

Naloxone in Scotland: **progress**, challenges and trends

Andrew McAuley

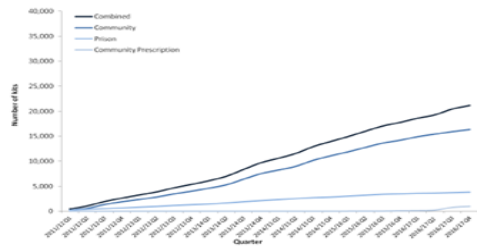
**Consultant Healthcare Scientist (Epidemiology), Public Health Scotland
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**The International Naloxone Conference: ThINC 3
Oslo, 2023**

ThINC 2: Scotland and naloxone then...

1b. Did the NNP reach those most at risk of opioid overdose?

Figure 4.3: Cumulative number of THN kits distributed as first supply to people at risk, by source, financial year and quarter (Scotland; 2011/12 to 2016/17)

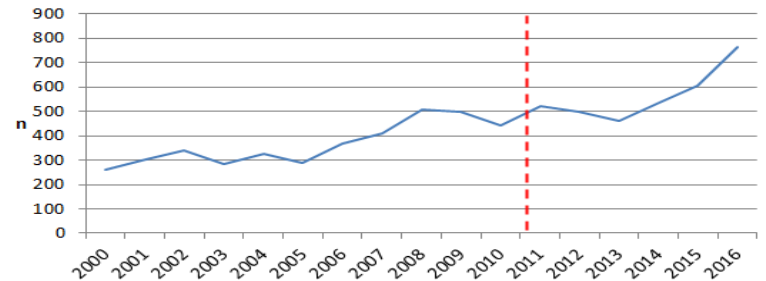


Estimated reach among PWUD: 345 kits per 1,000 problem drug users

Source: ISD (2017)

4a. Did the NNP have an impact on opioid-related overdose?

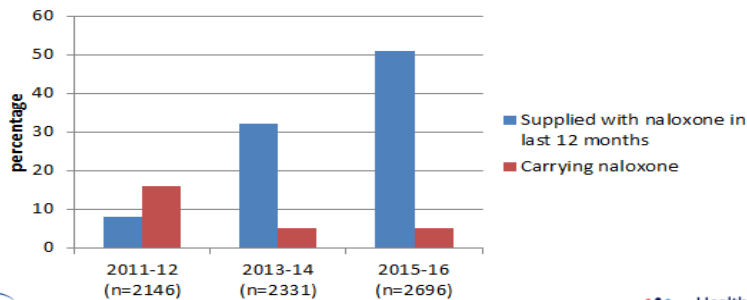
Opioid-related deaths, Scotland, 2000-2016



Source: NRS(2017)

1c. Did the NNP reach those most at risk of opioid overdose?

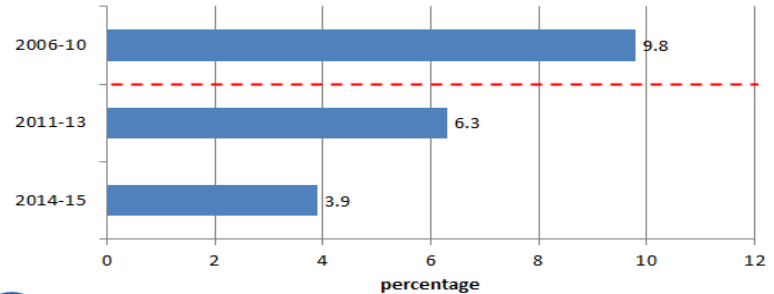
Engagement in the NNP by people who inject drugs (PWID)



Source: McAuley et al, 2016 / Bird et al, 2017

4b. Did the NNP have an impact on opioid-related overdose?

Percentage of opioid-related deaths within 4-weeks of prison release



Source: ISD (2016)

ThINC 2: Scotland and naloxone then...

What are the priorities for the NNP in Scotland moving forward?

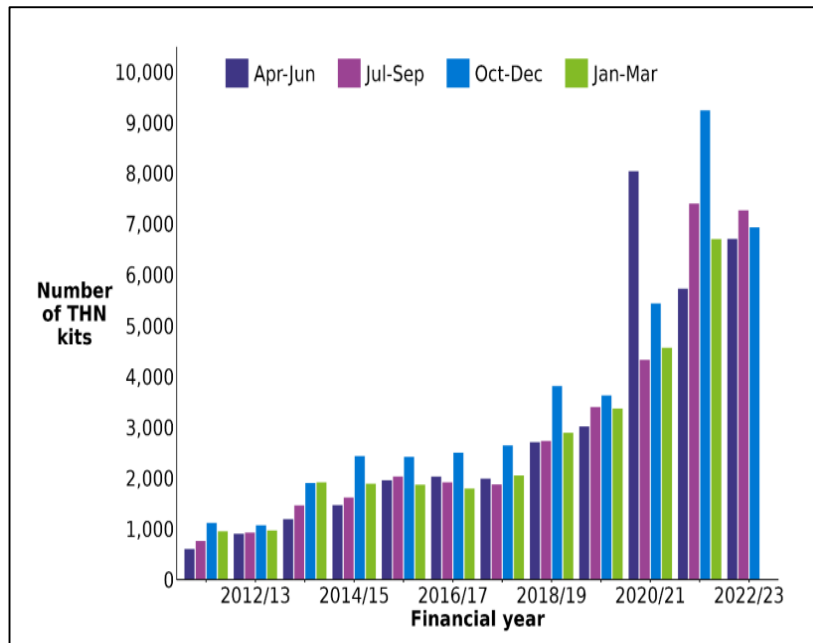
- Sustain momentum!
- Broaden supply settings
 - Hospital
 - GPs
 - Community pharmacy
 - Peers
- Nuanced evaluation
 - Tailored outcomes
 - Lived experience

