Additional file 2: Variable codes

For simplicity we are using variable codes instead of full variable names throughout all Additional files.
The following table provides reference for the codes used ("-" denotes the reference category):

Variable names	Variable codes	Variable names	Variable codes

Sex:
  Male
  Female
	-
	sex
		Paid for sex in the last 6 months:
		  No
		  Yes
			-
			pay.sex.6m

Age (median = 32 y.o.):
  Less than 32 y.o.
  32 y.o. or older
	-
	age.d
		HIV and Hepatitis C status of primary sexual partner:
		  HIV and HCV negative or unknown
		  Known to be HIV or HCV positive
		  No primary partner in the last 6 months
			-
			HIV.HC.partner_1
			HIV.HC.partner_2

Education:
  Primary or Basic
  Secondary, Vocational or at least some Higher
	-
	education
		Ever been tested for HIV:
		  No (or don't know)
		  Yes
			-
			HIV.test

Main source of income:
  Legal source
  Illegal source
	-
	income.source
		HIV status (based on study testing):
		  Negative
		  Positive
			-
			HIV.status

Level of income:
  Coping well
  Coping is difficult (or very difficult)
	-
	income.level
		Receiving regular HIV care:
		  HIV-negative or unaware
		  HIV+; receives regular HIV care
		  HIV+; does not receive regular HIV care
			-
			HIV.care_1
			HIV.care_2

Living arrangements:
  Someone else's house
  Owned or rented place
  Shelter / no fixed place
	-
	living.sit_1
	living.sit_2
		Tuberculosis history awareness:
		  No (or don't know)
		  Yes
			-
			TB

Marital status:
  Not married
  Married
	-
	marital
		Treatment of Hepatitis C:
		  Never diagnosed with HCV
		  HCV+, never been offered treatment
		  HCV+, was offered treatment, but did not receive it
		  HCV+, was offered treatment and received it
			-
			HepC.treatment_1
			HepC.treatment_2
			HepC.treatment_3

Alcohol abuse using CAGE scale:
  CAGE = 0-1
  CAGE = 2-4
	-
	CAGE
		Hepatitis B history awareness:
		  No
		  Yes
			-
			HepB.aware

Age of first drug use (cannabis excluded; median = 16 y.o.):
  17 y.o. or older
  16 y.o. or younger
	-
	age.drug.use
		Ever vaccinated against Hepatitis B:
		  No (or don't know)
		  Yes (at least one dose)
			-
			HepB.vaccine

Variable names	Variable codes	Variable names	Variable codes

Main drug of use:
  (Meth)-amphetamines
  Methadone / Fentanyl
  Heroin
	-
	main.drug_1
	main.drug_2
		History of incarceration:
		  No
		  Yes
			-
			incarceration

Poly-drug use in the last 4 weeks:
  Injected 1 class of drugs
  Injected 2 or more classes of drugs
	-
	poly.drug
		Having basic medical insurance:
		  No
		  Yes
			-
			med.insurance

Frequency of injecting drugs (days during the last 4 weeks; median=20):
  19 days or less
  20 days or more
	-
	drug.freq.days
		Receiving any healthcare services in the last 12 months:
		  Received
		  Not received
			-
			med.care.12m

Frequency of injecting drugs (times per day; median = 1):
  One
  Two or more
	-
	drug.freq.times
		Receiving detoxification services in the last 6 months:
		  Did not need detox services
		  Needed, but did not receive detox
		  Needed and received detox
			-
			detox_1
			detox_2

Used non-sterile injecting equipment at least once in the last 4 weeks:
  No (or don't know)
  Yes
	-
	inject.used.recent
		Ever had difficulties obtaining drug abuse treatment:
		  Never received treatment (or don't know)
		  Had no difficulties
		  Had difficulties
			-
			drug.treat.problems_1
			drug.treat.problems_2

Ever used non-sterile injecting equipment:
  No
  Yes
	-
	Inject.used.ever
		Had difficulties obtaining medical care because of drug use:
		  No (or don't know)
		  Yes
			-
			med.care.problems

Getting sterile injecting equipment (in last 4 weeks):
  No
  Yes
	-
	get.unused.syr
		Ever experienced police confiscate syringes:
		  No
		  Yes
			-
			police.confiscate.syr

Ever overdosed:
  No
  Yes
	-
	overdose
		PWID status disclosure to family or friends:
		  Rather disclosed
		  Rather did not disclose
			-
			IDU.disclosure.close

Mental health problems score:
  Lower score on mental health problems
  Higher score on mental health problems
	-
	MHI5
		PWID status disclosure to a healthcare provider:
		  Rather disclosed
		  Rather did not disclose
			-
			IDU.disclosure.doctor

Sexually active in the last 6 months:
  No
  Yes
	-
	sex.active
		Internalized PWID stigma:
		  Low
		  High
			-
			IDU.stigma.internal

Involved in sexual work in the last 6 months:
  No
  Yes
	-
	sell.sex.6m
		PWID stigma consciousness:
		  Low
		  High
			-
			IDU.stigma.conscious