


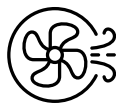

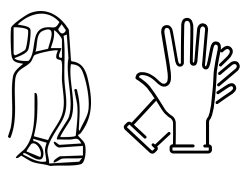


How Can I Reduce My Exposure to Unregulated Substances in Hospitals?

Last update: February 2025

There are steps you and your workplace can take to reduce your exposure to unregulated substances in hospitals. Choose the most effective solutions that are practical for your situation. You can combine different levels of controls to best protect yourself and others.

<p>Most effective</p>  <p>Less effective</p>	<p>Eliminate the hazard</p>	<p>Substance use is not allowed in hospitals, but unintentional exposure may still happen.</p>
	<p>Substitute with a less dangerous option</p>	<p>Offer withdrawal management and opioid agonist treatment (OAT) to minimize unintentional exposure.</p> 
	<p>Make Environmental Changes</p>	<p>Improve ventilation to remove smoke from a room.</p> <p>Open a window or door  Activate HVAC  Use a HEPA air cleaner</p>
	<p>Make Administrative Changes</p>	<p>Provide safer places (e.g. an Overdose Prevention Site) for people to use substances.</p> <p>Install smoke detectors or other monitors in rooms where people could use alone (e.g. washrooms).</p> 
	<p>Use Personal Protective Equipment</p>	<p>Wear PPE if entering a room where someone has been using unregulated substances.</p> 

For more information:

- WorkSafeBC Prevention Information Line for health and safety assistance: 1-888-621-7233
- Contact harm.reduction@bccdc.ca for more information on this guidance.