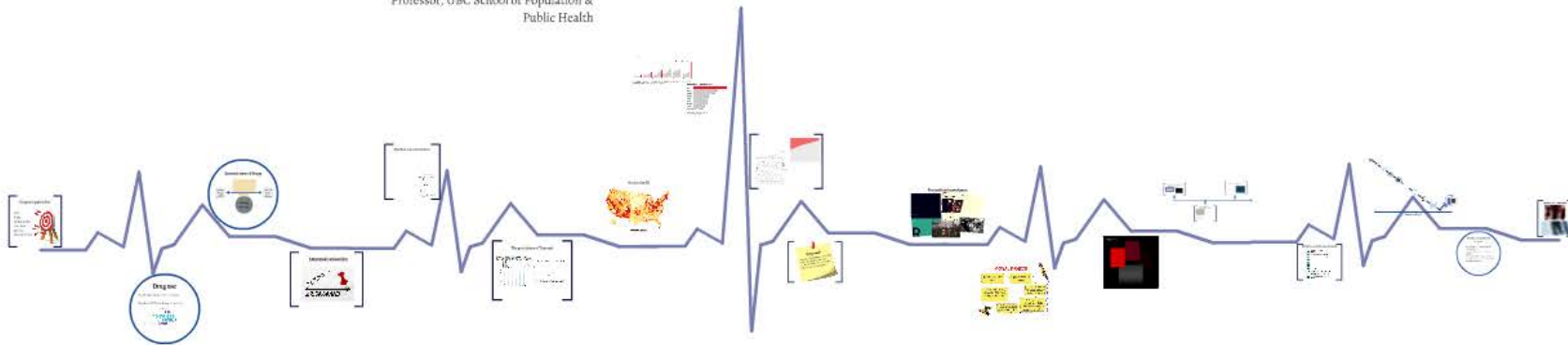




The Opioid Overdose Crisis

A call for better access to care for people who use drugs

Mark Tyndall, MD, ScD
Executive Medical Director, BCCDC
Professor, UBC School of Population &
Public Health





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Targeted approaches

HIV

HepC

Endocarditis

Overdose

Syphilis

Mental illness



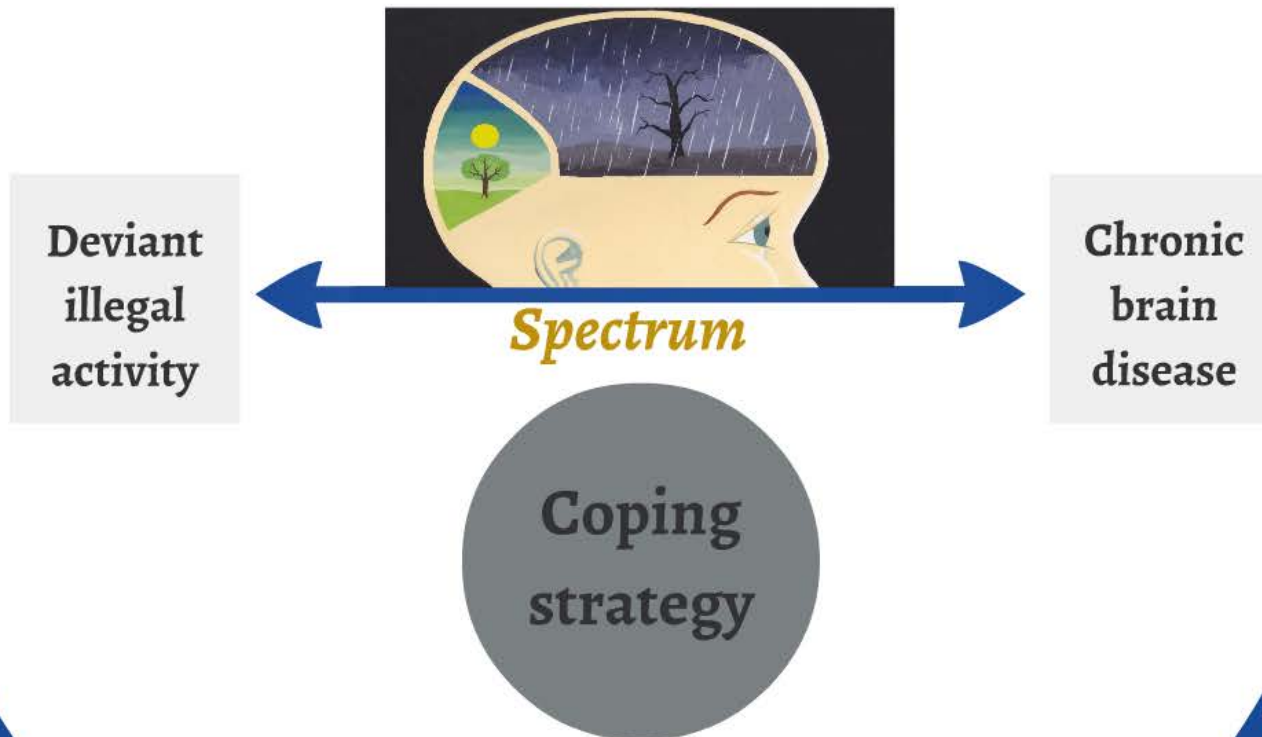
Drug use

People take drugs to *self-medicate*.

