



An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Public Health Perspective on Drug Use

Citizens' Assembly on Drug Use

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Public health perspective on drugs

- Population health
- Prevention and Education
- Social determinants



Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery
National Drugs Strategy 2017-2025



Harmful impacts of drugs on public health

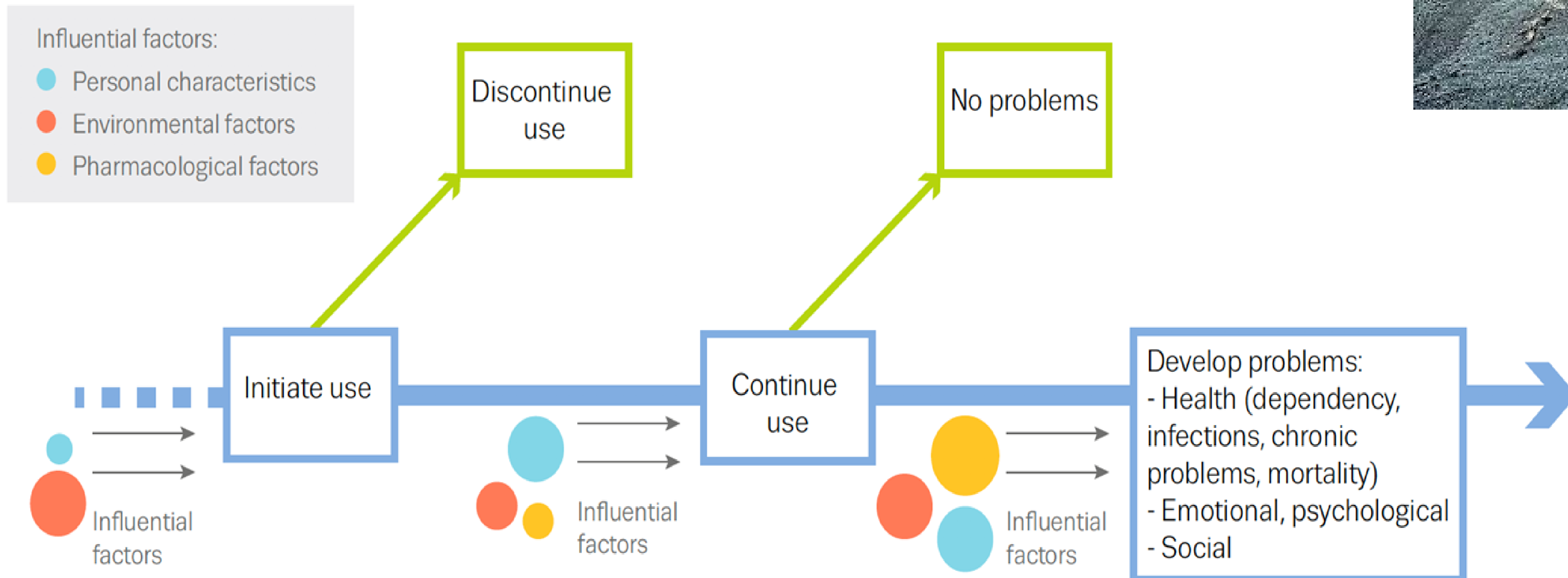
- Drug deaths
- Infectious diseases
- Mental Health (dual diagnosis)
- Hidden Harm (children)



