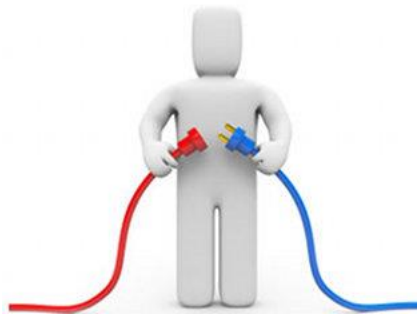


# Homelessness data linkage

*Proposal for follow-up project*



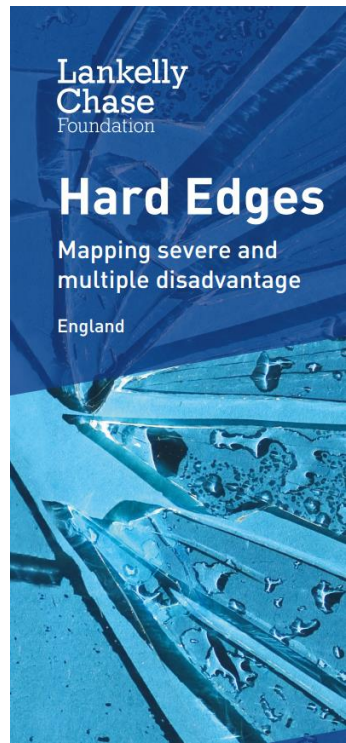
Dr Emily Tweed

Clinical Lecturer in Public Health

University of Glasgow/NHS GGC

# Background

- Neil Hamlet's linkage in Fife
- North Lanarkshire Health Needs Assessment
- National Health & Homelessness Linkage
- Policy interest in 'multiple and complex needs'
- Hard Edges – and now Hard Edges Scotland



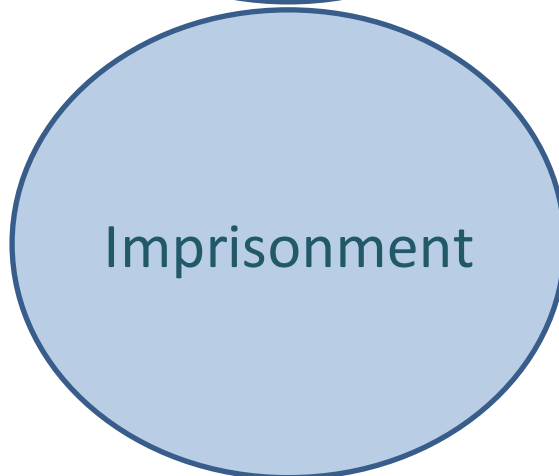
# Why is this an important topic?

- Overlap appears to be relatively common
- Previous health research has generally studied them in isolation
- *Multiple* disadvantage – potential synergies?
- Meeting complexity of need

“Severe and multiple disadvantage”

“Multiple and complex needs”

“Multiple exclusion”



# Why data linkage?



**Selection bias &  
loss to follow-up**

**Burden for  
participants**

**Costly**

**Coverage &  
representativeness**

**Efficient**

**Minimal burden**

**Acceptable to  
people with lived  
experience**

# Our research questions

How common is SMD in Scotland, and who is affected?

How does SMD affect a person's risk of emergency care, hospital admission, or death?

How much are hospitals spending each year treating people with SMD?

...

People applying  
for statutory  
**homelessness**  
support

People  
incarcerated  
in **prison**

People with  
**substance**  
**use disorder**

People with  
previous  
admission for  
**severe mental**  
**illness**



**Safe Haven**

Secure linkage to identify individuals present in >1 dataset

Matching to population controls



Secure linkage to health outcome data

A&E attendances

Hospital  
admissions

Deaths

# Project team

- Dr Emily Tweed
- Dr Vittal Katikireddi
- Professor Alastair Leyland
- Professor David Morrison

MRC/CSO Social  
and  
Public Health  
Sciences Unit



# Collaborators

- Professor Suzanne Fitzpatrick
- Professor Glen Bramley



**I·SPHERE**

Institute for Social Policy, Housing, Environment and Real Estate



# Intended outputs of research

Detailed profile of SMD in Scotland

Better understanding of homeless population

First study to follow up health outcomes over time among people with SMD

- Informing service design and delivery
- Identifying opportunities for prevention & mitigation

Quantifying health care costs

Basis for decisions about resource allocation and 'preventative spend'

# Future directions

## **Proof-of-principle for further research:**

- Evaluating relevant policy changes
- Understanding pathways and transitions
- Quantifying under-representation in routine sources of health and population data

# What we are seeking!

Support from each local authority to re-use HL1 extract already provided for Andrew's project

**No additional data extraction required on part of LAs**

# Next steps

- **Write to each LA individually to seek support**  
Update June 2017 – to be progressed via SG Data Access Panel
- Funding decision due July 2017
- Analysis of pilot data from Glasgow & Edinburgh
- Further governance and ethical approvals
- Convening a project advisory group

# Questions and discussion