People do *NOT* take drugs to become:

abused
sick
homeless
stigmatized
isolated
criminalized

Societal view of drugs



Deviant
illegal
activity

Spectrum

Chronic
brain
disease

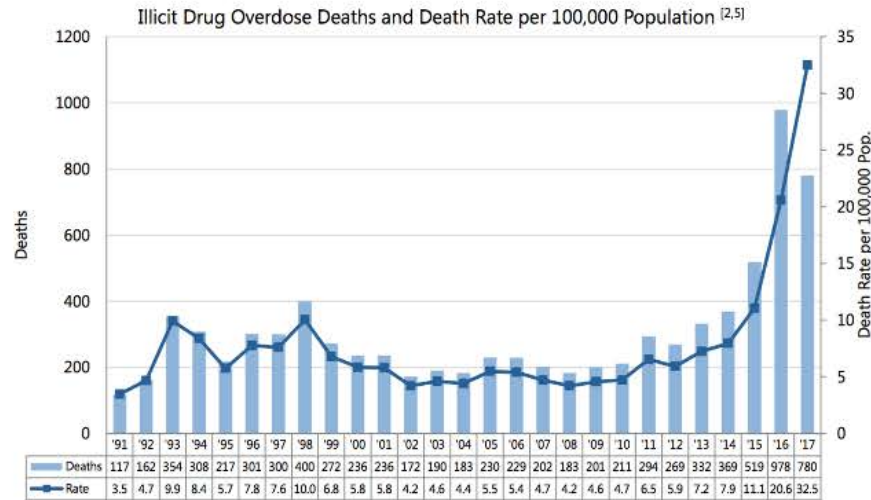
Coping
strategy

Demand reduction

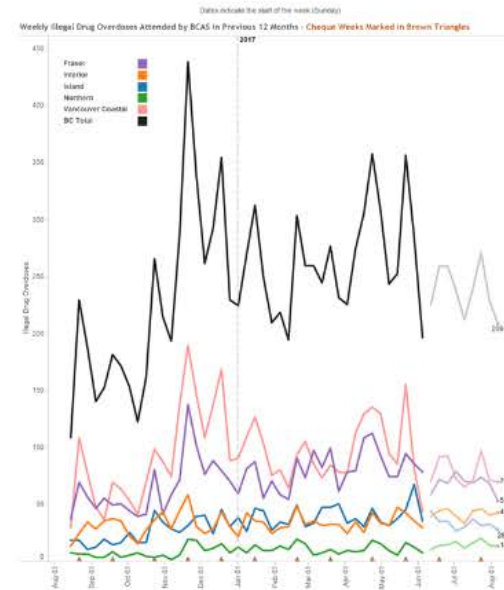
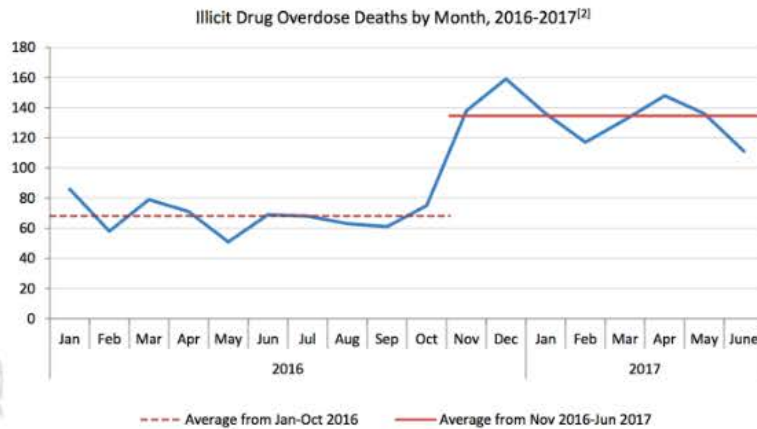


