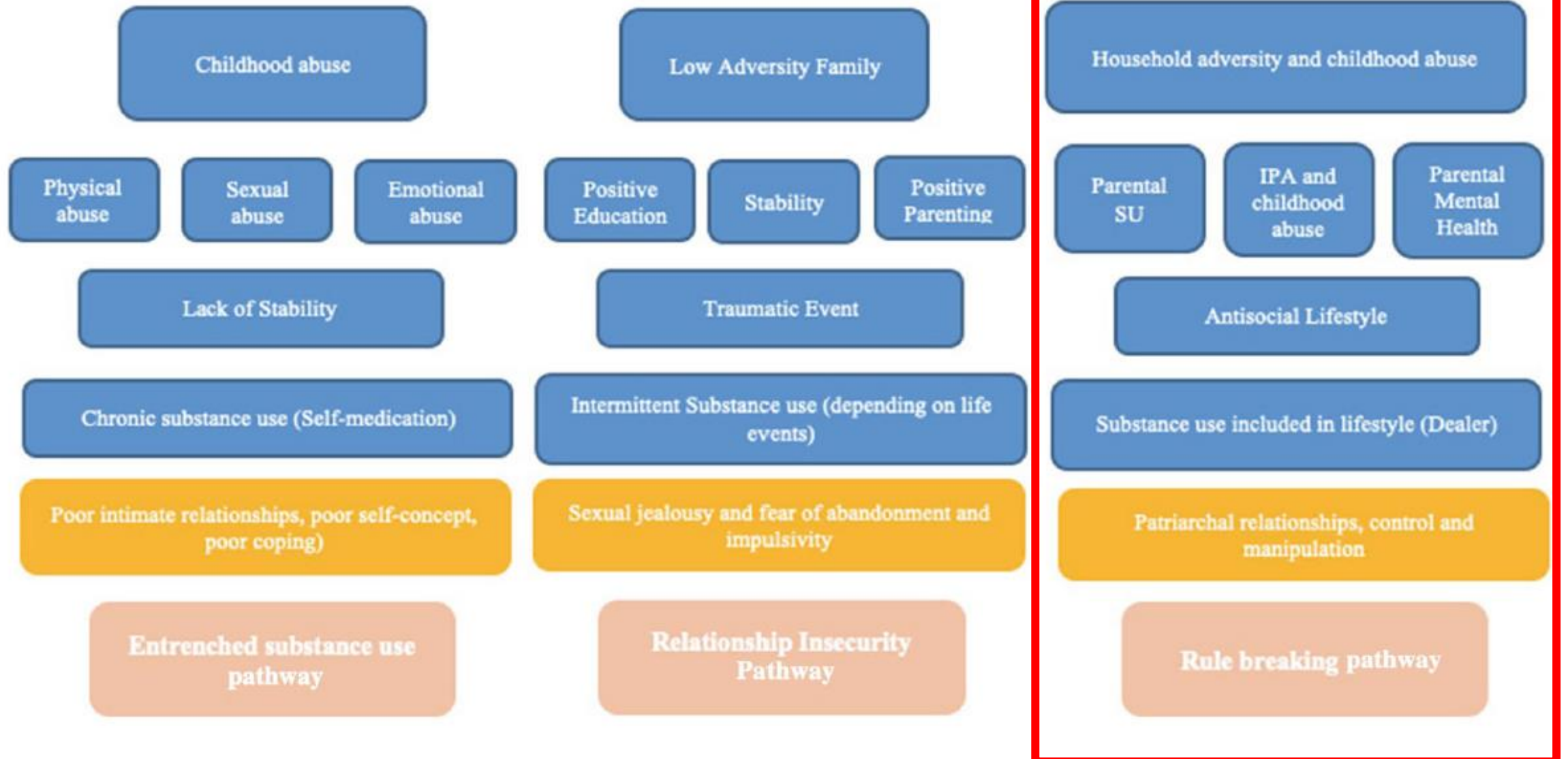


# Pathways into IPA and substance use





# Pathways into IPA and substance use

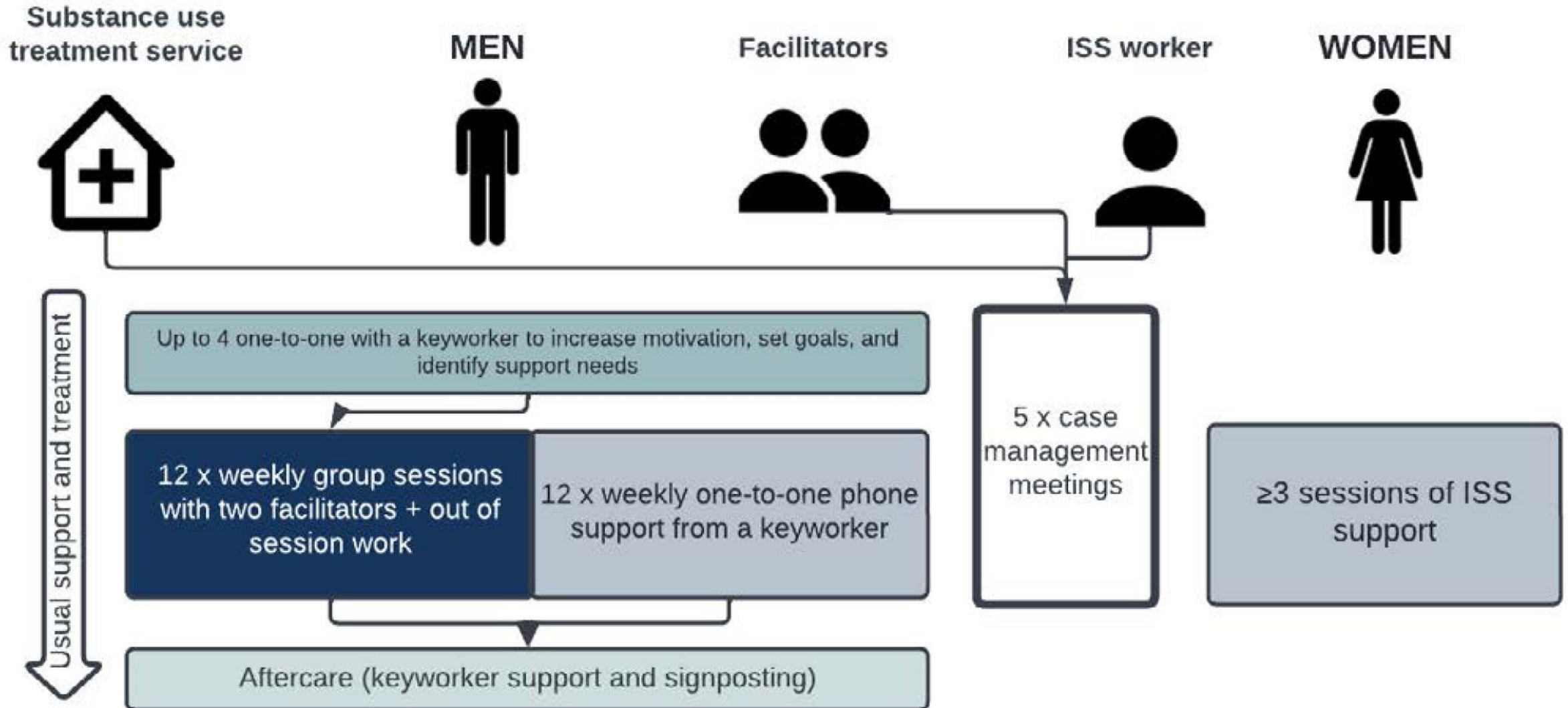


# The ADVANCE Model

CONTINGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

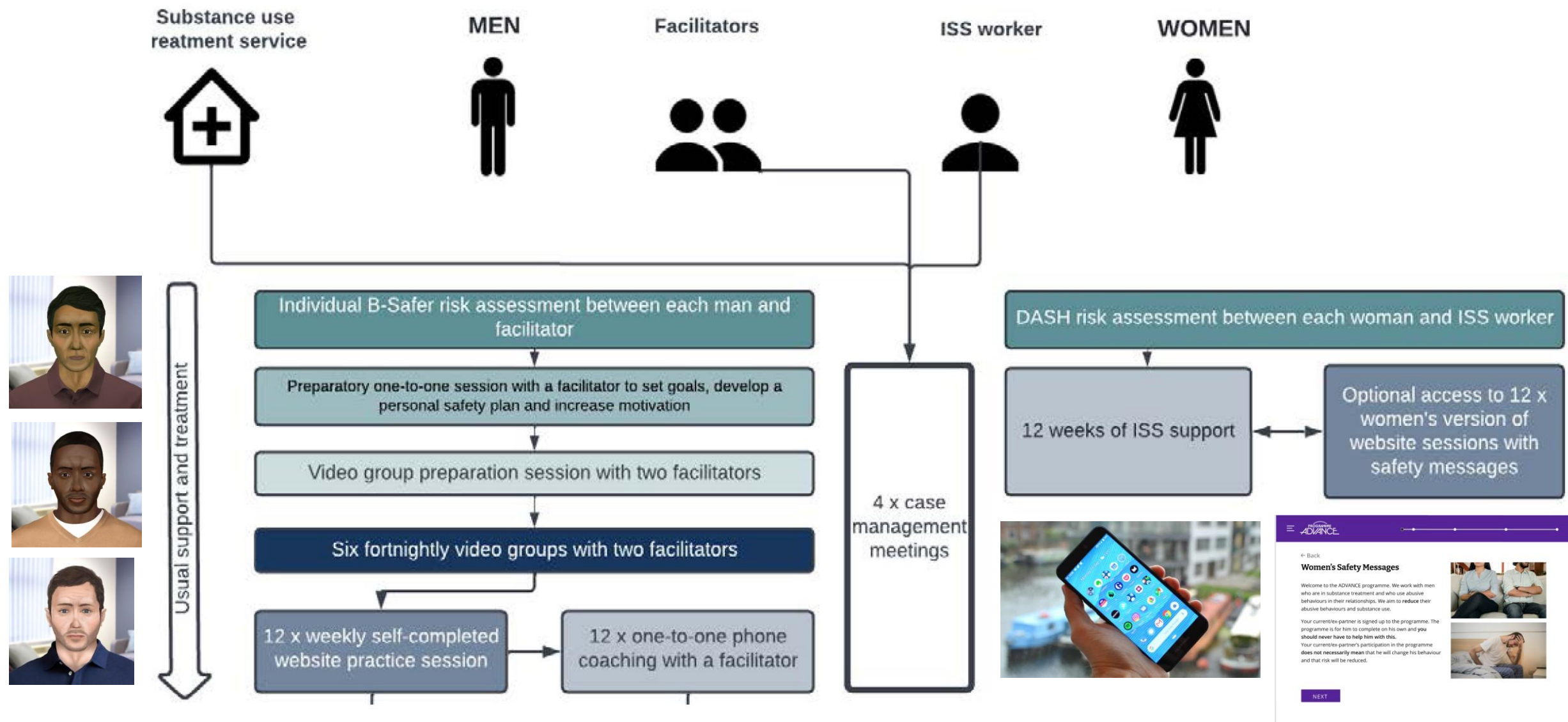
PERSONAL GOAL PLANNING (what I want)			
SELF REGULATION (how do I achieve this?)			
Understanding my thinking	Changing my behaviour	Managing distress better	
THINKING	BEHAVIOURS	FEELINGS	
CAPABILITY (skills/understanding)	OPPORTUNITY (try it out)	MOTIVATION (why should I?)	
HOW DOES SUBSTANCE USE AFFECT ME?			
INTOXICATION	CRAVING/ WITHDRAWAL	ACQUIRING SUBSTANCES	LIFESTYLE

# ADVANCE (in-person) group intervention – 16 weeks + refresher (20 weeks)





# ADVANCE digital – 16 weeks + refresher (20 weeks)



# Evaluating ADVANCE



**RCT with 104 men -  
randomly allocated to in-  