Scotland and naloxone now....

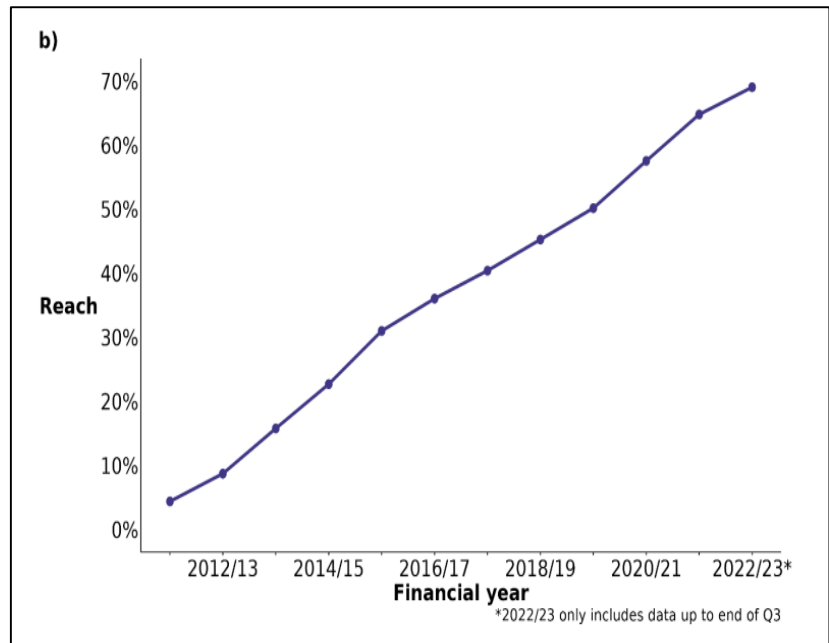
1. Progress

1a. Naloxone adoption and reach continues to grow...

Number of kits issued per quarter



Percentage reach per 'problem drug user'

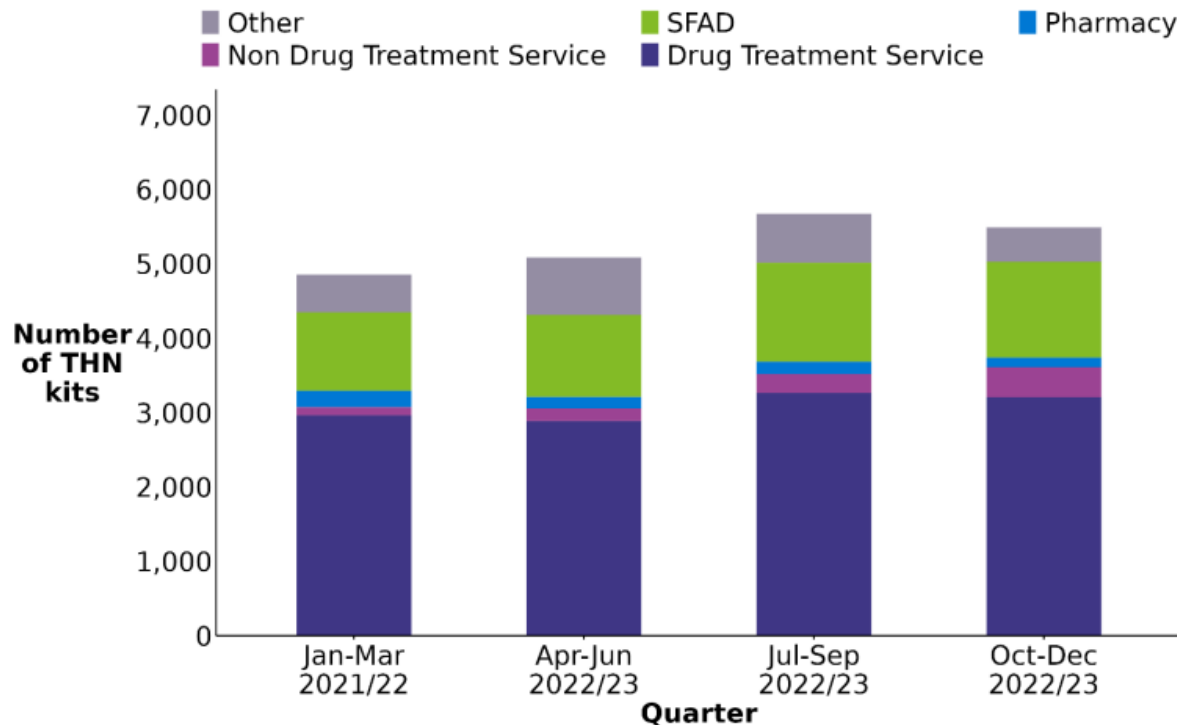


Approx. **145,000 kits issued** since start of the programme in 2011/12, of which around **40,000** have been issued **as a first supply**.