Overdose rates and numbers

BC Data and Rates

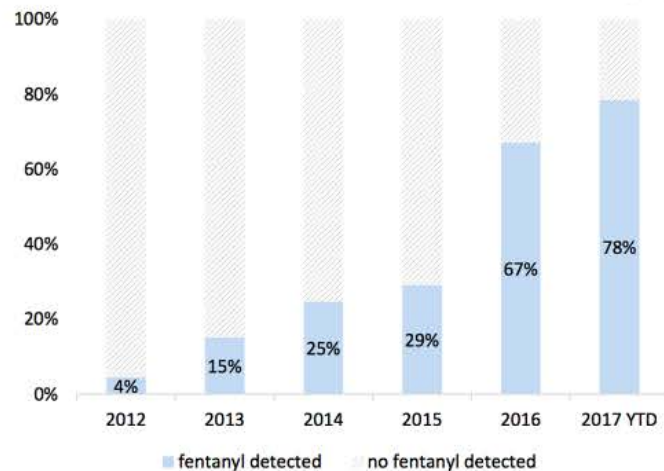


BC Ambulance Service

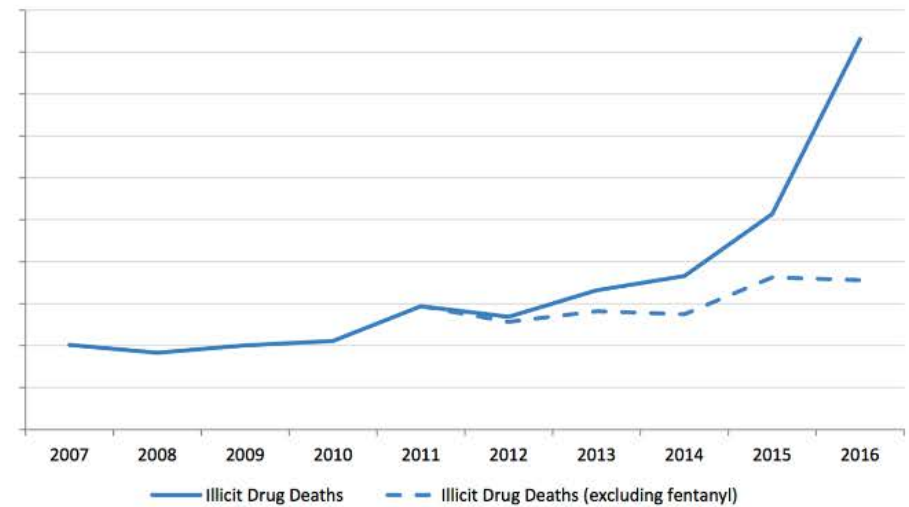


The prevalence of Fentanyl

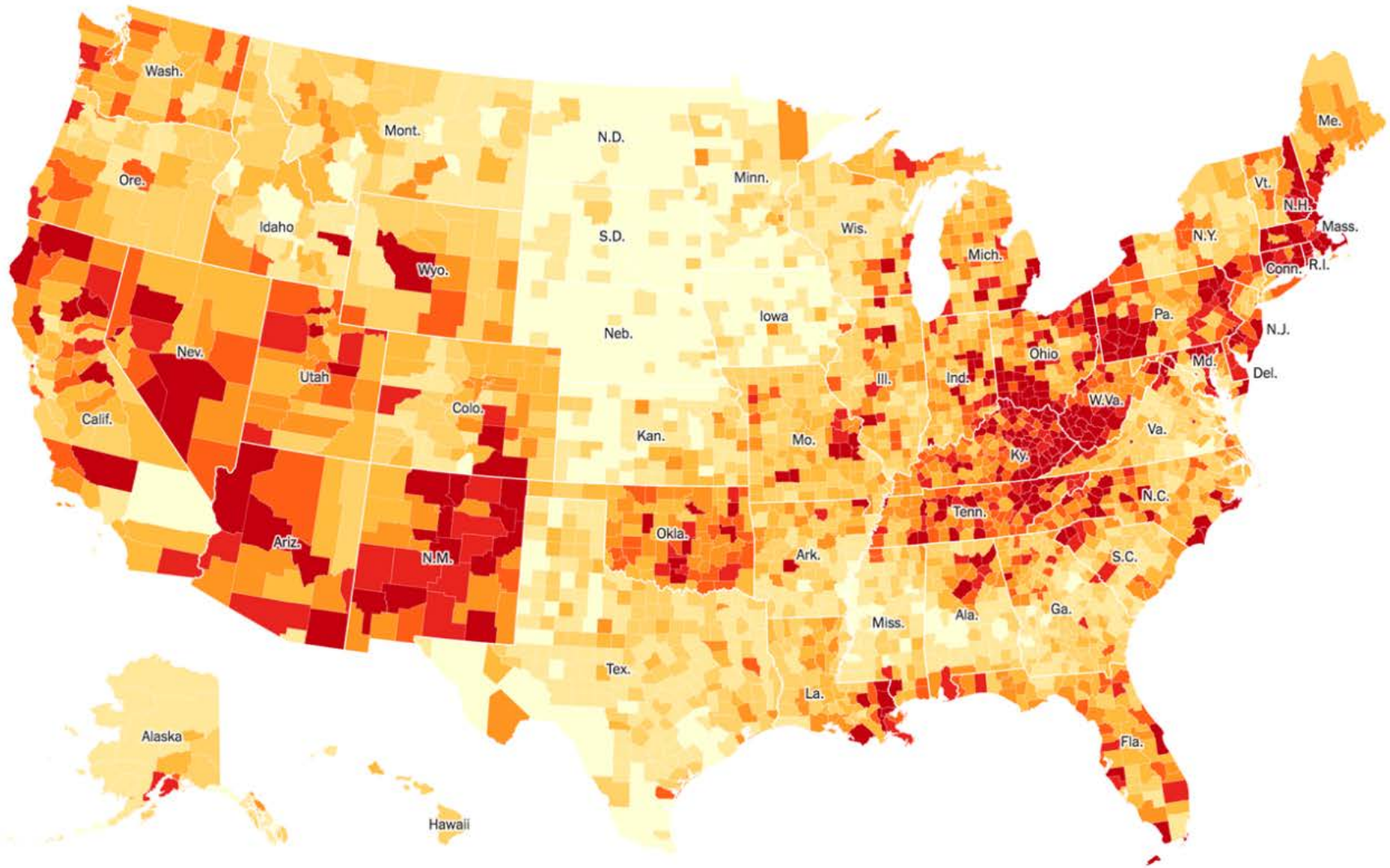
- Preliminary data for January through May 2017 suggest that the proportion of apparent illicit drug overdose deaths with fentanyl detected (alone or in combination with other drugs) is approximately 78%. Proportions from 2012 to 2017 are as follows:
 - 2012 = 4%
 - 2013 = 15%
 - 2014 = 25%
 - 2015 = 29%
 - 2016 = 67%
 - 2017 (Jan.-May) = 78%



Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths including and excluding Fentanyl, 2007-2016



