Promoting NI’s early warning system (DAMIS)

Local and regional campaigns / initiatives

Responding to local issues

Signposting to services

Community support

Awareness sessions

Advising stakeholders

Your local Drug and Alcohol Connections team
Addressing drugs and alcohol together

www.drugsandalcoholni.info
An introduction to DACTs and DACT Connections teams

Below is a quick look into some of the services and support offered from the NIDACTS.

DACTs are Drug and Alcohol Coordination Teams. DACTs are made up of statutory and community agencies with an interest in, or need to, address drug and alcohol issues in the Trust area. There is a DACT for each Health Trust area in Northern Ireland, and each has a Connections team. We (Connections) support the development and implementation of each DACT's action plan. We also offer a range of services as outlined in the rest of this leaflet. See back page for our contact details.

**Awareness sessions**
We can deliver 1-2 hour awareness sessions on various drugs and alcohol related topics. If you then want to move to more in-depth information, we can signpost you. All of our sessions include details of local support services and how to access them.

**Signposting to services**
We can support you, your family, or your community to navigate through the drugs and alcohol services and support available in your area.

**Campaigns & initiatives**
We can help with campaign messages or initiatives to ensure they are accurate, current and relevant in terms of the information and advice they are giving to the general public/target audience.
Sometimes new types of drugs or new ways of using drugs emerge in our communities. Those working in drugs and alcohol services need to be aware of these changes and any potential risks. To assist this, we promote the use of Northern Ireland’s ‘Early Warning’ system – DAMIS (Drug and Alcohol Monitoring Information System). If you feel you have information worth sharing, email damis@hscni.net.

**Community involvement**

We can support key members of your community to get involved in recognising and responding to the signs of drugs and alcohol misuse.

Our two day, accredited Drug and Alcohol Responder course offers training and the opportunity to build confidence to be able to make a difference in your community. We provide ongoing support to trained Drug and Alcohol Responders.

If there is a specific drug or alcohol incident or issue locally, we can work with the local DACT to develop a multi-agency planned response. This can involve us raising awareness, developing events and initiatives and bringing in or signposting to relevant support services.

**Stakeholder forums**

As well as being part of the local DACT, we can also attend community-based partnerships or forums who are interested in addressing drug and alcohol issues or learning more about services or current trends.

**Early warning system**

Sometimes new types of drugs or new ways of using drugs emerge in our communities. Those working in drugs and alcohol services need to be aware of these changes and any potential risks.

To assist this, we promote the use of Northern Ireland’s ‘Early Warning’ system – DAMIS (Drug and Alcohol Monitoring Information System). If you feel you have information worth sharing, email damis@hscni.net.
Get in touch

Your local DACT Connections Service can be contacted in relation to any alcohol and/or drug related concern or query that you may have — they will be able to advise you on how they, or your local DACT, can help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HSCT AREA</th>
<th>CONNECTIONS SERVICE EMAIL</th>
<th>CONNECTIONS SERVICE TEL NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BHSCT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:connections@bdact.info">connections@bdact.info</a></td>
<td>028 9084 0555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHSCT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:connections@ndact.info">connections@ndact.info</a></td>
<td>028 2568 9306</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEHSCT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:connections@sedact.info">connections@sedact.info</a></td>
<td>0800 254 5123</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHSCT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:connections@sdact.info">connections@sdact.info</a></td>
<td>028 3832 2714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHSCT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:connections@wdact.info">connections@wdact.info</a></td>
<td>0800 254 5123</td>
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</tbody>
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Addressing drugs and alcohol together