1b. Broadening naloxone supply settings / routes



1c. More supply routes = more supplies



[1] Other includes Accident & Emergency/hospital, police custody, other, and unknown.

1d. Police Scotland naloxone: pilot to policy in 12 months!



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Naloxone: Police administer more than 100 overdose treatments

© 29 December 2022



1d. Police Scotland naloxone: pilot to policy in 12 months!



Research | [Open Access](#) | [Published: 19 February 2023](#)

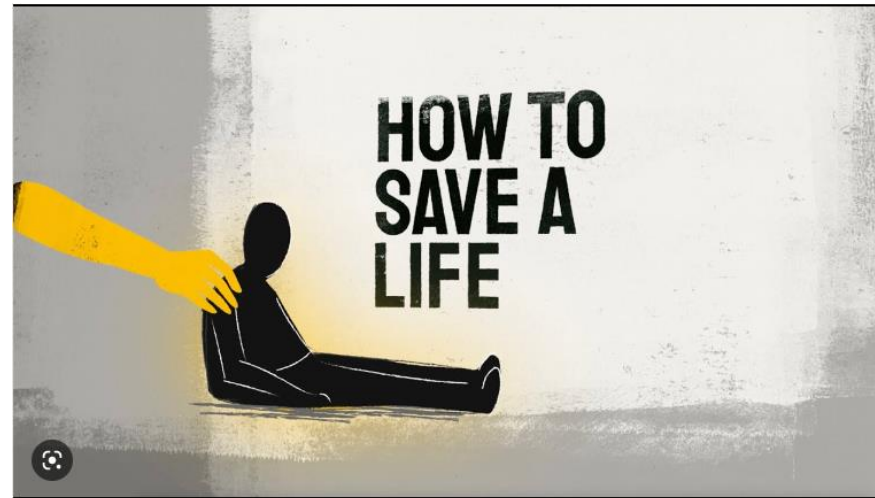
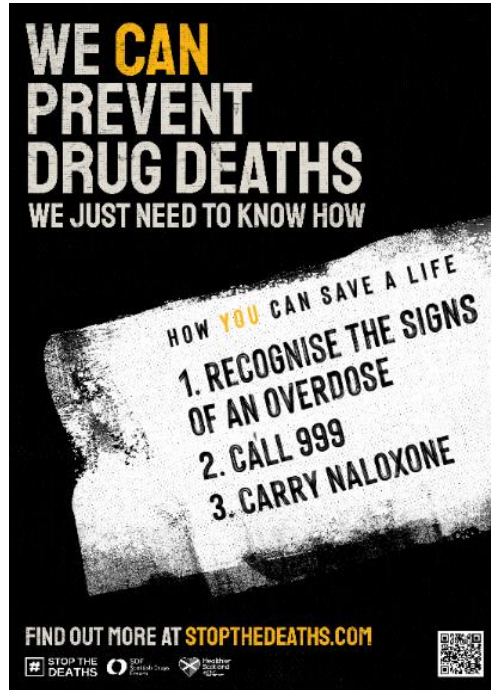
'I'm not going to leave someone to die': carriage of naloxone by police in Scotland within a public health framework: a qualitative study of acceptability and experiences

[Elizabeth M. Speakman](#) , [Peter Hillen](#), [Inga Heyman](#), [Jennifer Murray](#), [Nadine Dougall](#), [Elizabeth V. Aston](#) & [Andrew McAuley](#)

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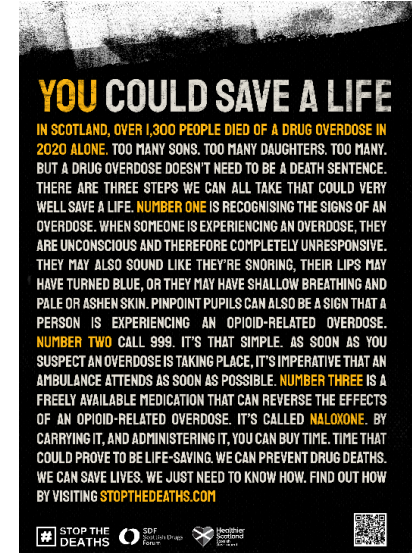


1e. 'How to save a life' mass media campaign, August 2021 – Jan 2022



How to Save A Life

Watch



Main campaign:

- 30th August 2021 - 24th October 2021

Booster campaign:

- 13th December 2021 - 13th January 2022

Delivered on:

- TV
- Radio
- Social media
- Outdoor locations (bill boards, transport hubs, shopping centres, etc.)