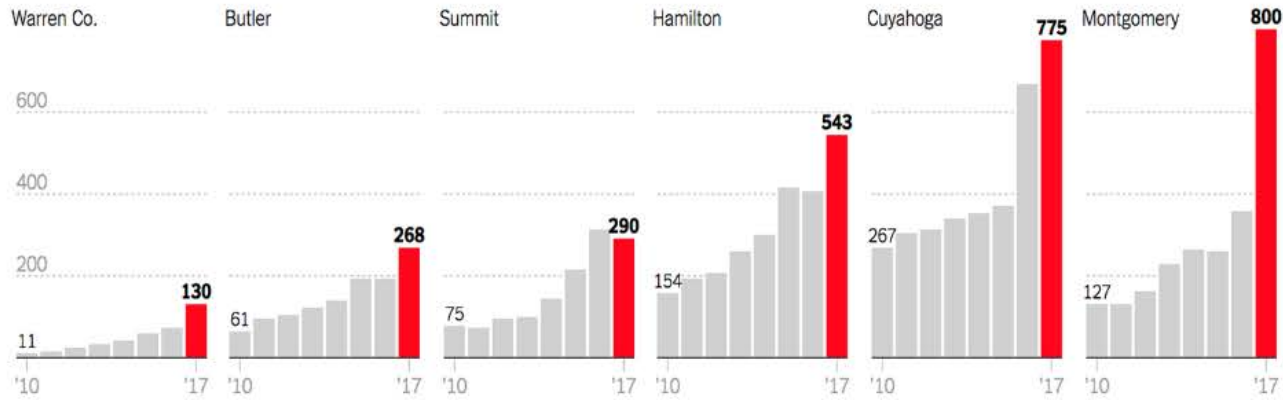
Across the US



2015 drug overdose deaths per 100,000 residents

6	9	12	15	18	21	24
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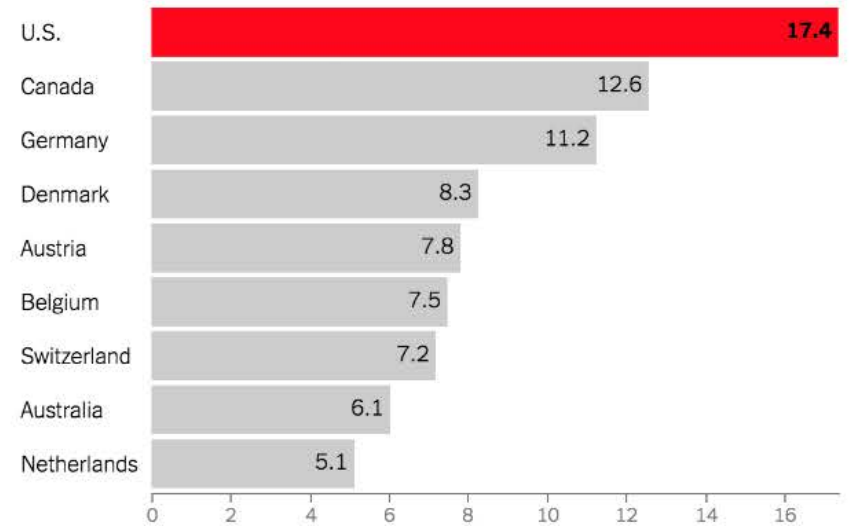
Drug overdose deaths in six Ohio counties, 2010 to 2017



Totals for 2017 assume that overdose deaths continue at the same rate through the remainder of the year.

Source: Butler County Coroner's Office; Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office; Hamilton County Coroner; Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Service; Montgomery County Sheriff's Office; Summit County Department of the Medical Examiner

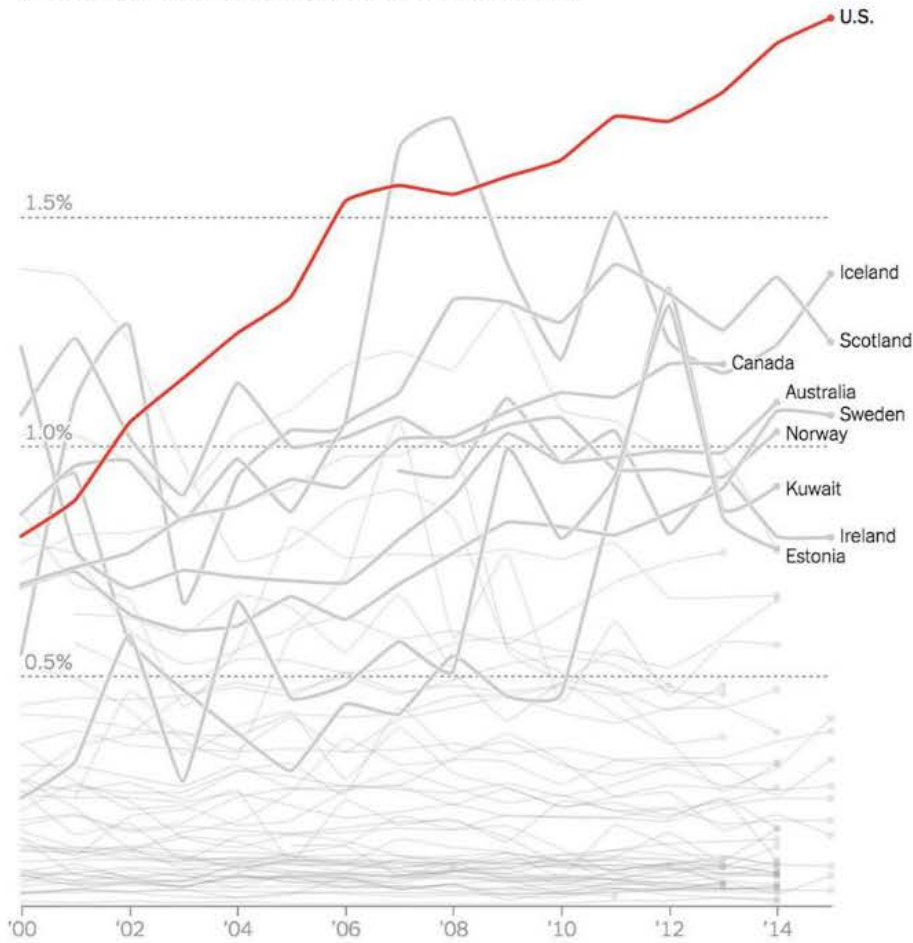
Average days of opioid use per resident per year



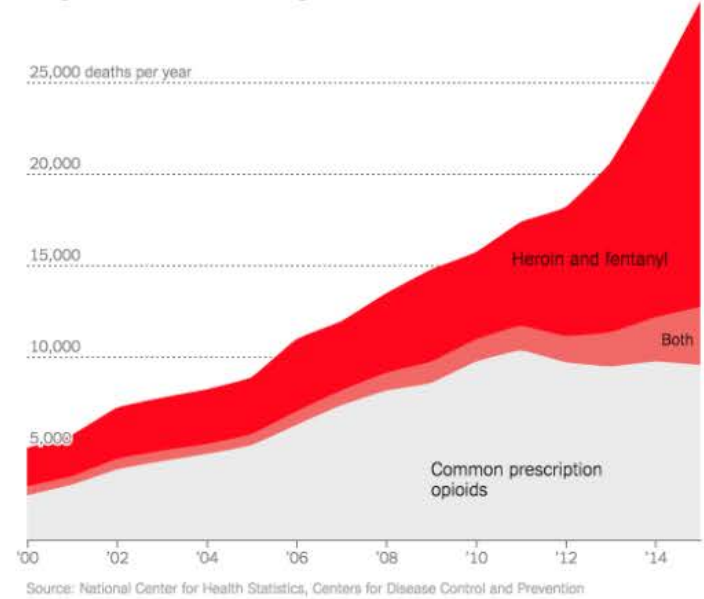
Values are three-year rolling averages for 2013 to 2015.

