

# Opioid Crisis

## Update to Vancouver City Council

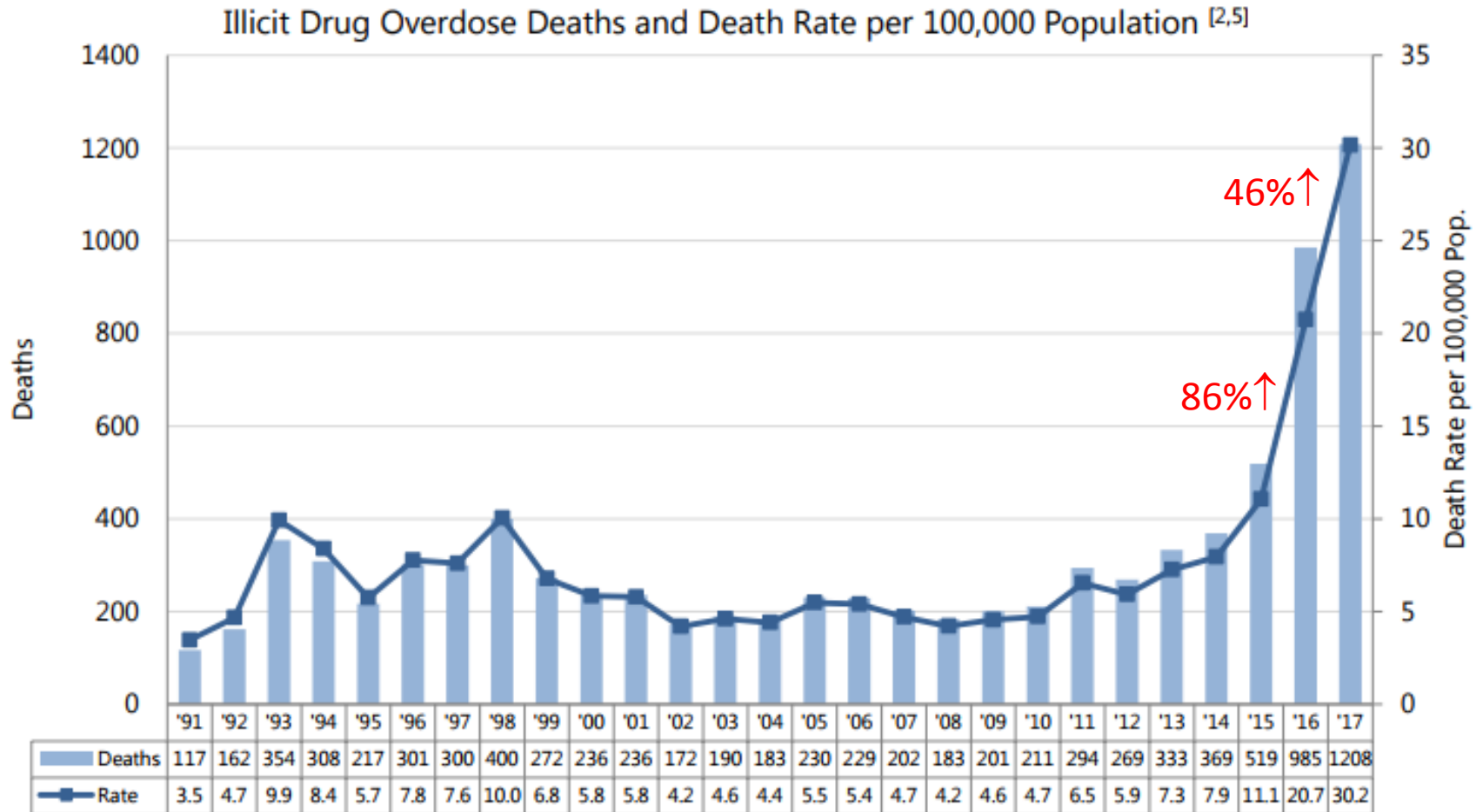
January 17, 2017

Dr. Patricia Daly

Chief Medical Health Officer