1e. 'How to save a life' mass media campaign, August 2021 – Jan 2022

Campaign materials directed people to the **'Stop the deaths' website** that provided educational information and **links to naloxone training and to order a naloxone kit**:

STOP THE DEATHS

2022 Theme What is Naloxone Support #StopTheDeaths Campaign Toolkit Accessibility f t i

YOU COULD SAVE A LIFE

Globally, around 150,000 people die due to drug overdose each year.

TAKE OUR FREE E-LEARNING COURSE

To request your FREE supply of naloxone complete this FREE E-Learning

FREE E-LEARNING

ORDER A FREE NALOXONE KIT

If you have completed naloxone training or e-learning you can order a free naloxone kit

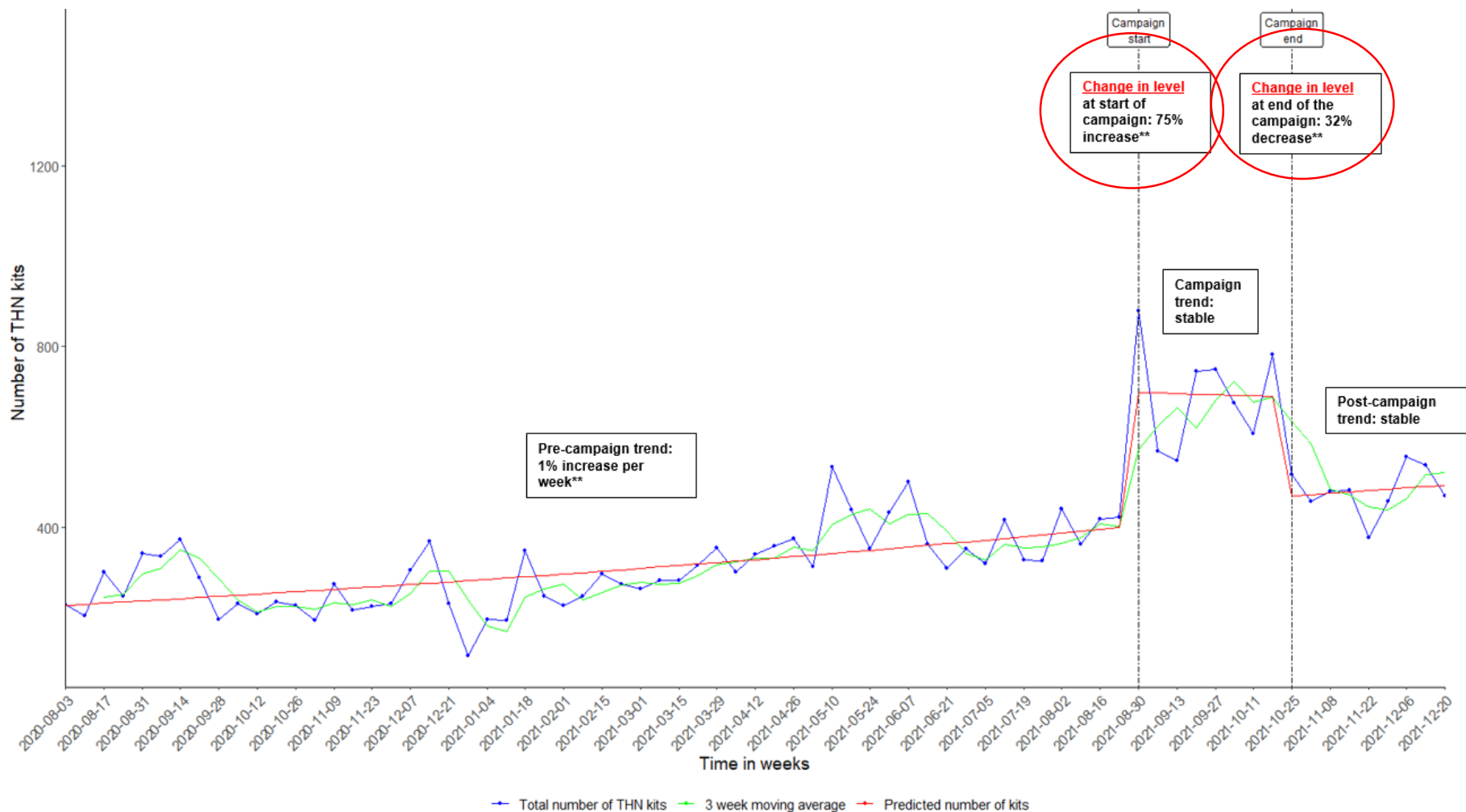
GET NALOXONE