Source: International Narcotics Control Board

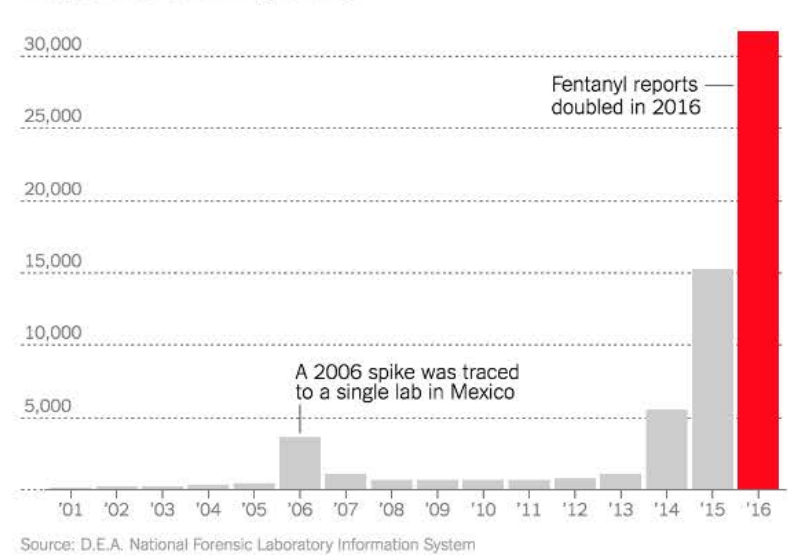
Percentage of deaths classified as drug-related



Drug overdose deaths involving ...



Drug seizures containing fentanyl





Why now?

- Decades of rising Opiate prescribing
- Delisting of OxyContin (2012)
- Stricter guidelines for prescribing
- Inconsistent heroin supply

Fentanyl and moral panic

CBCnews | British Columbia

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Fentanyl crisis: November death tally expected to reach 35 in Vancouver

Vancouver had 9 drug overdose deaths on Thursday

By Yvette Brent, CBC News Posted: Dec 17, 2016 6:49 AM PT Last Updated: Dec 17, 2016 7:00 AM PT



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CBC INVESTIGATES | Downtown Vancouver ER is ground zero of opioid overdose crisis

A night in Canada's busiest emergency room for overdoses: St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver

By Natalie Denry, CBC News Posted: Dec 16, 2016 2:26 AM PT Last Updated: Dec 16, 2016 7:02 PM PT



Inside Canada's busiest overdose ER 8:01


THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Home News Opinion Business Investing Sports Life Arts Tech

ANALYSIS | The year of the fentanyl crisis

'Unprecedented' opioid crisis 'spreading like a cancer' across Canada

By Nicole Ingram, CBC News Posted: Dec 24, 2016 5:20 AM ET Last Updated: Dec 24, 2016 5:20 AM ET




Petra Schultz found her 23-year-old son Danny Schultz after he died from a fentanyl overdose in Edmonton on April 30, 2014.

AMBER BRACKEN FOR THE GLOBE AND MAIL

A KILLER HIGH

How Canada got addicted to fentanyl

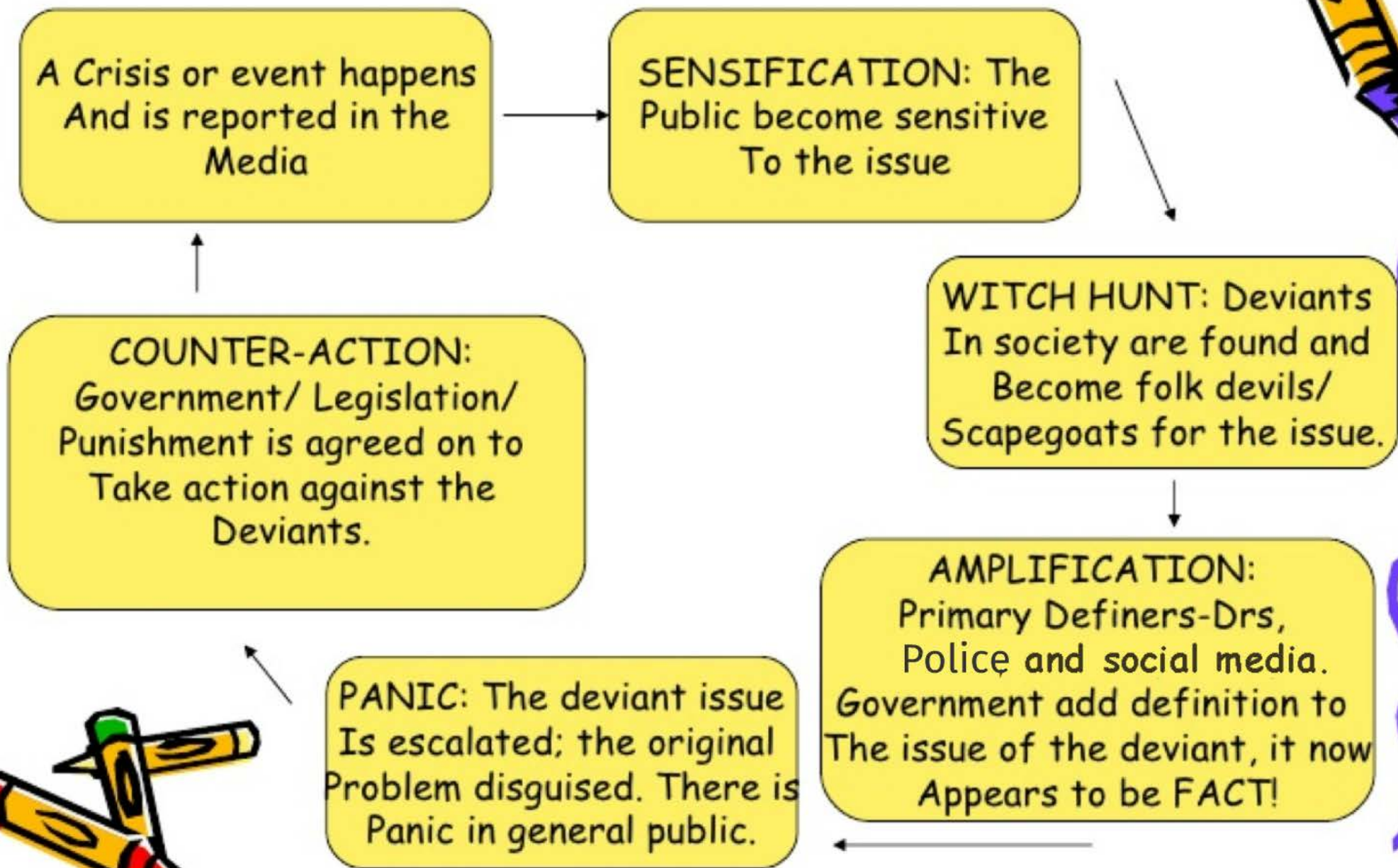
Manufactured in China, it easily crosses our porous borders, triggering a heroin-like bliss in users – and, all too often, death. The Globe investigates the rise of a fatal...



