

## Appendix A: Peer reviewed literature search strategies

Four peer reviewed literature databases were searched in this exercise: Medline, EMBASE, PubMed and Biomed Central.

Listed below are the different literature and search strategies and terminologies used for each of the different databases. Because different databases use different terminologies and require searching in different ways it was necessary to develop search strategies for each database.

These searches were developed in close consultation with a specialist drug and alcohol archivist and with a generalist university librarian with expertise across all the databases searched.

### A.1 Medline Search Strategy

#### A.1.1 Medline search terms

'key-words' in regular type, 'MESH' (Medical subject heading) terms in **bold**

##### Search 1. Injecting Drug Use

IDU OR IDUs OR "injecting drug" OR "intravenous drug" OR "intravenous substance" OR "injecting substance" OR **exp substance abuse, intravenous/**

##### Search 2. Drugs and drug use

heroin OR cocaine OR amphetamine\$ OR methamphetamine\$ OR opioid\$ OR opium OR opiate OR drug abuse OR drug use\$ OR drug misuse OR drug dependenc\$ OR substance abuse OR substance use\$ OR substance misuse OR substance dependenc\$ OR addict\$ .mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word]OR **exp designer drugs/ or exp street drugs/ or exp Cocaine/ or exp crack cocaine/ or exp amphetamines/ or exp amphetamine/ or exp methamphetamine/ or exp Opium/ or exp Heroin/ or exp substance-related disorders/ or exp amphetamine-related disorders/ or exp cocaine-related disorders/ or exp opioid-related disorders/ or exp heroin dependence/ or exp morphine dependence/ or exp psychoses, substance-induced/**

##### Search 3. HIV/AIDS

(HIV or AIDS).mp. or HIV/aids or "Human Immunodeficiency Virus".mp. or "Human Immune Deficiency Virus".mp. or "Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome".mp. or "Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome".mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp HIV/ or exp HIV-1/ or exp HIV-2/ or exp HIV infections/ or exp acquired immunodeficiency syndrome/ or HIV seropositivity/ or exp HIV seroprevalence/ or exp AIDS serodiagnosis/**

#### Search 4. Epidemiology

"prevalence" OR "incidence" OR "epidemiolog\$" OR "data collection" Or "Survey" OR "surveillance" OR "screening" OR "seroprevalence" OR "cohort" OR "population study" OR "population sample" OR "population survey" OR "population surveillance" OR "community sample" OR "RAR" OR "rapid assessment" OR "situation\$ assessment" OR "statistics" or exp epidemiologic methods/ or exp contact tracing/ or exp data collection/ or exp health surveys/ or exp health care surveys/ or exp interviews<sup>1</sup>/ or exp narration/ or exp questionnaires/ or exp records<sup>2</sup>/ or exp registries/ or exp disease notification/ or exp sentinel surveillance/ or exp epidemiologic studies/ or exp cohort studies/ or exp longitudinal studies/ or exp follow-up studies/ or exp prospective studies/ or exp cross-sectional studies/ or exp seroepidemiologic studies/ or exp hiv seroprevalence/ or exp sampling studies/ or exp focus groups/ or exp delphi technique/

#### Search 5. South East Asia

(south east asia or borneo or brunei darussalam or cambodia or east timor or indonesia or laos or mekong valley or myanmar or philippines or singapore or thailand or vietnam).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or exp asia, southeastern/ or exp borneo/ or exp brunei/ or exp cambodia/ or exp east timor/ or exp indonesia/ or exp laos/ or exp malaysia/ or exp mekong valley/ or exp myanmar/ or exp philippines/ or exp singapore/ or exp thailand/ or exp vietnam/

#### Search 6. Middle East

(middle east or afghanistan or bahrain or iran or iraq or israel or jordan or kuwait or lebanon or oman or qatar or saudi arabia or syria or turkey or united arab emirates or yemen).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or exp middle east/ or exp afghanistan/ or exp bahrain/ or exp iran/ or exp iraq/ or exp israel/ or exp jordan/ or exp kuwait/ or exp lebanon/ or exp oman/ or exp qatar/ or exp saudi arabia/ or exp syria/ or exp turkey/ or exp united arab emirates/ or exp yemen/

#### Search 7. Eastern Europe

(eastern europe or albania or estonia or latvia or lithuania or bosnia or herzegovina or bulgaria or belarus or byelarus or croatia or czech republic or hungary or macedonia or montenegro or serbia or moldova or poland or romania or russia or russian or slovakia or slovenia or ukraine or yugoslavia).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or exp europe, eastern/ or exp albania/ or exp baltic states/ or exp estonia/ or exp latvia/ or exp lithuania/ or exp bosnia-herzegovina/ or exp bulgaria/ or exp byelarus/ or exp croatia/ or exp czech republic/ or exp hungary/ or exp "macedonia (republic)"/ or exp moldova/ or exp poland/ or exp romania/ or exp russia/ or exp bashkiria/ or exp dagestan/ or exp moscow/ or exp siberia/ or exp slovakia/ or exp slovenia/ or exp ukraine/ or exp yugoslavia/

#### Search 8. Central Asia

(central asia or kazakhstan or kyrgyzstan or tajikistan or turkmenistan or uzbekistan).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or exp asia, central/ or exp kazakhstan/ or exp kyrgyzstan/ or exp tajikistan/ or exp turkmenistan/ or exp uzbekistan/

<sup>1</sup> Note: Medline has recently expanded the MESH term for *interviews*. *Interview, psychological* is now the recommended MESH term.

