BY THE NUMBERS:
The Opioid Overdose Emergency in BC

In April 2016, British Columbia declared a provincial Public Health Emergency in response to the increasing rate of overdose deaths.

From January - June 2018

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<th>Of paramedic attended overdoses</th>
<th>Of people who died of overdose</th>
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<tr>
<td>6,268 number of illicit overdoses attended by BC Ambulance</td>
<td>65% of overdose calls are transported to hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>742 unintentional illicit overdose deaths in BC</td>
<td>85% of deaths had no associated 911 call based on cohort study using BCCS data</td>
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<th>72% were male</th>
<th>76% were between age 19-39</th>
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<td>81% of illicit drug overdose deaths involved fentanyl or its analogues**</td>
<td>&gt;50% were using drugs alone</td>
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Overdoses and overdose deaths have been increasing because of fentanyl

**There are different types (analogues) of fentanyl, including furanyl fentanyl and carfentanil. These analogues vary in toxicity and their presence in the illicit drug supply is hard to identify and differs from community to community.

- People don't know what or how much is in their drugs.
- Since fentanyl appeared in the illicit drug supply, more people have reported having repeat overdoses.

Fentanyl has been found in:
- Pills (fake oxys or other club drugs)
- Powder mixed into other drugs (crystal meth, cocaine, etc.)
- Powder (heroin or fent)
- Liquid mixed into other drugs (GHB, Ketamine, etc.)

Observed Consumption Sites include Overdose Prevention Services (OPS) and Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) sites

There are now 31 Observed Consumption Sites across BC

As of June 2018 there have been no deaths at Observed Consumption Sites

Since 2012 the BC Take Home Naloxone program has distributed over 110,000 kits through over 1,400 participating sites

16-Aug-2018