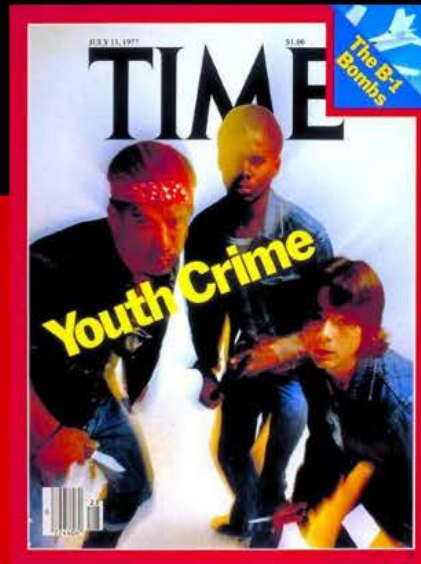
Mercers carried a coffin to remember friends, family and community members during a procession to mark Overdose Awareness Day in Vancouver in August. The highly potent opioid fentanyl was detected in more than 370 drug overdose deaths in British Columbia between January and October 2016. (Darryl Dyck/Canadian Press)



MORAL PANICS



News coverage...



Public health emergency announcement

B.C. is the first province to take this kind of action in response to the current public health crisis from drug overdoses.

Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry announced that British Columbia is the first province to take this kind of action in response to the current public health crisis from drug overdoses.



Announcement of supervised sites

Supervised sites are a key part of the province's strategy to reduce drug overdoses. They provide a safe, supervised space for people to use drugs, with staff available to provide harm reduction services and medical assistance.



Take home Naloxone



Doug Nicholson was saved five times from the life-saving naloxone, he now puts it to use for others who he sees in Surrey's mission strip in Whalley.

As a BC2DC 'peer', 'Little Doug' has reversed 22 overdoses using naloxone.



Public health emergency announcement

B.C. is the first province to take this kind of action in response to the current public health crisis from drug overdoses.

“The recent surge in overdoses is a huge concern for us... We have to do what’s needed to prevent overdoses and deaths, and what’s needed is real-time information. Medical health officers need immediate access to what’s happening and where so they can deploy the necessary strategies to prevent these tragedies.”

- Health Minister Terry Lake.



Take home Naloxone



Doug Nickerson was saved five times from the life-saving naloxone, he now puts it to use for others when he walks Surrey's notorious strip in Whalley.

As a BCCDC "peer", "little Doug" has reversed 113 overdoses using naloxone.

TAKE HOME NALOXONE PROGRAM IN BC

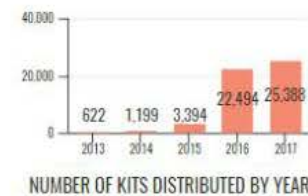
SAVING LIVES SINCE AUGUST 2012



Naloxone is a medication that reverses the effects of an overdose from opioids (e.g. heroin, methadone, fentanyl, morphine)

Take Home Naloxone (THN) kits are now available, at no cost, for people at risk of an opioid overdose and those most likely to witness and respond to an overdose

SO FAR...



DISTRIBUTION OF KITS



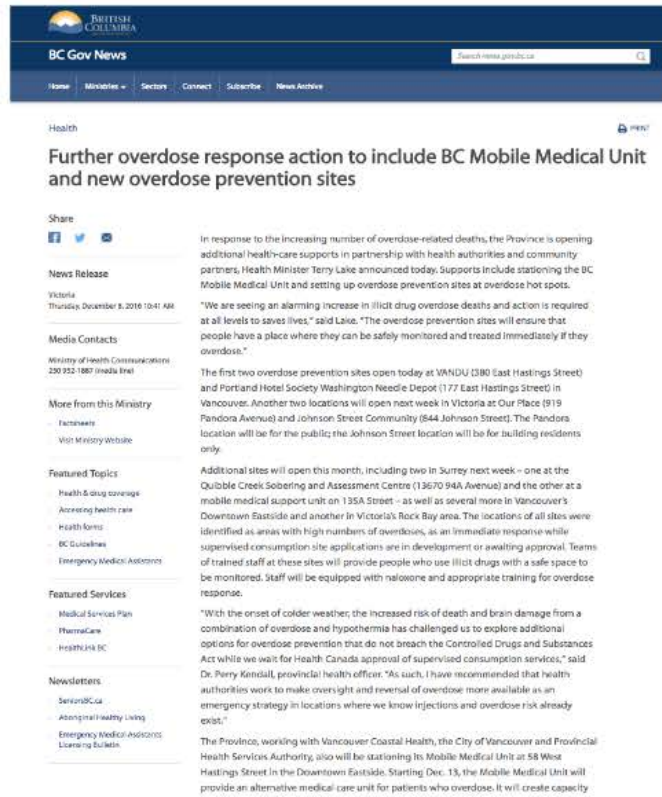
VISIT towardtheheart.com/naloxone/ FOR MORE INFORMATION