<sup>2</sup> Note: Medline has recently expanded the MESH term for *records*. *Medical records* is now the recommended MESH term.

### **Search 9. Oceania**

(oceania or australia or "new zealand" or "pacific islands" or melanesia or fiji or "new Caledonia" or "papua new guinea" or vanuatu or Micronesia or guam or palau or polynesia or hawaii or pitcairn island or samoa or tonga).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract] or **exp oceania/ or exp australasia/ or exp australia/ or exp pacific islands/ or exp melanesia/ or exp fiji/ or exp new caledonia/ or exp papua new guinea/ or exp vanuatu/ or exp micronesia/ or exp guam/ or exp palau/ or exp new zealand/ or exp polynesia/ or exp hawaii/ or exp pitcairn island/ or exp samoa/ or exp tonga/**

### **Search 10. East Asia**

(far east or east asia or china or japan or north korea or south korea or mongolia or taiwan).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract] or **exp far east/ or exp china/ or exp hong kong/ or exp tibet/ or exp japan/ or exp tokyo/ or exp korea/ or exp macao/ or exp mongolia/ or exp taiwan/**

### **Search 11. Europe**

(europe or andorra or austria or belgium or finland or france or germany or gibraltar or great britain or united kingdom or channel islands or england or hebrides or northern ireland or scotland or wales or greece or iceland or ireland or italy or sicily or liechtenstein or luxembourg or monaco or netherlands or portugal or san marino or spain or switzerland or vatican city).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract] or **exp europe/ or exp andorra/ or exp austria/ or exp belgium/ or exp finland/ or exp france/ or exp paris/ or exp germany/ or exp berlin/ or exp germany, east/ or exp germany, west/ or exp gibraltar/ or exp great britain/ or exp channel islands/ or exp england/ or exp london/ or exp hebrides/ or exp northern ireland/ or exp scotland/ or exp wales/ or exp greece/ or exp iceland/ or exp ireland/ or exp italy/ or exp rome/ or exp sicily/ or exp liechtenstein/ or exp luxembourg/ or exp mediterranean region/ or exp mediterranean islands/ or exp cyprus/ or exp malta/ or exp monaco/ or exp netherlands/ or exp portugal/ or exp san marino/ or exp spain/ or exp switzerland/ or exp transcaucasia/ or exp vatican city/**

### **Search 12. Transcaucasia**

(transcaucasia or armenia or azerbaijan or georgia republic).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp transcaucasia/ or exp armenia/ or exp azerbaijan/ or exp "georgia (republic)"/**

### Search 13. Sub-Saharan Africa

(sub-saharan africa, or sub sahar\$ africa or central or cameroon or central african republic or chad or congo or " democratic republic of the congo" or equatorial guinea or gabon or eastern africa or burundi or djibouti or eritrea or ethiopia or kenya or rwanda or somalia or sudan or tanzania or uganda or south\$ africa or angola or botswana or lesotho or malawi or mozambique or namibia or south africa or swaziland or zambia or zimbabwe or africa, western or benin or burkina faso or cote d'ivoire or gambia or ghana or guinea or guinea-bissau or liberia or mali or mauritania or niger or nigeria or senegal or sierra leone or togo or tuvalu or uganda or zambia or Zimbabwe).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp "africa south of the sahara"/ or exp africa, central/ or exp cameroon/ or exp central african republic/ or exp chad/ or exp congo/ or exp "democratic republic of the congo"/ or exp equatorial guinea/ or exp gabon/ or exp africa, eastern/ or exp burundi/ or exp djibouti/ or exp eritrea/ or exp ethiopia/ or exp kenya/ or exp rwanda/ or exp somalia/ or exp sudan/ or exp tanzania/ or exp uganda/ or exp africa, southern/ or exp angola/ or exp botswana/ or exp lesotho/ or exp malawi/ or exp mozambique/ or exp namibia/ or exp south africa/ or exp swaziland/ or exp zambia/ or exp zimbabwe/ or exp africa, western/ or exp benin/ or exp burkina faso/ or exp cote d'ivoire/ or exp gambia/ or exp ghana/ or exp guinea/ or exp guinea-bissau/ or exp liberia/ or exp mali/ or exp mauritania/ or exp niger/ or exp nigeria/ or exp senegal/ or exp sierra leone/ or exp togo/ or exp tuvalu/ or exp uganda/ or exp zambia/ or exp zimbabwe/**

### Search 14. Western Asia

("western asia" OR bangladesh OR bhutan OR india OR nepal OR pakistan OR "sri lanka" ).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp asia, western/ or exp bangladesh/ or exp bhutan/ or exp india/ or exp sikkim/ or exp nepal/ or exp pakistan/ or exp sri lanka/**

### Search 15. Scandinavia

(scandinavia OR denmark OR norway OR sweden).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp scandinavia/ or exp denmark/ or exp norway/ or exp svalbard/ or exp sweden/**

