Paramedic Attended Overdose Events

Description of Measure	Case definition for paramedic-attended illegal drug overdose events. Overdose events are identified and based on paramedic impression codes as well as 9-1-1 dispatch codes
Definitions	**Case Definition:** B.C. paramedics attend a range of overdose/poisoning events every day. This indicator focuses on illegal drug overdose events. Overdose events are identified and based on paramedic impression codes (paramedic's description of the event) as well as 9-1-1 dispatch codes. Several types of situations are included in the "paramedic-attended overdose events" definition • Any event during which a paramedic administers naloxone, **OR** • Treating paramedic describes the event as a recreational drug overdose **AND** the corresponding 911 call is described as either cardiac arrest or respiratory arrest / death, overdose / ingestion poisoning, sick, or unconscious, **OR** • Treating paramedic describes the event as a treated cardiac arrest **AND** the corresponding 911 call is overdose / ingestion poisoning, **OR** • Treating paramedic describes the event as opioid related or opioid related / overdose, **OR** • Treating paramedic describes the event as cardiac arrest and corresponding 911 call is described as overdose / ingestion poisoning **Geography:** Geography is assigned based on overdose event location. Depending on the report, the indicator may be available for the province, by Health Authority, Health Service Delivery Location, Local Health Area, or Community Health Service Area. **Frequency:** This indicator is based on calendar year months. **Lag:** Paper-based PCR data have an inherent data entry delay. SIREN electronic PCR information is timelier. **Format:** Available as aggregate numbers by geography, month, and sex.
Data Source (s)	BC Emergency Health Services
Caveats	• As a surveillance algorithm, an exact count of illegal drug overdoses is not possible from BCEHS data; hence, this measure should be considered only an estimate.