The Somerset Experiment

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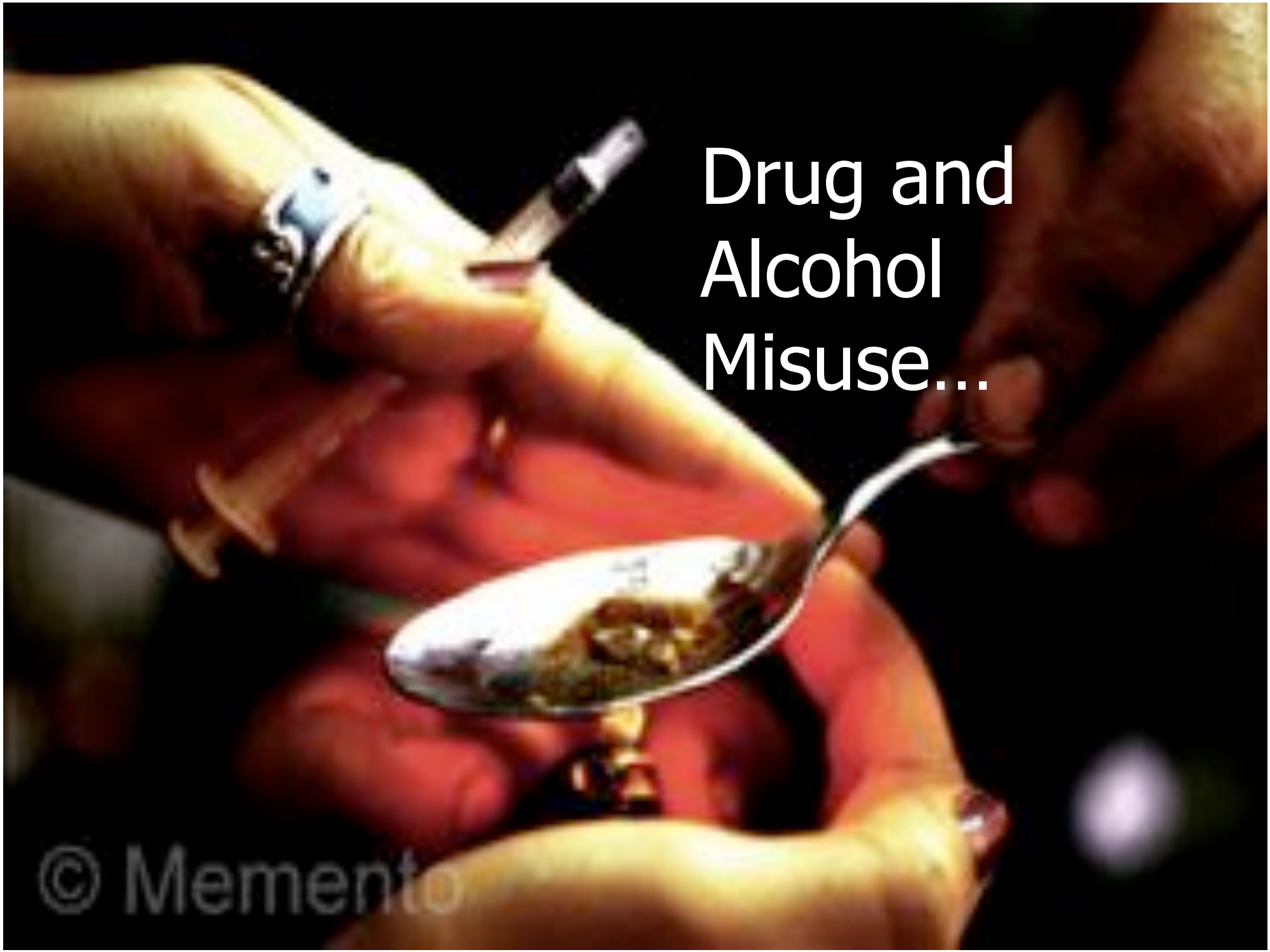
Knowth.com


Drug and
Alcohol
Misuse…
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- Has its roots in social and psychological malaise…
- and in turn feeds social and psychological malaise
- Is a barometer of social ill health
- Demands a joined-up response
- Prof. Stanton Peele

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Commissioning ...

- Is often an evolved hotch potch
- Budget pooled from social care, health and DAAT
- Multiple agencies, stat and non-stat
- Costs: buildings and management
- Communication: IT, shared protocols, professional arrogance
- Gaps

Revolution…

- **Decision to invite tenders for a single integrated service:**
- **Drugs, alcohol, Tier 2+3, DIP, social programme, open access, specialist prescribing**
- **Brave: nervousness from NTA, hostility from RCPsych**
- **Disruptive: TUPE, culture shock**

The New Service…

- **Primary care as its base – reciprocity**
- **Interventions weighted by risk**
- **Eclectic labour force: clinicians, generic, SW**
- **Dual Dx *better* served**
- **Rapid access through LIMBO**
- **One stop shop, seamless communication**
- **CAP**
- **Very well received**

Problems...

- **The need to impress – governance review, eyes**
- **Personnel: culture change, the perception of "dumbing down", salary scales, pension, TUPE issues**
- **Loss of competition in internal market (cyclical democracy)**
- **The way forward**