### Search 16. Mediterranean

(mediterranean OR cyprus OR malta OR sicily).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp mediterranean region/ or exp mediterranean islands/ or exp cyprus/ or exp malta/ or exp sicily/**

### Search 17. Caribbean

(caribbean OR antigua OR barbuda OR bahamas OR barbados OR cuba OR "dominican republic" OR grenada OR guadeloupe OR haiti OR jamaica OR martinique OR "netherlands antilles" OR "puerto rico" OR "saint kitts" OR nevis OR "saint lucia" OR "saint vincent" OR "the grenadines" OR "saint vincent and the grenadines" OR trinidad OR tobago OR "virgin islands" ).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp caribbean region/ or exp west indies/ or exp antigua/ or exp bahamas/ or exp barbados/ or exp cuba/ or exp dominica/ or exp dominican republic/ or exp grenada/ or exp guadeloupe/ or exp haiti/ or exp jamaica/ or exp martinique/ or exp netherlands antilles/ or exp puerto rico/ or exp "saint kitts and nevis"/ or exp saint lucia/ or exp "saint vincent and the grenadines"/ or exp "trinidad and tobago"/ or exp "virgin islands of the united states"/**

### Search 18. South America

("south america" OR argentina OR bolivia OR brazil OR chile OR colombia OR

ecuador OR "french guiana" OR guyana OR paraguay OR peru OR suriname OR uruguay OR venezuela).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp south america/ or exp argentina/ or exp bolivia/ or exp brazil/ or exp chile/ or exp colombia/ or exp ecuador/ or exp french guiana/ or exp guyana/ or exp paraguay/ or exp peru/ or exp suriname/ or exp uruguay/ or exp venezuela/**

#### **Search 19. Central America**

("central america" OR bellize OR "costa rica" OR ecuador OR "el salvador" OR guatemala OR honduras OR nicaragua OR panama).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract] or **exp central america/ or exp belize/ or exp costa rica/ or exp el salvador/ or exp guatemala/ or exp honduras/ or exp nicaragua/ or exp panama/ or exp panama canal zone/**

#### **Search 20. North America**

("north america" OR canada OR greenland OR mexico OR "united states").mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp north america/ or exp canada/ or exp alberta/ or exp british columbia/ or exp manitoba/ or exp new brunswick/ or exp newfoundland/ or exp northwest territories/ or exp nova scotia/ or exp nunavut/ or exp ontario/ or exp prince edward island/ or exp quebec/ or exp saskatchewan/ or exp yukon territory/ or exp greenland/ or exp mexico/ or exp united states/ or exp appalachian region/ or exp alabama/ or exp georgia/ or exp kentucky/ or exp maryland/ or exp new york/ or exp north carolina/ or exp ohio/ or exp pennsylvania/ or exp south carolina/ or exp tennessee/ or exp virginia/ or exp west virginia/ or exp great lakes region/ or exp illinois/ or exp chicago/ or exp indiana/ or exp michigan/ or exp minnesota/ or exp new york city/ or exp wisconsin/ or exp mid-atlantic region/ or exp delaware/ or exp "district of columbia"/ or exp baltimore/ or exp new jersey/ or exp philadelphia/ or exp midwestern united states/ or exp iowa/ or exp kansas/ or exp missouri/ or exp nebraska/ or exp north dakota/ or exp oklahoma/ or exp south dakota/ or exp new england/ or exp connecticut/ or exp maine/ or exp massachusetts/ or exp boston/ or exp new hampshire/ or exp rhode island/ or exp vermont/ or exp northwestern united states/ or exp idaho/ or exp montana/ or exp oregon/ or exp washington/ or exp wyoming/ or exp pacific states/ or exp alaska/ or exp california/ or exp los angeles/ or exp san francisco/ or exp hawaii/ or exp southeastern united states/ or exp arkansas/ or exp florida/ or exp louisiana/ or exp mississippi/ or exp southwestern united states/ or exp arizona/ or exp colorado/ or exp nevada/ or exp new mexico/ or exp texas/ or exp utah/ or exp south america/**

#### **Search 21. Northern Africa**

("northern africa" or "north africa" or algeria or egypt or libya or morocco or tunisia).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp africa, northern/ or exp algeria/ or exp egypt/ or exp libya/ or exp morocco/ or exp tunisia/**

#### **Search 22. Atlantic Islands**

("atlantic islands" OR azores OR bermuda OR "falkland islands" ).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract, name of substance word, subject heading word] or **exp atlantic islands/ or exp azores/ or exp bermuda/ or exp falkland islands/**

#### **Search 23. Pacific Islands**

("pacific islands" OR fiji OR "french polynesia" OR guam OR hawaii OR kiribati OR "marshall islands" OR micronesia OR "federated states or micronesia" OR nauru OR "new calidonia" OR palau OR "papua new guinea" OR samoa OR "solomon islands" OR tonga OR vanuatu).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract] or **exp pacific islands/ or**

exp melanesia/ or exp fiji/ or exp new caledonia/ or exp papua new guinea/ or exp vanuatu/ or exp micronesia/ or exp guam/ or exp palau/ or exp polynesia/ or exp hawaii/ or exp pitcairn island/ or exp samoa/ or exp american samoa/ or exp "independent state of samoa"/ or exp tonga/

