

Stigmatisation of steroid users

Steroid use is stigmatised like all other forms of illicit drug use.

The media portrays steroid users negatively: They associate users with cheating, aggression, violence and criminality.

For many steroid users the main purpose of their steroid use is to **improve physical appearance and muscularity.**

They do not often compete in professional sport.

Why reduce stigma?

Steroid users feel discriminated and ridiculed. Users feel stigmatised from healthcare professionals.

As a result, most **do not trust healthcare professional's knowledge** about steroids.

Effect?

The physical and psychological harms associated with steroids use **may go untreated if help is not sought** when needed.

Healthcare professionals

Access to healthcare service is reduced due to stigmatization. Also, **healthcare professionals have little guidance** on steroid treatment.