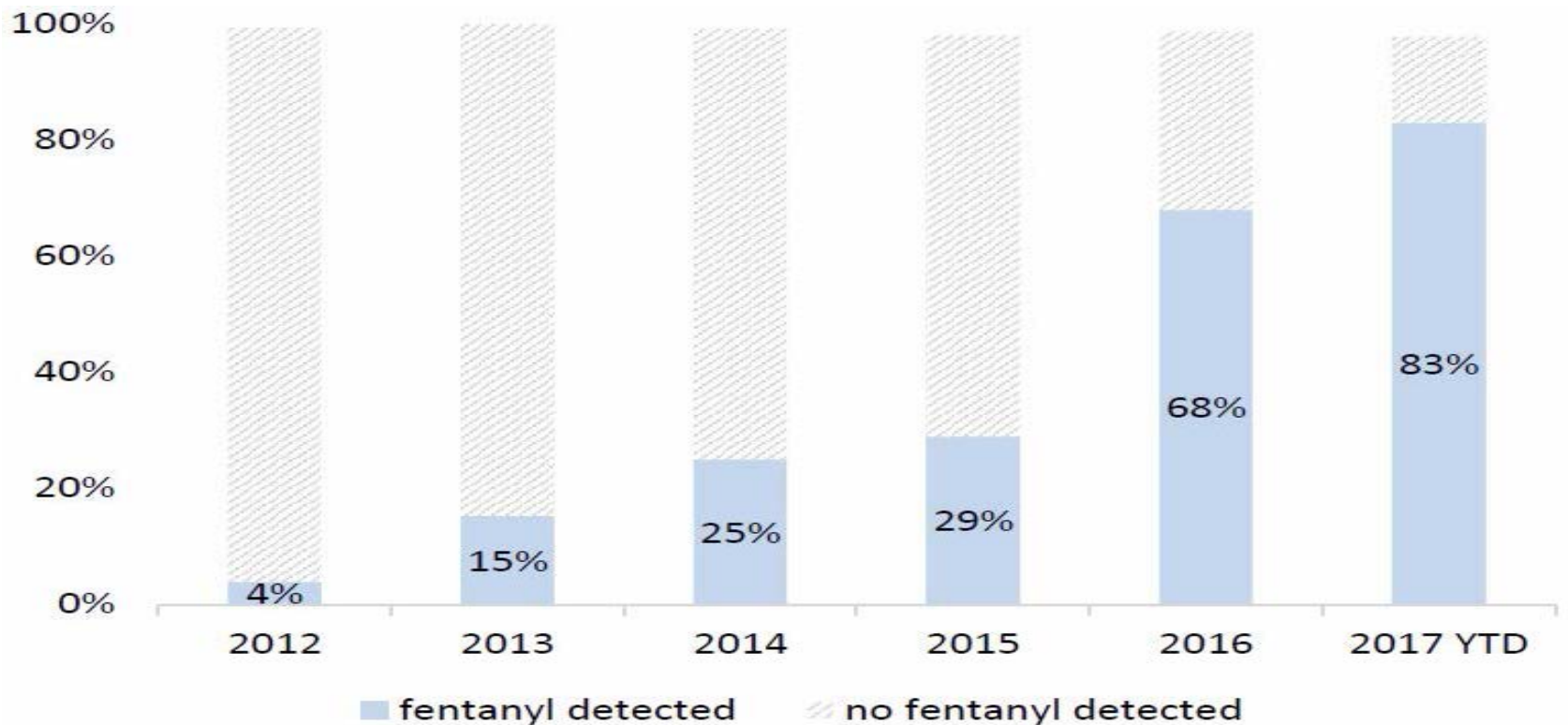
Vancouver Coastal Health

# BC Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths 1991-2017



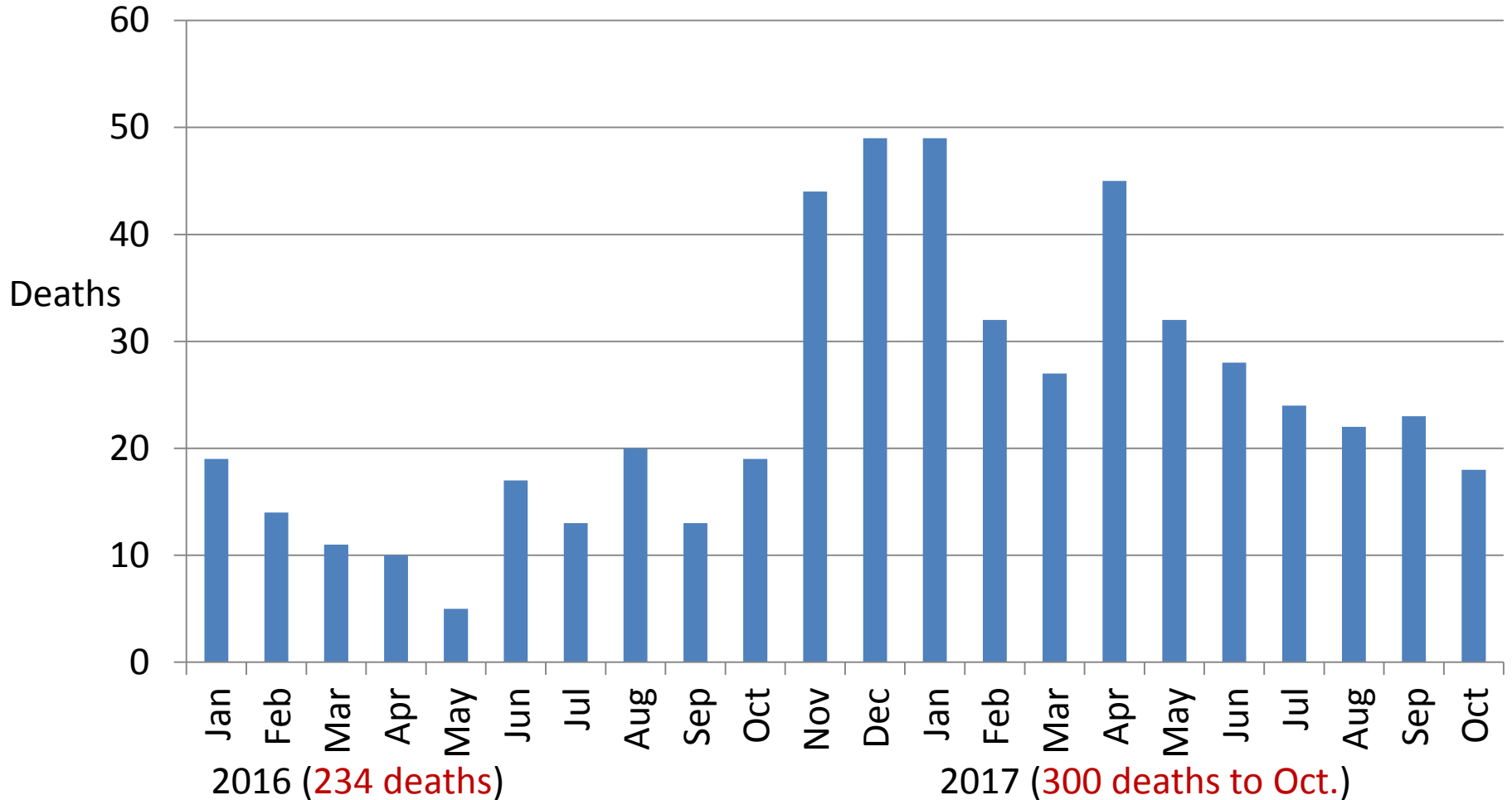
Source: BC Coroners Service

# BC Proportion of Illicit Overdose Deaths with Fentanyl Detected



Proportion of Fentanyl-detected deaths in 2016 and 2017 YTD is 15-20X higher than 2012.