Pathways of Substance Use



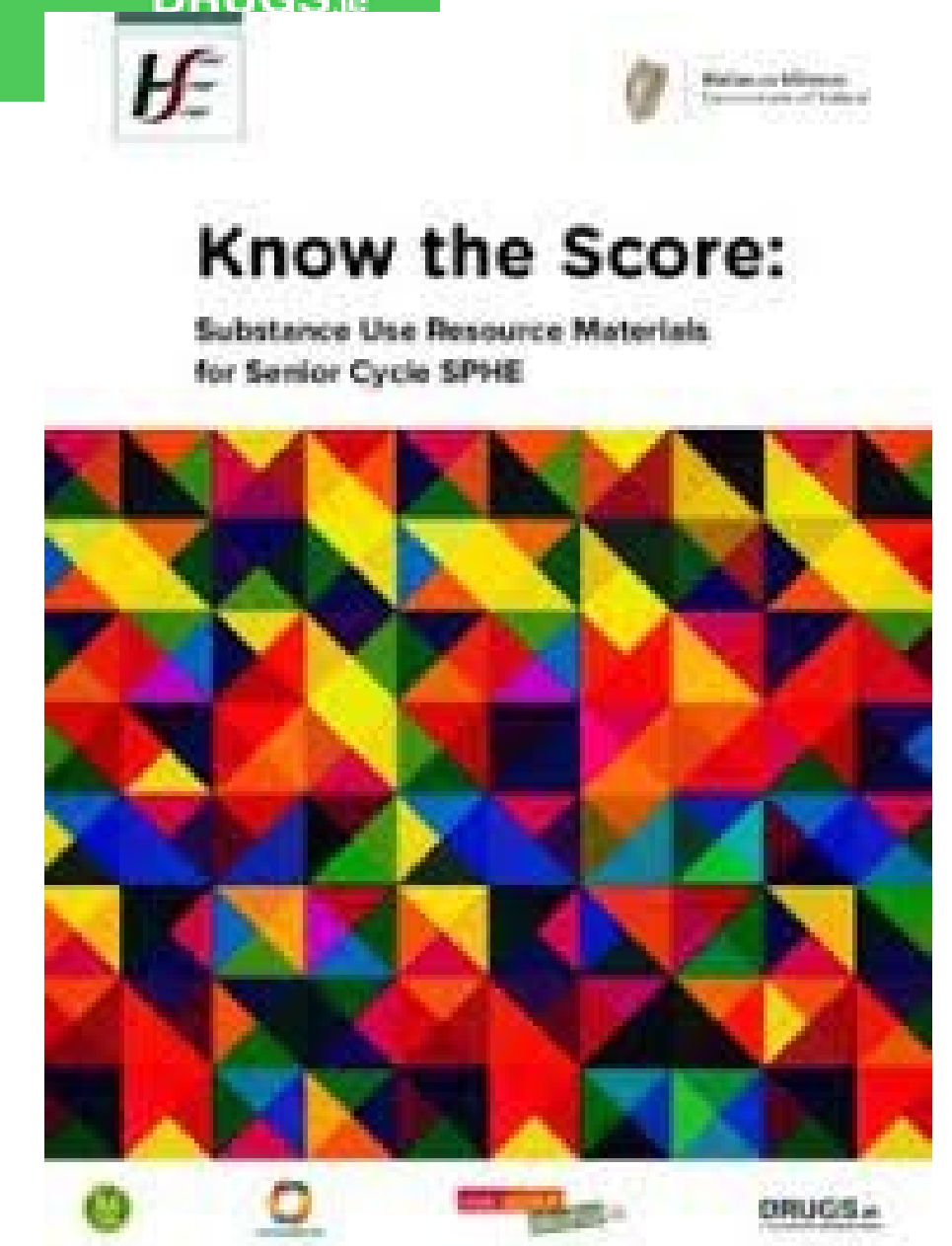
Pathways of substance use



Primary Prevention



- 4 projects
- Schools programmes
- College programmes
- Social Media
- Translations





Harm Reduction

- Opioid Agonist Treatment
- Safer Consumption

Needle exchange

MSIF

- Safer Nightlife Programme
- Anti Drug driving
- Naloxone Programme



Tertiary Prevention - Recovery

Chronic disease – holistic approach

Recovery capital

- Employment
- Education
- Housing

Recovery community & recovery coaches



STAGES OF RECOVERY



Engaging people who use drugs with the health services



- Stigma as a barrier to accessing services
- Women who use drugs
- Active diversion of people who use drugs to health services (dissuasion/diversion)


Sláintecare.

Right Care. Right Place. Right Time.

- Developed integrated care pathways so that the needs of people who use drugs are met in primary care
- New health regions will provide drugs services using a population-based approach (not where people live)

INTEGRATED CARE
PATHWAYS
A Practical Approach to Implementation



SUE MIDDLETON • ADRIAN ROBERTS 





Public health implications of drug legalisation

- Normalising drug use will increase demand and lead to more drug-related harms
- What is the recent evidence telling us?



No Silver Bullet