#### Search 24. Indian Ocean Islands

("indian ocean islands" OR comoros OR madagascar OR maldives OR mauritius OR reunion OR seychelles).mp. [mp=title, original title, abstract] or **exp indian ocean islands/ or exp comoros/ or exp madagascar/ or exp mauritius/ or exp reunion/ or exp seychelles/**

#### A.1.2 Medline search strategies:

##### Injecting drug use epidemiology

Combine (Search 1. Injecting Drug Use) AND (Search [Region: searches 5-24]) individually for each region

- If search result greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only.  
If still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)

OR

- If search result is less than 200 references → also perform the following:  
Combine (Search 2) and (Search [Region])
- If this search result is greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only.  
If still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)

##### HIV among IDU epidemiology

Combine (Search 3. HIV/AIDS) AND (Search [Region: searches 5-24]) individually for each region

- If search result greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND ((Search 1. Injecting drug use) OR (Search 2. Drugs and drug use))  
If search result still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)  
If search result still greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only

## A.2 EMBASE Global Search Strategy

### A.2.1 EMBASE search terms

'key words' in lowercase, Emtree terms in **bold**

#### **Search 1. Injecting Drug Use**

IDU OR IDUs OR "injecting drug" OR "intravenous drug" OR "intravenous substance"  
OR "injecting substance"

**exp intravenous drug abuse/**

#### **Search 2. Drug use**

heroin OR cocaine OR amphetamine\$ OR methamphetamine\$ OR opioid\$ OR opium  
OR opiate OR drug abuse OR drug use\$ OR drug misuse OR drug dependenc\$ OR  
substance abuse OR substance use\$ OR substance misuse OR substance dependenc\$  
OR addict\$

**exp substance abuse/ or exp drug abuse/ or exp analgesic agent abuse/ or exp drug  
abuse pattern/ or exp drug misuse/ or exp drug traffic/ or exp multiple drug abuse/ or  
exp addiction/ or exp drug dependence/ or exp cocaine dependence/ or narcotic  
dependence/ or exp heroin dependence/ or exp morphine addiction/ or exp opiate  
addiction/**

#### **Search 3. HIV/AIDS**

HIV OR AIDS OR HIV/AIDS OR "Human Immunodeficiency Virus" OR "Acquired  
Immunodeficiency Syndrome" OR "Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome"

**exp human immunodeficiency virus/ or exp human immunodeficiency virus 1/ or exp  
human immunodeficiency virus 2/ or exp acquired immune deficiency syndrome/ or  
exp aids related complex/ or exp acquired immune deficiency syndrome/ or exp aids  
related complex/ or exp Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection/ or exp human  
immunodeficiency virus prevalence/**

#### **Search 4. Epidemiology**

"prevalence" OR "incidence" OR "epidemiolog\$" OR "data collection" Or "Survey" OR  
"surveillance" OR "screening" OR "seroprevalence" OR "cohort" OR "population  
study" OR "population sample" OR "population survey" OR "population surveillance"  
OR "community sample" OR "RAR" OR "rapid assessment" OR "situation\$ assessment"  
OR "statistics"

**exp community assessment/ or exp health survey/ or exp infection rate/ or exp  
mandatory reporting/ or exp seroepidemiology/ or human immunodeficiency virus  
prevalence/ or seroprevalence/ or exp biostatistics/ or exp health statistics/ or exp  
epidemiology/ or exp incidence/ or exp morbidity/ or exp mortality/ or exp prevalence/  
or exp epidemiological data/ or exp comorbidity/ or exp disease registry/ or exp  
geographic distribution/ or exp infection rate/ or exp seasonal variation/ or exp  
survival/ or exp action research/ or exp feasibility study/ or exp field study/ or exp  
observational study/ or exp panel study/ or exp pilot study/ or exp prevention study/ or  
exp trend study/ or exp case finding/ or exp cohort analysis/ or exp exploratory  
research/ or exp multimethod study/ or exp naturalistic inquiry/ or exp qualitative  
research/ or exp quantitative study/ or exp sample size/ or exp secondary analysis/ or  
exp technique/ or exp triangulation/ or exp "medical record review"/ or exp semi  
structured interview/ or exp structured interview/ or exp unstructured interview/ or exp  
observational method/ or exp questionnaire/ or exp open ended questionnaire/ or exp  
structured questionnaire/ or exp model/**

#### **Search 5. Africa**

"africa" OR "sub-saharan africa" OR angola OR benin OR botswana OR " burkina faso"  
OR burundi OR cameroon OR "cape verde" OR "central african republic" OR "chad"

OR comoros OR congo OR "republic of the congo" OR "cote d'Ivoire" OR "democratic republic of the congo" OR djibouti OR dominica OR "equatorial guinea" OR eritrea OR ethiopia OR gabon OR gambia OR ghana OR guinea OR "guinea-bissau" OR kenya OR lesotho OR liberia OR libya OR madagascar OR malawi OR mali OR mauritania OR mozambique OR namibia OR niger OR nigeria OR rwanda OR "san tome and principe" OR senegal OR serbia OR "sierra leone" OR somalia OR "south africa" OR sudan OR swaziland OR tanzania OR togo OR tuvalu OR uganda OR zambia OR zimbabwe OR "northern africa" OR algeria OR egypt OR libya OR morocco OR Tunisia OR "western sahara"