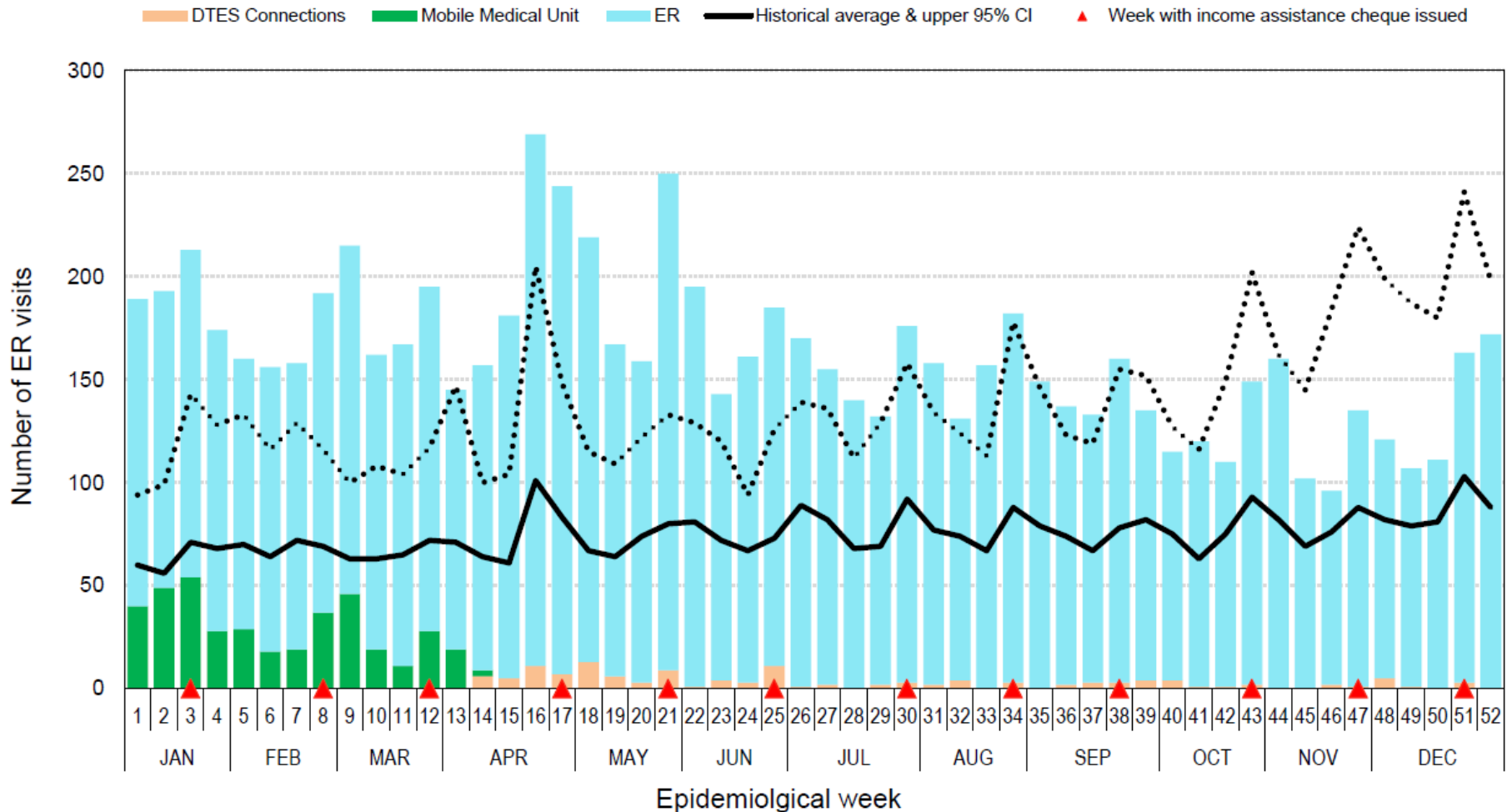
# Vancouver – Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths 2016/17



