

**Overcoming Barriers:**  
**“Chemsex Recovery for Queer Immigrants in Berlin.”**

An Abstract of the Thesis by

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This study examines the experiences of queer immigrants accessing treatment and recovery services for chemsex and sexualised drug use (SDU) in Berlin. Through qualitative interviews with six queer immigrants and four healthcare professionals, the research uncovered significant barriers to appropriate care. These include language difficulties, lack of cultural competence in existing services, and potential intersectional discrimination. The findings highlight the crucial role of community-based organisations in providing more accessible and culturally sensitive support. The study reveals human rights concerns related to healthcare access and discrimination, emphasising the need for a rights-based approach that addresses the intersectional experiences and unique vulnerabilities of queer immigrants seeking help for chemsex/SDU.

**Key words:** *barriers, chemsex, cultural competence, discrimination, queer immigrants, intersectionality and minority stress.*