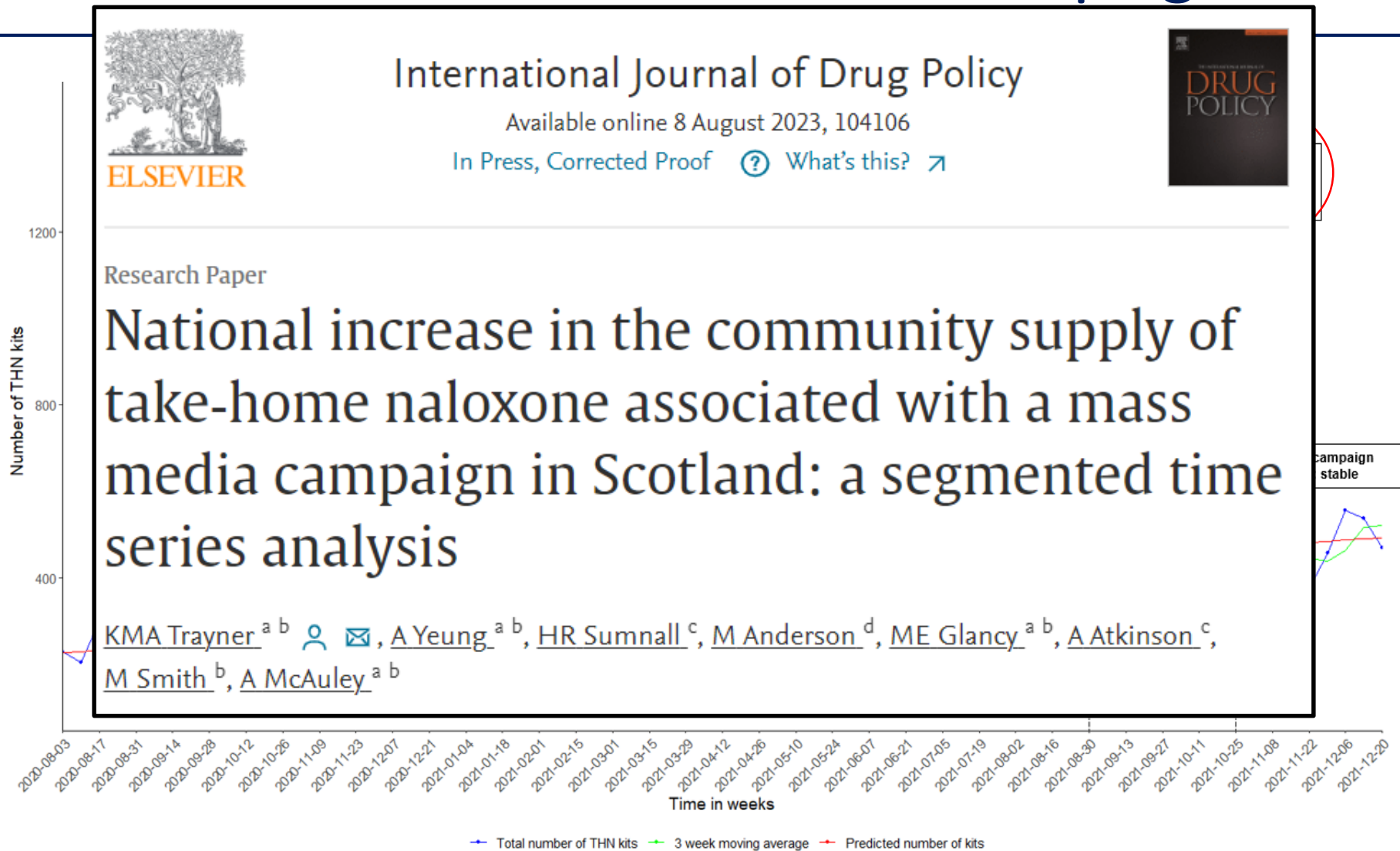
1e. Objectives of the 'How to save a life' mass media campaign

- (1) Increase awareness of drug-related deaths, the signs and symptoms of an overdose and how to respond to an overdose
- (2) Increase the supply of take-home naloxone

1e. HTSAL increased the community supply of THN for the duration of the main campaign



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1f. Legal changes



CROWN OFFICE
& PROCURATOR
FISCAL SERVICE

Lord Advocate's guidelines: Supply of naloxone during COVID-19 pandemic

Lord Advocate's guidelines to police providing a statement of prosecution policy in relation to the supply of naloxone during the COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic.

