

**Table 2 Statements conveying attitude towards drug use and harm reduction with group level of consensus at follow-up visit and differences between baseline and follow-up measures among community representatives (*n* = 160) in Kabul, Afghanistan, 2009**

Statement	% agreeing		<i>P</i> -value <sup>b</sup>
	Baseline	Follow-up	
Drug use is increasing in Afghanistan	96.2	96.3	0.21
Accessibility of opium and dealing drugs in Afghan society has increased	92.4	98.1	0.01
Injecting drug use is increasing in Afghanistan	73.8	80.0	0.06
Afghan culture is becoming more tolerant of drug use <sup>a</sup>	14.8	38.1	< 0.01
Drug use in Afghanistan is directly related to the large amounts of opium currently grown	75.2	71.3	0.23
The level of community awareness about drug use in Afghanistan is adequate to address the problem <sup>a</sup>	21.9	52.5	< 0.01
Drug addiction is motivated by criminal activity or moral weakness	84.8	93.1	0.05
Drug addiction is a disease	88.6	81.9	
Drug users are a danger to decent people	93.8	88.7	0.98
It is acceptable for families to cease relations with family members who use drugs	43.3	47.5	0.33
There are no circumstances under which drug use is acceptable	84.3	93.1	0.02
Addiction causes people to turn to criminal activity to pay for drugs	96.7	97.5	0.70
Injecting drug users increase their risk of health problems by removing their blood and replacing it with drugs	90.0	83.8	0.18
Injecting drugs is worse than other kinds of drug use	80.4	88.8	0.04
Injecting drugs is advised to drug users by doctors to reduce the dependence on drugs <sup>a</sup>	26.2	39.4	< 0.01
Injecting drug use causes health problems like jaundice	82.5	82.4	0.65
The greatest threat of drug users in society is the disintegration of the family	89.5	93.1	0.86
Consumption of all intoxicating drugs is prohibited by Islam	96.2	95.0	0.32
Intoxicating substance use should be allowed in extreme cases of physical or psychological pain <sup>a</sup>	56.7	13.8	< 0.01
Joblessness increases the risk someone will start using drugs	95.2	98.1	0.21
Women are more likely to use drugs as they are more easily influenced to pursue the wrong behaviour <sup>a</sup>	24.8	59.4	< 0.01
Afghan society and Islam both regard drug use to be a sin	96.7	95.6	0.75
Only religious leaders should help drug users through intensive prayer sessions <sup>a</sup>	55.2	37.5	0.01
Drug treatment centres should be established to help those with addiction	95.2	97.5	0.32
It is appropriate to use <i>zakat</i> money for the establishment of drug addiction treatment <sup>a</sup>	83.3	66.3	< 0.01
Only families are obligated to get help and treatment for family members who use drugs	24.8	32.5	0.05
Only the government is obligated to provide treatment services for people who use drugs <sup>a</sup>	49.5	31.3	< 0.01
Only religious leaders should decide what treatment is most appropriate for drug users in Afghanistan	12.4	17.5	0.07
Eradication of poppy crops alone will be sufficient to control opium use in Afghanistan	49.5	56.3	0.22
Community messages stating "Say no to drugs" alone will be sufficient to prevent drug and alcohol use in Afghanistan <sup>a</sup>	16.7	46.9	< 0.01
The entire community should be educated about the harms of drug use to adequately prevent an increase drug use	94.3	96.3	0.44
Religious leaders and teachers should use their influence to increase community awareness for drug use prevention <sup>a</sup>	87.2	97.5	< 0.01
Police should be a priority group to receive educational programming about how to behave towards drug users <sup>a</sup>	83.8	97.5	< 0.01
I would be comfortable if a harm reduction centre opened near my home	75.2	85.0	0.09
I would be comfortable participating in a programme to help drug users	94.3	86.9	< 0.01
I am comfortable speaking with or praying next to drug users <sup>a</sup>	64.8	76.9	0.09
I approve if any member of my family were to work with a programme to help drug users <sup>a</sup>	77.1	88.8	0.11
I would be willing to hire or work with a former drug user	80.0	84.4	0.43

<sup>a</sup>Change of more than 10% in level of overall consensus for statement; <sup>b</sup>Sign-rank test.