

SUPPLEMENTARY.

Appendix 3. Focus groups with health care professionals

The list of questions will be updated on the basis of information collected at the previous stages of interviews with users of new psychoactive substances.

Focus group leaders

(Introduction)

Thank you for agreeing to take part in our survey. The survey involves specialists (drug addiction specialists, psychiatrists, psychotherapists, psychologists) from different regions of Uzbekistan. The purpose of this focus group is to find out what you know about the use of new psychoactive substances by young people in Uzbekistan and what treatment options you can offer. We are interested in how your practice can contribute to reducing the harm associated with the use of new psychoactive substances.

We want the discussion to be as informal as possible. There are no correct or incorrect answers, and anything you say will remain confidential. Feel free to ask a question if something is unclear or if you want to add something or even change your opinion about something — this is more like a conversation to explore your views than a formal meeting. Before we begin, may I ask if everyone agrees with this focus group being recorded?

You are free to use the Uzbek and Russian languages as you wish. During further transcribing, the text will be translated into the language that is convenient for encoding. If you have any questions, you are free to ask them.

(Turn on the voice recorder)

1. Please introduce yourself to the others, giving your name and specialty.
2. Have you communicated with users of new psychoactive substances at work?
3. What types of new psychoactive substances do you know?
4. What, in your opinion, are the reasons and motives for the use of new psychoactive substances?
5. What treatments do you think are best for treating users of new psychoactive substances?
6. What types of psychological and psychotherapeutic assistance do users of new psychoactive substances need?
7. Are you ready to provide psychological assistance and support to users of new psychoactive substances?
8. Do you have the skills and tools necessary to provide psychosocial care to such patients?
9. How common is this addiction? Are there many new psychoactive substance addicts?