

Public amenity and the North Richmond Medically Supervised



Injecting Room



Structured Observations

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Background

The North Richmond Medically Supervised Injecting Room underwent two extensive reviews during its trial tenure. Limited available data suggests **no improvement** to public amenity in the surrounding area.

Aim

We aimed to document levels of **public amenity** in the North Richmond area to address the lack of evidence.

Method

- Ongoing observations (n=112.75) since August 2022
- 7 km per observation; 3 observations per week
- Variables include counts of people, public drug use, and drug-related and general litter
- Descriptive statistics



Findings

- 140 people per observation
- 7.5 needle syringe per observation (1.07 per km)
- Highest number of needle/syringe located approx. 700m from MSIR
- Most incidences of substantial level of general litter located approx. 600 - 700m from MSIR
- Most incidences of injecting related litter located approx. 700m from MSIR
- Observed approx. 1 person consuming alcohol per observation
- Observed approx. 1 person injecting drugs every second observation

Conclusion

While many of the aims of supervised injecting facilities are focused on health, public amenity also features large in public debates around their efficacy. We observed a range of issues related to public amenity, many unrelated to the MSIR.