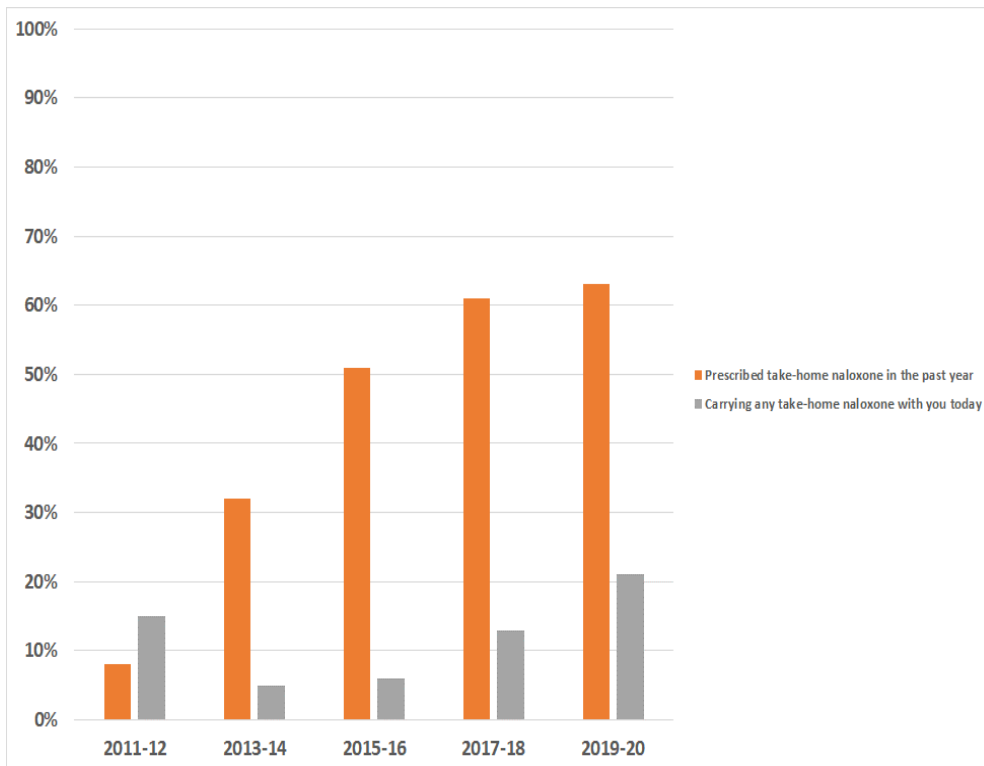
“For the period of disruption caused by COVID-19/ Coronavirus, the Lord Advocate has confirmed that it would not be in the public interest to prosecute any individual working for a service registered with the Scottish Government Population Health Directorate who supplies naloxone to another person for use in an emergency to save a life. Nor will it be in the public interest to prosecute employees of NHS bodies who supply such services with stocks of naloxone. This statement of policy is subject to the condition that appropriate instruction on the use of naloxone and basic life support training will be provided to persons receiving the medication for such use alongside the medication.”

Scotland and naloxone now....

2. Challenges

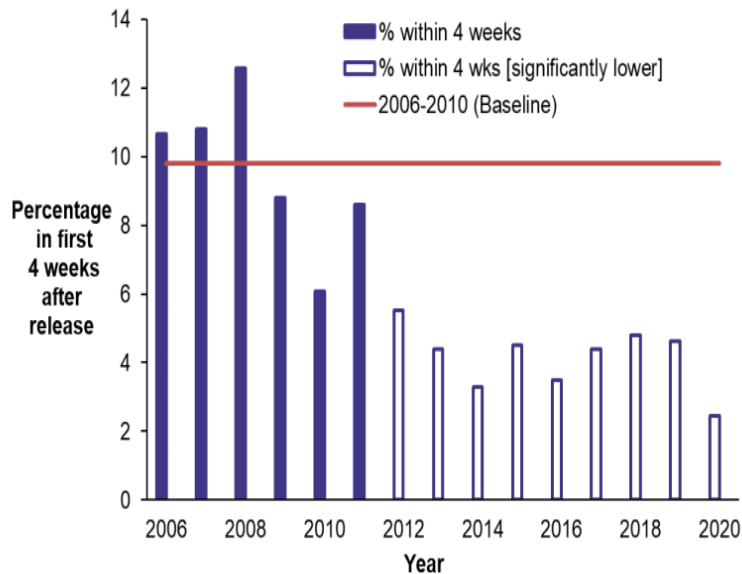
2a. Naloxone carriage is improving, but much more to do...