WORKING TOGETHER | REDUCING HARM

Last Updated: August 1st, 2017



Announcement of supervised sites



The screenshot shows a news article from the BC Government website. The article title is "Further overdose response action to include BC Mobile Medical Unit and new overdose prevention sites". The text discusses the province's response to increasing overdose deaths, mentioning the opening of mobile medical support units and supervised consumption sites in various locations like WARDU, Portland Hotel Society, and Johnson Street. It also mentions that additional sites will open in Surrey next week.



BC Overdose Action Exchange key actions



Engage peers in program development and leadership



Address contamination of the drug supply



Support appropriate pain management therapies



Build on the success of Overdose Prevention Sites



Expand and improve addiction treatment



Align law enforcement efforts with public health



Reform drug laws



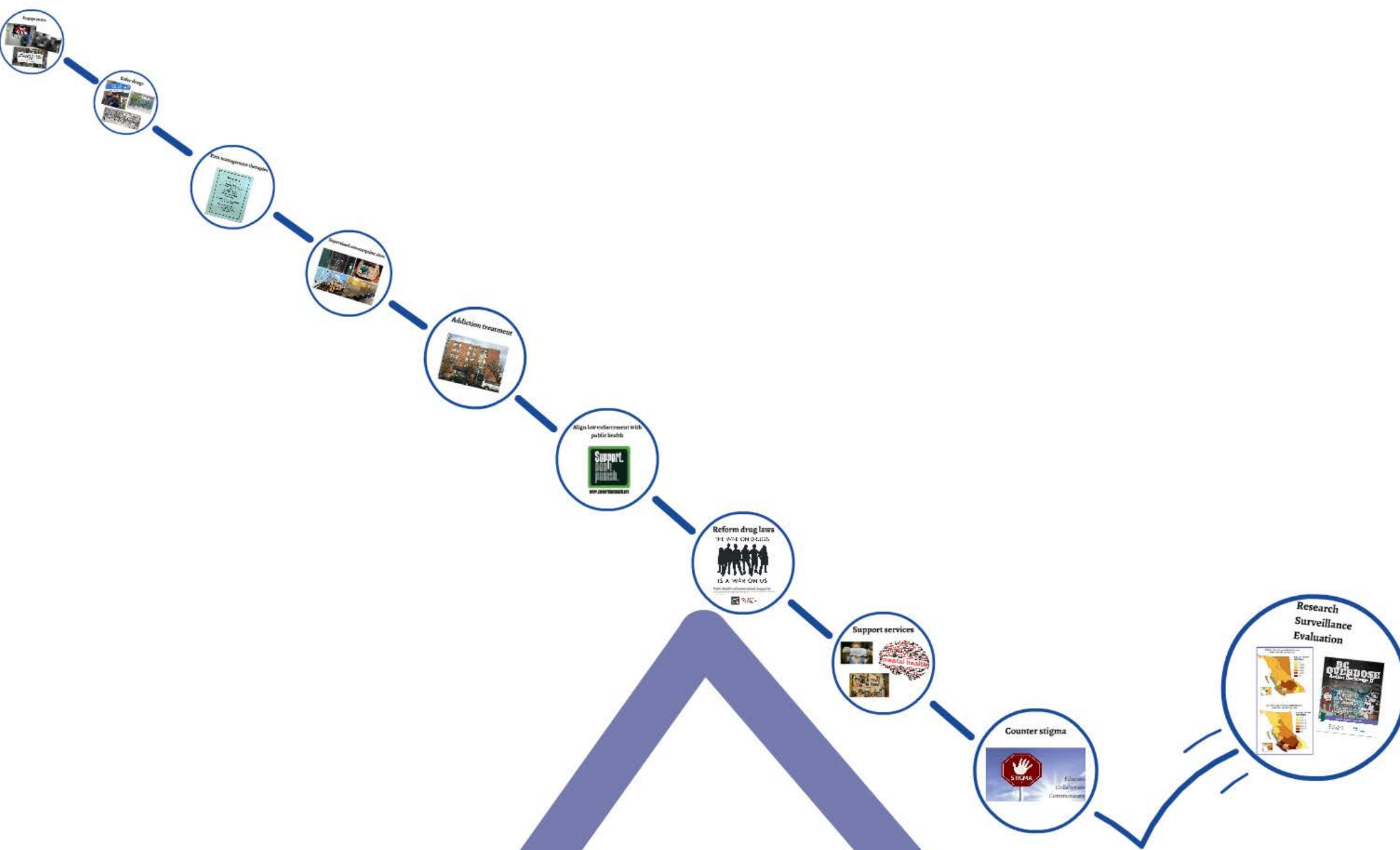
Address structural barriers and upstream factors



Counter stigma against people who use drugs



Implement targeted research, surveillance and evaluation initiatives



Going forward

Engage peers



Safer drugs



Pain management therapies

Please Note

Narcotic Drugs

(Morphine, Demerol, Percocet, T-3's, etc.)

and

Sedative Drugs

(Ativan, Valium, Serax, etc.)

