

The four tiered model

A range of stakeholders has been contacted by the NTA for substance misuse, on models of alcohol misuse. Over 90% of respondents thought that the four tier system for drug misuse should be applied to alcohol treatment. (see table 1)

Table 2 highlights the types of alcohol treatment respondents would want to see for each of the proposed tiers.

Table 1

Tier 1	Non-substance misuse specific services providing minimal interventions for alcohol misuse
Tier 2	Open access alcohol treatment services
Tier 3	Structured community-based treatment services
Tier 4a	Residential alcohol misuse specific services
Tier 4b	Highly specialist non-substance misuse specific services

Table 2

Tier 1 interventions	Alcohol awareness and education, screening for alcohol problems, minimal interventions, brief interventions, need assessment, referral to specialist service, harm reduction
Tier 1 Settings	GP/primary care, health promotion, ambulance, A&E, social services, general housing and homelessness services, outreach services, maternity / antenatal services, general psychiatry, CAMHS, probation, police
Tier 2 interventions	Open access services, specialist advice and info, harm reduction, GP advice and info, screening, referral to more specialist services, brief interventions (in generalist and specialist settings), motivational interventions, telephone advice and info, need assessment, counselling and psychotherapy, psycho-educational interventions, group work, relapse prevention, liaison workers working with primary care, liver units, A&E, and psychiatric services, family/carer support services, crisis intervention, preparation for assisted withdrawal, mentoring, befriending, advocacy, diversionary activities
Tier 2 Settings	GP/Primary Care; Open access alcohol services / Drop-in services; specialist alcohol services / community alcohol team; AA/self-help groups; 'wet' and 'dry' houses/hostels, outreach services
Tier 3 interventions	Assisted withdrawal in the community / at home – both supervised and unsupervised, structured community treatment programmes/ day programmes, group therapy / group work programmes, relapse prevention, outreach, (comprehensive) assessment (including MH assessment), motivational interventions, specialist liaison services working with mainstream health services, structured counselling , CBT/psychosocial interventions, controlled drinking interventions, alcohol and offending programmes, family/carer support, structured key-worker support, alternative therapies, links to other services e.g. drug treatment, mental health/dual diagnosis services, alcohol 'shared care' services, community care assessments, structured care planning

Tier 3 Settings	Specialist community alcohol services, structured day programme services, hostels – ‘dry’ and ‘wet’; hospitals, community mental health teams, range of linked services inc mainstream health services, drug treatment services, probation, social services
Tier 4 interventions	Inpatient detox, residential rehab services, specialist assessment and referral, psychiatric input for conditions (such as Korsakoff’s), aftercare services – e.g. tenancy support, specialist medical care e.g. for liver problems etc, group therapy, relapse prevention, 12-step programmes
Tier 4 Settings	Hospital inpatient units; residential rehab units, general medical wards, liver units, wet and dry housing/hostels, gastroenterology, hepatology clinics

Summary of Models of care consultation findings (stage one) - March 2005 2/4