Source: BC Coroners Service

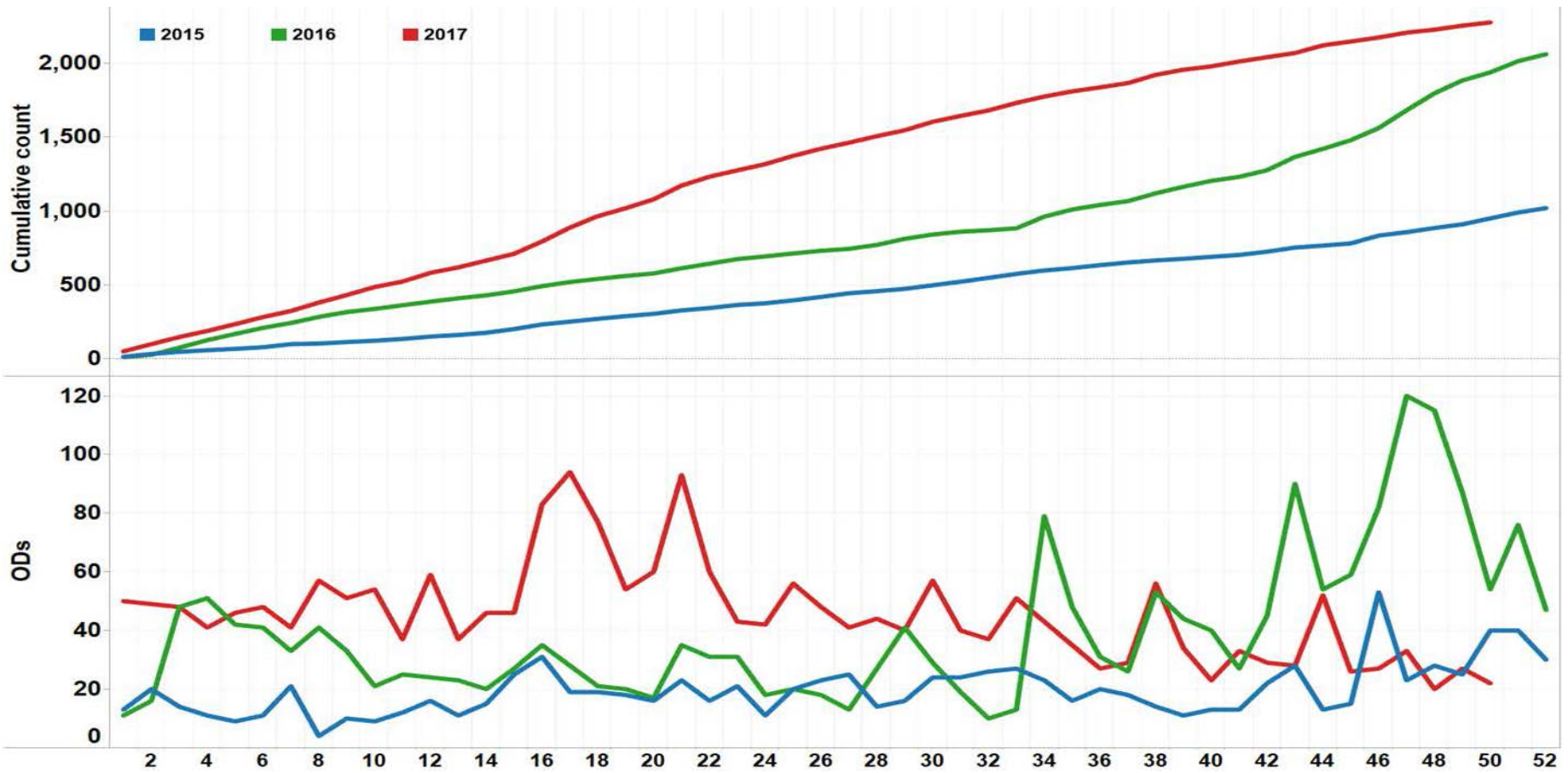
# VCH Emergency Department Overdose Visits 2017

Number of ED visits related to illicit drug/unknown substance overdose\* by type of sites and epidemiological week  
Vancouver Coastal Health, 2017 compared to historical average and 95% confidence limits†