Take-home naloxone supply and carriage among PWID, Scotland, 2011-2020

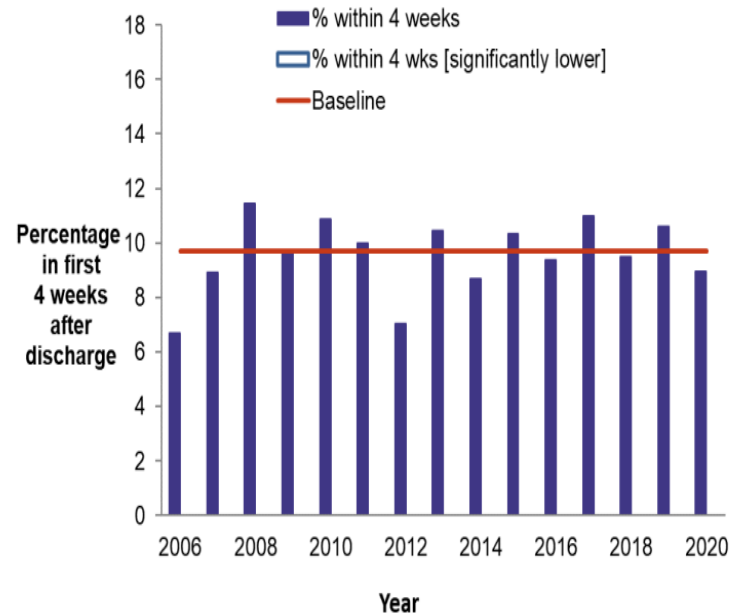


2b. Demonstrating impact

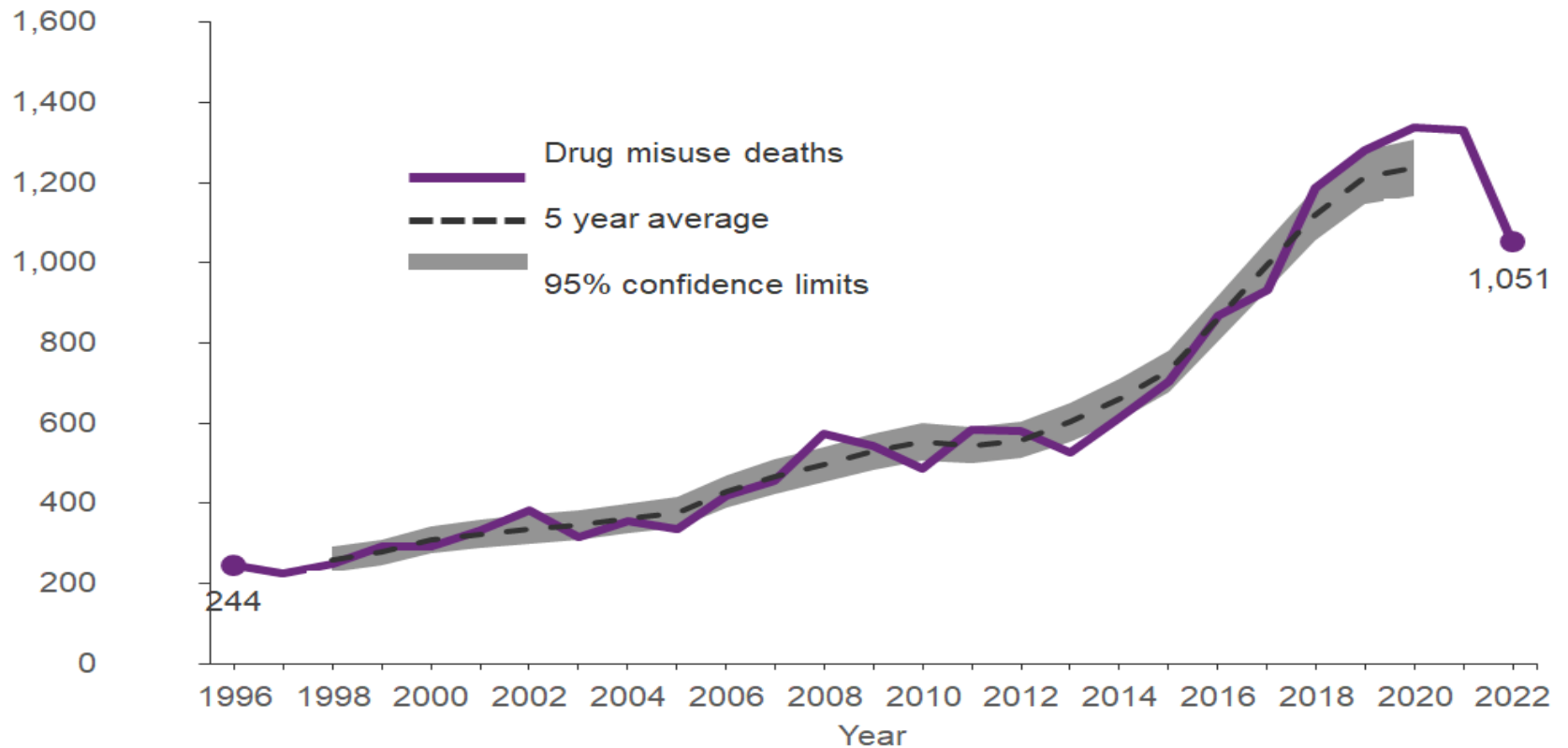
% opioid-related ODs within 4-weeks of prison release