person ADVANCE group +  
TAU or TAU only**



**Feasibility study of 40  
men allocated digitally  
supported delivery of  
ADVANCE + TAU**

## ADVANCE Group

- 49% of men followed-up at 16 weeks
- Median rate of sessions attended was 29%
- 26% of (ex)-partners recruited

## ADVANCE Digital

- 63% of men followed-up at 16 weeks
- 48% of sessions offered attended
- 49% of (ex)-partners recruited



**Compared to  
TAU**

- Perpetration of abusive behaviours
- Use of controlling behaviours
- Anxiety symptoms
- Depression symptoms
- Substance using days



**Compared to pre-  
ADVANCE-D**



# Key messages

- ADVANCE/ADVANCE-D is a **targeted** perpetrator intervention for men who use substances, **usually excluded from perpetrator programmes** due to their substance use.
- Attendance is comparable with other integrated perpetrator interventions for men who use substances and uptake of women's support is also similar
- Findings have demonstrated **reductions in abusive behaviour**. Longer term follow-up is required to explore whether these findings are maintained
- With the **correct risk and case management** in place, alongside **integrated support for female partners**, our research has shown that both the group and digital ADVANCE interventions **can be delivered safely by trained staff in substance use treatment**. Staff require protected time to do this.

**For further information about ADVANCE:**

[Gail.Gilchrist@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:Gail.Gilchrist@kcl.ac.uk)

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/advance>