

The Relationship between mental health, sexual health and blood borne viruses

The aim of this PhD project is to improve the mental health, sexual health and substance use outcomes of young people living in Kent, Surrey and Sussex. There is currently a lack of understanding about the ways in which these interact. This doctorate involves a systematic review investigating the associations between mental health, sexual health and substance use and will give us better understanding of what constitutes ‘vulnerability’ within young people. The results of this review will highlight trends in how mental health impacts – and in turn is impacted by – substance use or sexual health indicators. Contact with young people’s voice and engagement groups has been made, and collaborations will result in a co-produced second systematic review and development of research questions of importance to young people to guide the empirical stages of the PhD.

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