**exp africa/ or exp "africa south of the sahara"/ or exp angola/ or exp benin/ or exp botswana/ or exp burkina faso/ or exp burundi/ or exp cameroon/ or exp cape verde/ or exp central africa/ or exp central african republic/ or exp chad/ or exp comoros/ or exp congo/ or exp cote d'ivoire/ or exp democratic republic congo/ or exp djibouti/ or exp equatorial guinea/ or exp eritrea/ or exp ethiopia/ or exp gabon/ or exp gambia/ or exp ghana/ or exp guinea/ or exp guinea-bissau/ or exp kenya/ or exp lesotho/ or exp liberia/ or exp madagascar/ or exp malawi/ or exp mali/ or exp mayotte/ or exp mozambique/ or exp namibia/ or exp niger/ or exp nigeria/ or exp rwanda/ or exp senegal/ or exp sierra leone/ or exp somalia/ or exp south africa/ or exp sudan/ or exp swaziland/ or exp tanzania/ or exp togo/ or exp uganda/ or exp zambia/ or exp zimbabwe/ or exp north africa/ or exp algeria/ or exp egypt/ or exp libyan arab jamahiriya/ or exp mauritania/ or exp morocco/ or exp tunisia/ or exp western sahara**

#### **Search 6. Asia**

asia OR "far east" OR china OR japan OR "north korea" OR "south korea" OR mongolia OR taiwan "south east asia" OR borneo OR "brunei darussalam" OR cambodia OR "east timor" OR indonesia OR laos OR "mekong valley" OR myanmar OR philippines OR singapore OR thailand OR Vietnam OR "central asia" OR kazakhstan OR kyrgyzstan OR tajikistan OR turkmenistan OR uzbekistan OR "south asia" OR "afghanistan" or bangladesh OR bhutan OR india OR nepal OR pakistan OR "sri lanka" OR "middle east" OR bahrain OR iran OR iraq OR israel OR jordan OR kuwait OR lebanon OR oman OR qatar OR "saudi arabia" OR syria OR turkey OR "united arab emirates" OR yemen OR "south asia" OR "afghanistan" or bangladesh OR bhutan OR india OR nepal OR pakistan OR "sri lanka"

**exp asia/ or exp kazakhstan/ or exp kyrgyzstan/ or exp tajikistan/ or exp turkmenistan/ or exp uzbekistan/ or exp far east/ or exp china/ or exp japan/ or exp macao/ or exp mongolia/ or exp philippines/ or exp taiwan/ or exp southeast asia/ or exp borneo/ or exp brunei darussalam/ or exp cambodia/ or exp hong kong/ or exp indonesia/ or exp laos/ or exp malaysia/ or exp myanmar/ or exp papua new guinea/ or exp singapore/ or exp thailand/ or exp timor-leste/ or exp viet nam/ or exp korea/ or exp north korea/ or exp south korea/ or exp middle east/ or exp bahrain/ or exp cyprus/ or exp dubai/ or exp iran/ or exp iraq/ or exp israel/ or exp jordan/ or exp kuwait/ or exp lebanon/ or exp oman/ or exp palestine/ or exp qatar/ or exp saudi arabia/ or exp syrian arab republic/ or exp "turkey (republic)"/ or exp united arab emirates/ or exp yemen/ or exp south asia/ or exp afghanistan/ or exp bangladesh/ or exp bhutan/ or exp india/ or exp nepal/ or exp pakistan/ or exp sikkim/ or exp sri lanka/**

#### **Search 7. Australia and New Zealand**

australia OR "new zealand"

**exp "australia and new zealand"/ or exp australia/ or exp new zealand/**

#### **Search 8. Eastern Europe**

"eastern europe" OR albania OR armenia OR azerbaijan OR "georgia republic" OR estonia OR latvia OR lithuania OR bosnia OR herzegovina OR bulgaria OR belarus OR byelarus OR croatia OR "czech republic" OR hungary OR macedonia OR montenegro



OR moldova OR "poland" OR romania OR russia OR russian OR slovakia OR slovenia  
OR ukraine OR yugoslavia

**exp eastern europe/ or exp albania/ or exp armenia/ or exp azerbaijan/ or exp belarus/  
or exp "bosnia and herzegovina"/ or exp bulgaria/ or exp croatia/ or exp czech  
republic/ or exp "georgia (republic)"/ or exp hungary/ or exp "macedonia (republic)"/ or  
exp moldova/ or exp poland/ or exp romania/ or exp russian federation/ or exp  
slovakia/ or exp slovenia/ or exp ukraine/ or exp yugoslavia/ or exp baltic states/ or exp  
estonia/ or exp latvia/ or exp lithuania/**

**Search 9. Western Europe**

"western europe" OR andorra OR austria OR belgium OR finland OR france OR germany  
OR gibralta OR "great britain" OR greece OR iceland OR ireland OR italy OR  
liechtenstein OR luxembourg OR monaco OR netherlands OR portugal OR "san marino"  
OR spain OR Switzerland OR "united kingdom" OR scandinavia OR denmark OR  
norway OR sweden OR "vatican city" OR cyprus OR malta OR sicily