Source: VCH PHSU

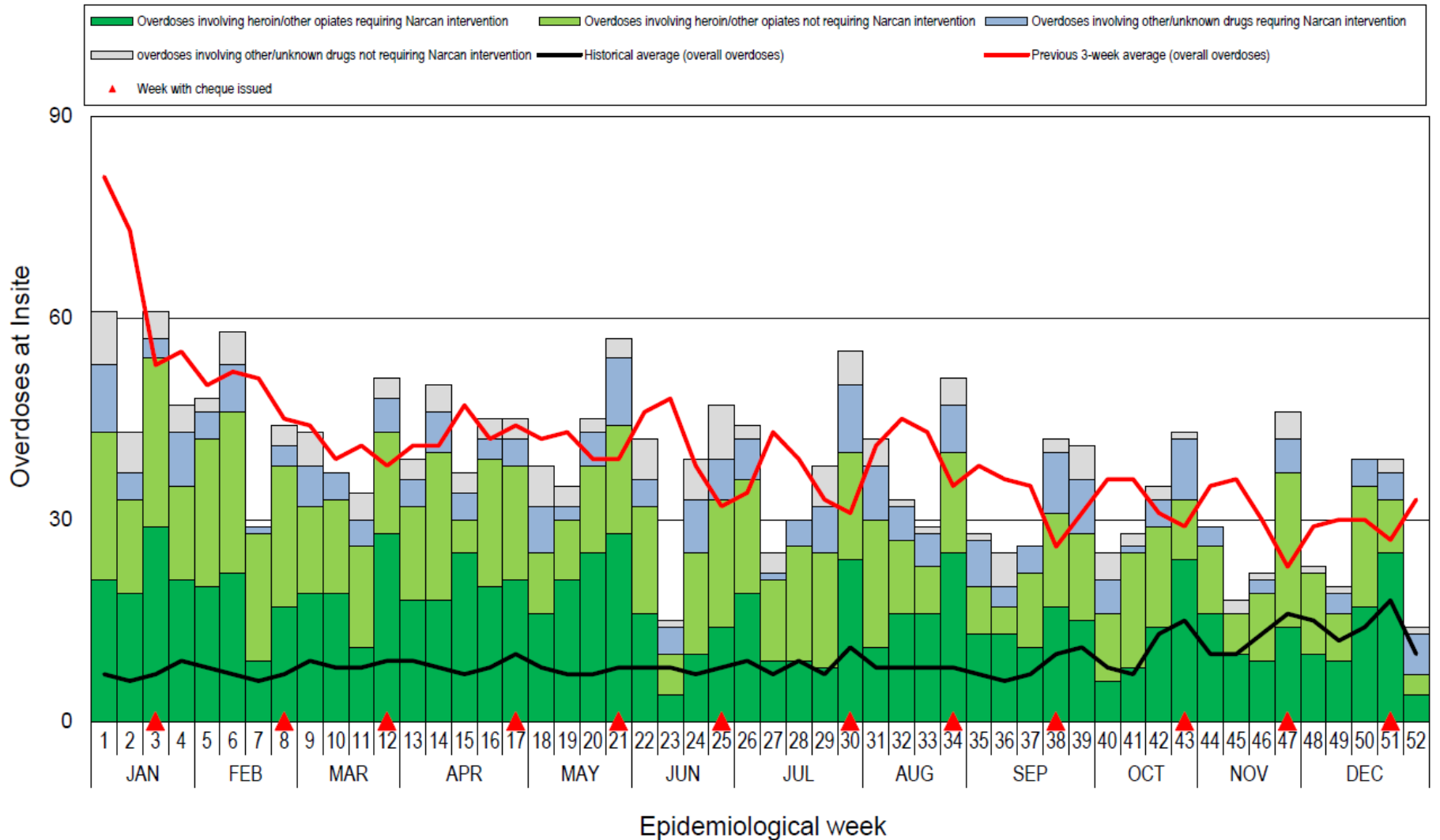
# VCH Emergency Department Overdoses



Number of opioid-related overdoses presenting at VCH EDs, 2015-2017 YTD

# Insite Overdoses 2017

**Figure 7. Number of Vancouver Insite\* visits resulting in an overdose by epidemiological week. VCHA, 2017 compared to previous 3-week average and historical average†**