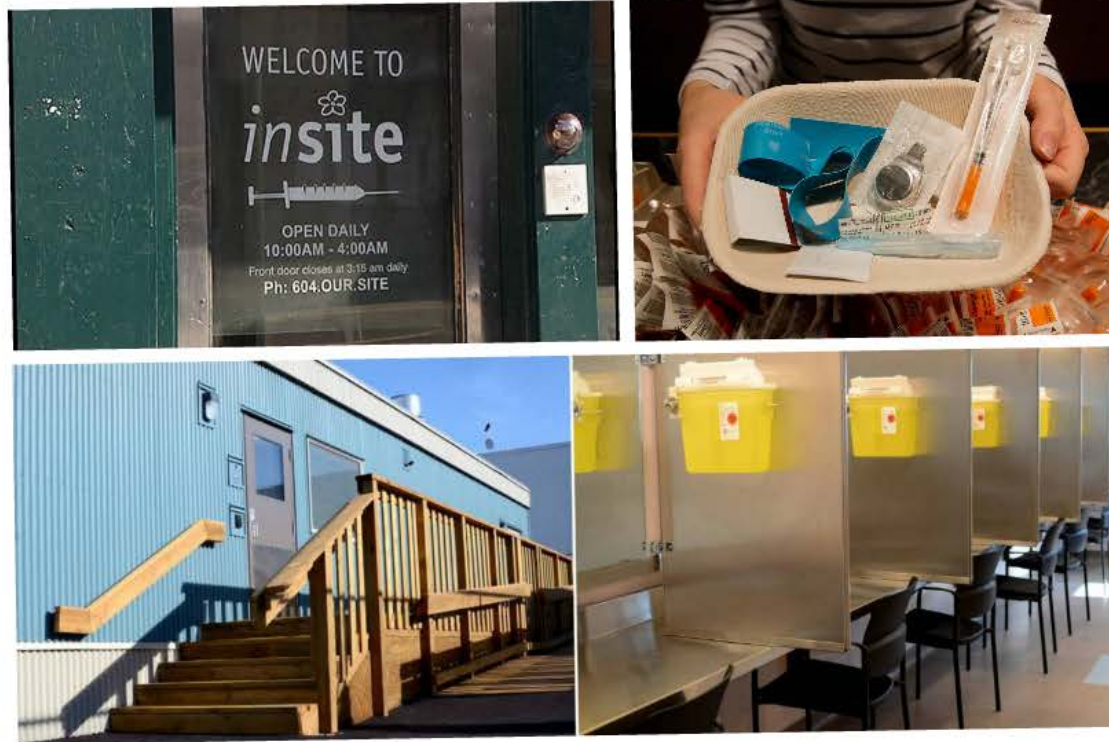
are not prescribed

at this clinic.

**If you are here to request them,
you will be refused.**

Please don't waste your time
(and the physician's)
by insisting to see the physician
for the above.

Supervised consumption sites



Addiction treatment



**Align law enforcement with
public health**



www.supportdontpunish.org

Reform drug laws

THE WAR ON DRUGS



IS A WAR ON US

Public Health and international drug policy

Csete J, Kamarulzaman A, Kazatchkine M, Altice F, Balicki M, Buxton J, Cepeda J, Comfort M, Goosby E, Goulão J, Hart C, Kerr T, Lajous AM, Lewis S, Martin N, Mejia D, Camacho A, Mathiesen D, Obot I, Ogunrombi A, Sherman S, Stone J, Vallath N, Vickerman P, Záborszky T, Beyrer C.

Lancet. 2016 Apr 2;387(10026):1427-80.



INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
FOR SCIENCE IN DRUG POLICY

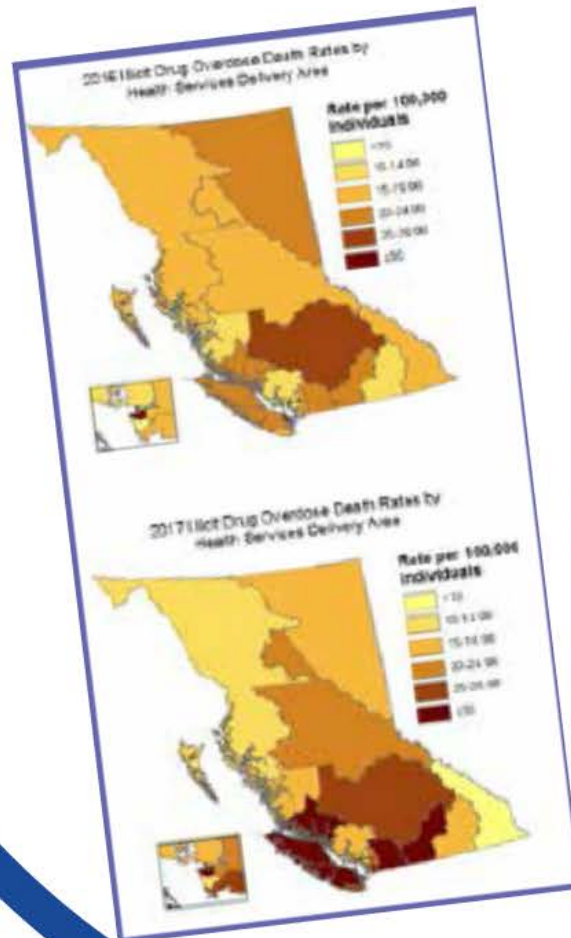


Canadian Drug
Policy Coalition
Coalition canadienne
des politiques
sur les drogues

Counter stigma



Research Surveillance Evaluation



Provincial Health
Services Authority
Improving lives and lives,
better health.

BC Centre for Disease Control
Improving the health of British Columbians

Barriers to an effective response

- Criminalization of drug use and the associated stigma
- Limited tools to disrupt a toxic drug supply
- Neglect of providing minimal services and support to people who self-medicate with illicit substances.

Impact on the community