**exp western europe/ or exp austria/ or exp belgium/ or exp benelux/ or exp france/ or  
exp ireland/ or exp liechtenstein/ or exp luxembourg/ or exp monaco/ or exp  
netherlands/ or exp switzerland/ or exp united kingdom/ or exp germany/ or exp  
german democratic republic/ or exp german federal republic/ or exp scandinavia/ or  
exp denmark/ or exp faroe islands/ or exp finland/ or exp greenland/ or exp iceland/ or  
exp norway/ or exp "svalbard and jan mayen"/ or exp sweden/ or exp southern europe/  
or exp andorra/ or exp gibraltar/ or exp greece/ or exp italy/ or exp malta/ or exp  
portugal/ or exp san marino/ or exp spain/ or exp vatican city state/**

**Search 10. "Atlantic islands"**

"atlantic islands" OR azores OR bermuda OR "falkland islands"

**exp atlantic ocean/ or exp atlantic islands/ or exp bermuda/ or exp bouvet island/ or  
exp "falkland islands (malvinas)"/ or exp greenland/ or exp iceland/ or exp saint helena/  
or exp "saint pierre and miquelon"/ or exp "sao tome and principe"/ or exp "south  
georgia and the south sandwich islands"/**

**Search 11. "Indian Ocean Islands"**

"indian ocean islands" OR comoros OR madagasca OR maldives OR mauritius OR  
reunion OR seychelles

**exp indian ocean/ or exp british indian ocean territory/ or exp christmas island/ or exp  
"cocos (keeling) islands"/ or exp french southern territories/ or exp "heard island and  
mcdonald islands"/ or exp maldives/ or exp mauritius/ or exp reunion/ or exp  
seychelles/**

### **Search 12. Pacific Islands**

"pacific islands" OR fiji OR "french polynesia" OR guam OR hawaii OR kiribati OR "marshall islands" OR micronesia OR "federated states of micronesia" OR nauru OR "new calidonia" OR palau OR "papua new guinea" OR samoa OR "solomon islands" OR tonga OR vanuatu

**oceanic regions/ or exp pacific ocean/ or exp pacific islands/ or exp cook islands/ or exp "federated states of micronesia"/ or exp fiji/ or exp french polynesia/ or exp guam/ or exp indonesia/ or exp kiribati/ or exp marshall islands/ or exp melanesia/ or exp nauru/ or exp new caledonia/ or exp niue/ or exp norfolk island/ or exp northern mariana islands/ or exp palau/ or exp papua new guinea/ or exp philippines/ or exp pitcairn/ or exp polynesia/ or exp solomon islands/ or exp timor-leste/ or exp tokelau/ or exp tonga/ or exp tuvalu/ or exp united states minor outlying islands/ or exp vanuatu/ or exp "wallis and futuna"/ or exp samoan islands/ or exp american samoa/ or exp samoa/**

### **Search 13. Caribbean Islands**

caribbean OR antigua OR barbuda OR bahamas OR barbados OR cuba OR "dominican republic" OR grenada OR guadeloupe OR haiti OR jamaica OR martinique OR "netherland antilles" OR "puerto rico" OR "saint kitts" OR nevis OR "saint lucia" OR "saint vincent" OR "the grenadines" OR "saint vincent and the grenadines" OR trinidad OR tobago OR "virgin islands"

**exp caribbean islands/ or exp "anguilla (country)"/ or exp "antigua and barbuda"/ or exp aruba/ or exp bahamas/ or exp barbados/ or exp cayman islands/ or exp cuba/ or exp dominica/ or exp dominican republic/ or exp grenada/ or exp guadeloupe/ or exp haiti/ or exp jamaica/ or exp martinique/ or exp montserrat/ or exp netherlands antilles/ or exp puerto rico/ or exp "saint kitts and nevis"/ or exp saint lucia/ or exp "saint vincent and the grenadines"/ or exp "trinidad and tobago"/ or exp "turks and caicos islands"/ or exp "virgin islands (british)"/ or exp "virgin islands (u.s.)"/**

### **Search 14. North America**

"north america" OR canada OR greenland OR mexico OR "united states"

**exp north america/ or exp canada/ or exp mexico/ or exp united states/**

### **Search 15. South and Central America**

"south and central america" OR "central america" OR bellize OR "costa rica" OR ecuador OR "el salvador" OR guatemala OR honduras OR nicaragua OR panama OR "south america" OR argentina OR bolivia OR brazil OR chile OR columbia OR ecuador OR "french guiana" OR guyana OR paraguay OR peru OR suriname OR uruguay OR venezuela"

**exp "south and central america"/ or exp central america/ or exp belize/ or exp costa rica/ or exp el salvador/ or exp guatemala/ or exp honduras/ or exp nicaragua/ or exp panama/ or exp south america/ or exp argentina/ or exp aruba/ or exp bolivia/ or exp brazil/ or exp chile/ or exp colombia/ or exp ecuador/ or exp french guiana/ or exp guyana/ or exp netherlands antilles/ or exp paraguay/ or exp peru/ or exp suriname/ or exp uruguay/ or exp venezuela/**