% opioid-related ODs within 4-weeks of hospital discharge

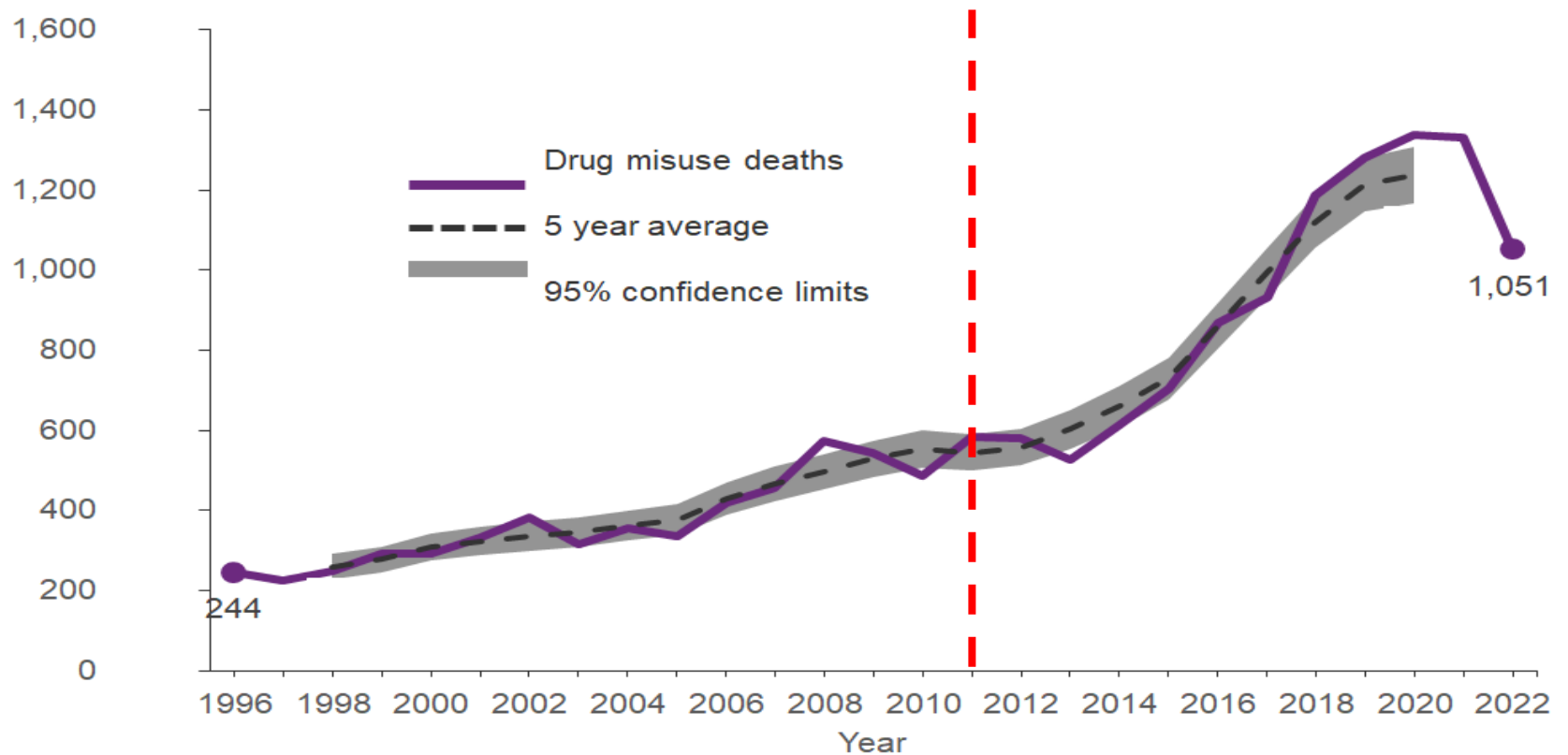


2b. Demonstrating impact



Source: National Records of Scotland, 2023

2b. Demonstrating impact



Scottish Government advisor: Naloxone 'hasn't made difference'

28th July 2022

HEALTH



By Helen McArdle
Health Correspondent
[@HMcardleHT](#)

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IT was a trailblazing intervention once hailed as a potential gamechanger in reducing opioid overdose deaths.

But in the 10-plus years since Scotland became the first country in the world to fund take-home naloxone kits as a public health policy, drug-misuse deaths – mostly involving heroin, morphine, methadone – have gone in one direction: up.

How have we fared since ThINC 2?

What are the priorities for the NNP in Scotland moving forward?

- Sustain momentum!
- Broaden supply settings
 - Hospital
 - GPs
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 - Peers
- Nuanced evaluation
 - Tailored outcomes
 - Lived experience

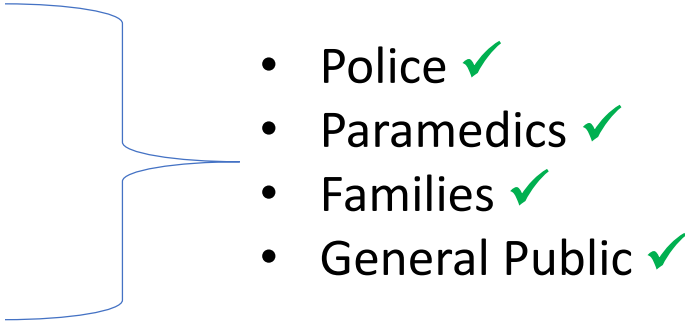
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- Sustain momentum! ✓
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How have we fared since ThINC 2?

What are the priorities for the NNP in Scotland moving forward?

- Sustain momentum! ✓
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 - Community pharmacy ✗
 - Peers ✓
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 - Tailored outcomes ✗
 - Lived experience ✗
- 
- Police ✓
 - Paramedics ✓
 - Families ✓
 - General Public ✓

Next steps...

- Sustain momentum!
- Broaden supply settings
 - Hospital
- Impact evaluation
 - Mathematical modelling approach
 - How many deaths has naloxone averted alone or in combination with other interventions (e.g. OAT)?
 - How many deaths could naloxone avert alone or in combination with other interventions under different scenarios?

Thank you for listening

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