# Naloxone

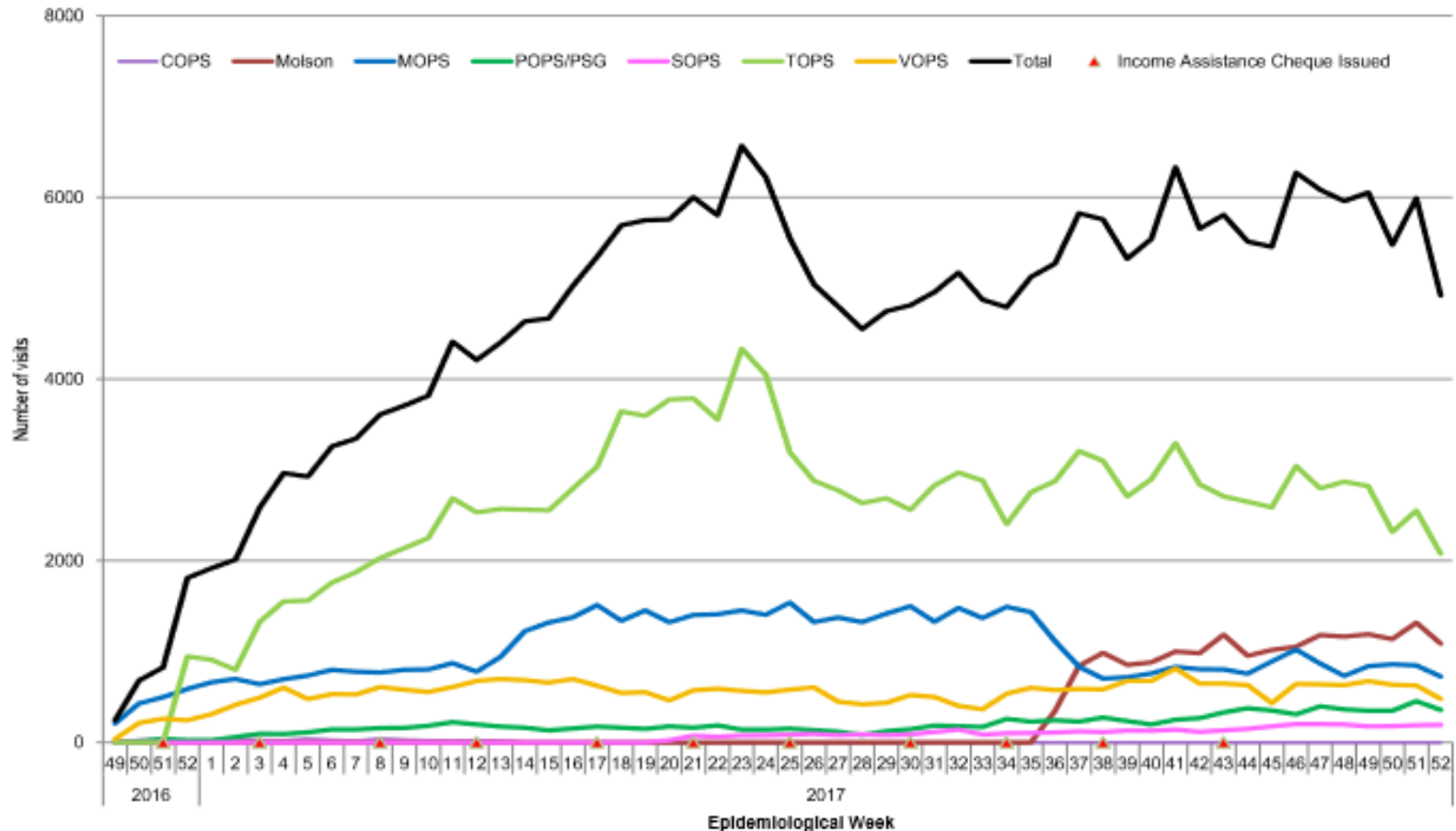
- 92 distribution sites in Vancouver
  - DTES 33
  - City Center 31
  - Midtown 13
  - Westside 9
  - South 4
  - Northeast 2
- **16,237** kits distributed 2015-2017
- **4,207** reported used to treat overdoses