## A.2.2 EMBASE search strategies

### Injecting drug use epidemiology

Combine (Search 1. Injecting Drug Use) AND (Search [Region: searches 5-15]) individually for each region

- If search result greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only.  
If still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)

OR

- If search result is less than 200 references → also perform the following:  
Combine (Search 2. Drug use) and (Search [Region])
- If this search result is greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only.  
If still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)

### HIV among IDU epidemiology

Combine (Search 3. HIV/AIDS) AND (Search [Region: searches 5-15]) individually for each region

- If search result greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND ((Search 1. Injecting drug use) OR (Search 2. Drug use))  
If search result still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)  
If search result still greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only

## A.3 BioMed Central Global Search Strategy

### A.3.1 BioMed Central search terms

#### Search 1. Injecting Drug Use

IDU OR IDUs OR "injecting drug" OR "intravenous drug" OR "intravenous substance" OR "injecting substance"

#### Search 2. Drug use

heroin OR cocaine OR amphetamine\* OR methamphetamine\* OR opioid\* OR opium OR opiate OR drug abuse OR drug use\* OR drug misuse OR drug dependenc\* OR substance abuse OR substance use\* OR substance misuse OR substance dependenc\* OR addict\*

#### Search 3. HIV/AIDS

HIV OR AIDS OR HIV/AIDS OR "Human Immunodeficiency Virus" OR "Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome" OR "Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome"

#### Search 4. Epidemiology

"prevalence" OR "incidence" OR "epidemiolog\*" OR "data collection" Or "Survey" OR "surveillance" OR "screening" OR "seroprevalence" OR "cohort" OR "population study" OR "population sample" OR "population survey" OR "population surveillance" OR "community sample" OR "RAR" OR "rapid assessment" OR "situation\* assessment" OR "statistics"

#### Search 5. Africa

"africa" OR "sub-saharan africa" OR angola OR benin OR botswana OR " burkina faso" OR burundi OR cameroon OR "cape verde" OR "central african republic" OR "chad" OR comoros OR congo OR "republic of the congo" OR "cote d'Ivoire" OR "democratic republic of the congo" OR djibouti OR dominica or "equatorial guinea" OR eritrea OR ethiopia OR gabon OR gambia OR ghana OR guinea OR "guinea-bissau" OR kenya OR lesotho OR liberia OR libya OR madagascar OR malawi OR mali OR mauritania OR mozambique OR namibia OR niger OR nigeria OR rwanada OR "san tome and prncipe" OR senegal OR serbia OR "sierra leone" OR somalia OR "south africa" OR sudan OR swaziland OR tanzania OR togo OR tuvalu OR uganda OR zambia OR zimbabwe OR "northern africa" OR algeria OR egypt OR libya OR morocco OR Tunisia OR "western sahara"

#### Search 6. Asia

asia OR "far east" OR china OR japan OR "north korea" OR "south korea" OR mongolia OR taiwan "south east asia" OR borneo OR "brunei darussalam" OR cambodia OR "east timor" OR indonesia OR laos OR "mekong valley" OR myanmar OR philippines OR singapore OR thailand OR Vietnam OR "central asia" OR kazakhstan OR kyrgyzstan OR tajikistan OR turkmenistan OR uzbekistan OR "south asia" OR "afghanistan" or bangladesh OR bhutan OR india OR nepal OR pakistan OR "sri lanka" OR "middle east" OR bahrain OR iran OR iraq OR israel OR jordan OR kuwait OR lebanon OR oman OR qatar OR "saudi arabia" OR syria OR turkey OR "united arab emirates" OR yemen OR "south asia" OR "afghanistan" or bangladesh OR bhutan OR india OR nepal OR pakistan OR "sri lanka"

**Search 7. Australia and New Zealand**

australia OR "new zealand"

**Search 8. Eastern Europe**

"eastern europe" OR albania OR armenia OR azerbaijan OR "georgia republic" OR estonia OR latvia OR lithuania OR bosnia OR herzegovina OR bulgaria OR belarus OR byelarus OR croatia OR "czech republic" OR hungary OR macedonia OR montenegro OR moldova OR "poland" OR romania OR russia OR russian OR slovakia OR slovenia OR ukraine OR yugoslavia

**Search 9. Western Europe**

"western europe" OR andorra OR austria OR belgium OR finland OR france OR germany OR gibralta OR "great britain" OR greece OR iceland OR ireland OR italy OR liechtenstein OR luxembourg OR monaco OR netherlands OR portugal OR "san marino" OR spain OR Switzerland OR "united kingdom" OR scandinavia OR denmark OR norway OR sweden OR "vatican city" OR cyprus OR malta OR sicily

**Search 10. "Atlantic islands"**

"atlantic islands" OR azores OR bermuda OR "falkland islands"

**Search 11. "Indian Ocean Islands"**

"indian ocean islands" OR comoros OR madagasca OR maldives OR mauritius OR reunion OR seychelles

**Search 12. Pacific Islands**

"pacific islands" OR fiji OR "french polynesia" OR guam OR hawaii OR kiribati OR "marshall islands" OR micronesia OR "federated states or micronesia" OR nauru OR "new calidonia" OR palau OR "papua new guinea" OR samoa OR "solomon islands" OR tonga OR vanuatu

**Search 13. Caribbean Islands**

caribbean OR antigua OR barbuda OR bahamas OR barbados OR cuba OR "dominican republic" OR grenada OR guadeloupe OR haiti OR jamaica OR martinique OR "netherland antilles" OR "puerto rico" OR "saint kitts" OR nevis OR "saint lucia" OR "saint vincent" OR "the grenadines" OR "saint vincent and the grenadines" OR trinidad OR tobago OR "virgin islands"

**Search 14. North America**

"north america" OR canada OR greenland OR mexico OR "united states"

**Search 15. South and Central America**

"south and central america" OR "central america" OR bellize OR "costa rica" OR ecuador OR "el salvador" OR guatemala OR honduras OR nicaragua OR panama OR "south america" OR argentina OR bolivia OR brazil OR chile OR columbia OR ecuador OR "french guiana" OR guyana OR paraguay OR peru OR suriname OR uruguay OR venezuela"

### A.3.2 BioMed Central search strategies

#### Injecting drug use epidemiology

Combine (Search 1. Injecting Drug Use) AND (Search [Region: searches 5-15]) individually for each region

- If search result greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only.  
If still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)

OR

- If search result is less than 200 references → also perform the following:  
Combine (Search 2. Drug use) and (Search [Region])
- If this search result is greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only.  
If still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)

#### HIV among IDU epidemiology

Combine (Search 3. HIV/AIDS) AND (Search [Region: searches 5-15]) individually for each region

- If search result greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND ((Search 1. Injecting drug use) OR (Search 2. Drug use))  
If search result still greater than 1000 references → limit by combining this search result AND (Search 4. Epidemiology)  
If search result still greater than 1000 references → limit to 2002- 2007 only

## A.4 PubMed Search Strategy

### A.4.1 PubMed search terms

'key-words' in lowercase, 'MESH' terms in **bold**

#### Search 1. Injecting Drug Use

IDU OR IDUs OR "injecting drug" OR "intravenous drug" OR "intravenous substance" OR "injecting substance" OR **"exp substance abuse, intravenous" [MH]**

#### Search 2. Drugs and drug use

heroin OR cocaine OR amphetamine\* OR methamphetamine\* OR opioid\* OR opium OR opiate\* OR "drug abuse" OR "drug use" OR "drug user" OR "drug users" OR "drug misuse" OR "drug dependent" OR "drug dependence" OR "drug dependency" OR "substance abuse" OR "substance use" OR "substance user" OR "substance users" OR "substance misuse" OR "substance dependence" OR "substance dependency" OR "substance dependent" OR addict\* OR **"designer drugs" [MH] OR "street drugs" [MH] OR Cocaine [MH] OR "crack cocaine" [MH] OR amphetamines [MH] OR amphetamine [MH] OR methamphetamine [MH] OR Opium [MH] OR Heroin [MH] OR "substance-related disorders" [MH] OR "amphetamine-related disorders" [MH] OR "cocaine-related disorders" [MH] OR "opioid-related disorders" [MH] OR "heroin dependence" [MH] OR "morphine dependence" [MH] OR "psychoses, substance-induced" [MH]**

#### Search 3. HIV/AIDS

HIV OR AIDS OR HIV/AIDS OR "Human Immunodeficiency Virus" OR "Human Immune Deficiency Virus" OR "Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome" OR "Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome" OR **HIV [MH] OR HIV-1 [MH] OR HIV-2 [MH] OR "HIV infections" [MH] OR "acquired immunodeficiency syndrome" [MH] OR "HIV seropositivity" [MH] OR "HIV seroprevalence" [MH] OR "AIDS serodiagnosis" [MH]**

#### Search 4. Epidemiology

prevalence OR incidence OR epidemiolog\* OR "data collection" Or survey OR surveillance OR screening OR seroprevalence OR cohort OR "population study" OR "population sample" OR "population survey" OR "population surveillance" OR "community sample" OR "RAR" OR "rapid assessment" OR "situation assessment" OR "situational assessment" OR statistics OR **epidemiologic methods [MH] OR contact tracing [MH] OR data collection [MH] OR health surveys [MH] OR health care surveys [MH] OR interviews [MH] OR narration [MH] OR questionnaires [MH] OR records [MH] OR registries [MH] OR disease notification [MH] OR sentinel surveillance [MH] OR epidemiologic studies [MH] OR cohort studies [MH] OR longitudinal studies [MH] OR follow-up studies [MH] OR prospective studies [MH] OR cross-sectional studies [MH] OR seroepidemiologic studies [MH] OR hiv seroprevalence [MH] OR sampling studies [MH] OR focus groups [MH] OR delphi technique [MH]**

## A.4.2 PubMed search strategies

### IDU epidemiology

#### 1. IDU

- a) limit: Epidemiology
- b) limit: 2002

Or if need to expand:

- c) **'Drugs and drug use'**
- d) limit: Epidemiology
- e) limit: 2002

### HIV among IDU epidemiology

#### 2. HIV/AIDS

- a) limit: (IDU **OR** 'Drug use') [play with this]
- b) limit: Epidemiology
- c) limit: 2002