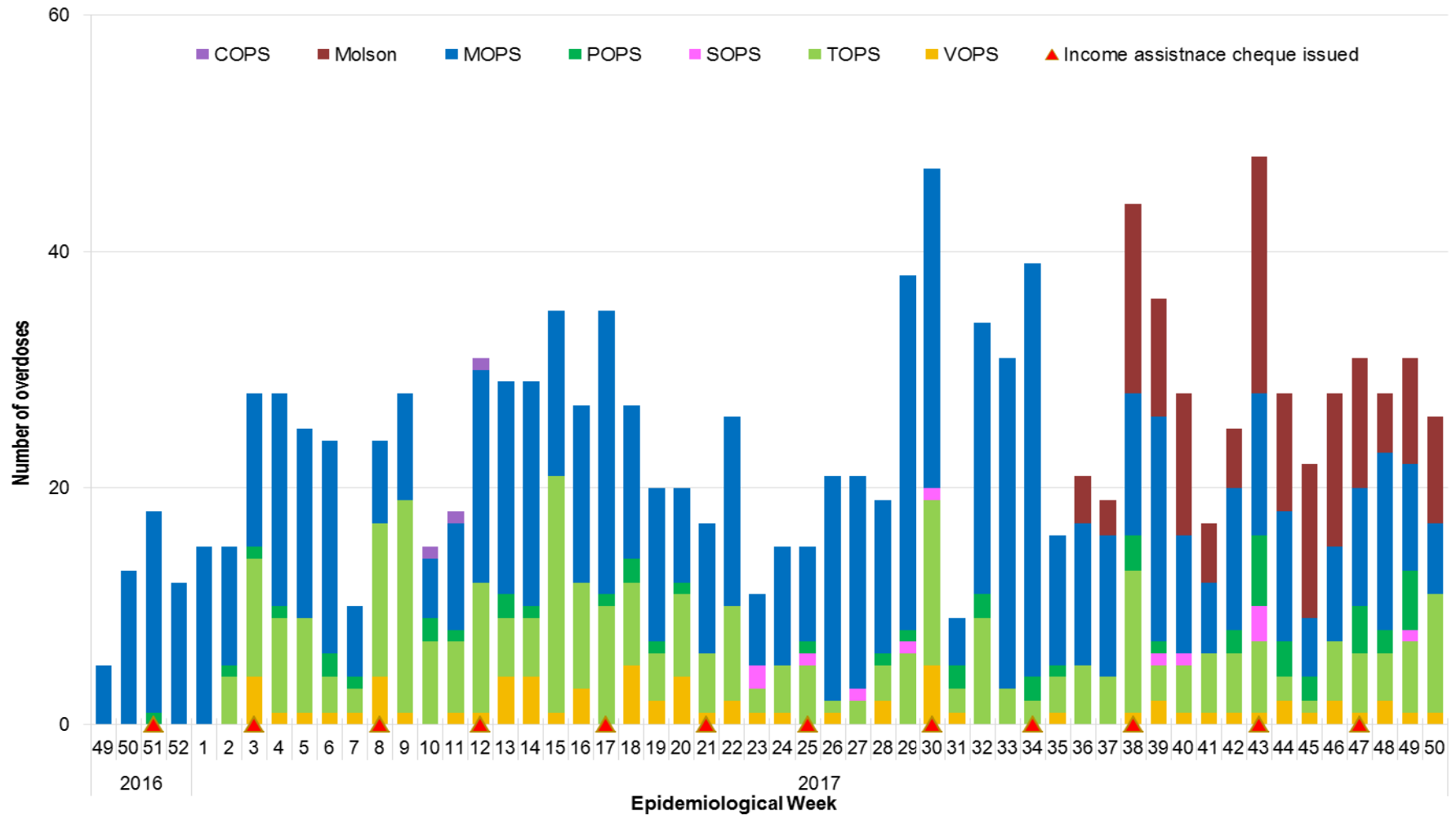


# Vancouver Overdose Prevention Site Visits

VCH Overdose Prevention Sites  
Visit Volume by Epidemiological Week and Sites



# Overdose Prevention Sites/Powell Street Getaway



# Addiction Treatment

- St. Paul's Rapid Access Addiction Centre
  - 1,500 clients since Oct. 2016 opening
- VCH Connections Clinic
  - Opened Feb. 2017
- Expansion of injectable Opioid Agonist Therapy
  - Crosstown Clinic
  - Other models



# Drug Checking

- Fentanyl test strips
  - Piloted at Insite
  - Positive test: Reduction in dose and lower risk of overdose
  - Now available at Insite, Powell Street Getaway, Overdose Prevention Sites
- Spectrometer: City of Vancouver and BC Centre for Substance Use
  - Insite and Powell Street Getaway pilot



# Overdose Emergency Response Centre

- Announced Dec. 1, 2017 by Minister Judy Darcy
- Located at Emergency Operations Centre, Vancouver General Hospital



# Overdose Emergency Response Centre

- On-going crisis requires streamlined, scaled-up strategy
- Builds on work to date and addresses gaps
- Led by the Ministry for Mental Health and Addictions in partnership with Health, Public Safety and Social ministries
- Strong focus on local, action-oriented, rapid response

# Comprehensive Package of Interventions

Essential Health Sector Interventions	Essential Strategies for a Supportive Environment
<p><u>Naloxone</u> Ensuring optimal supplies, training and community-level infrastructure to ensure sustained Naloxone access.</p>	<p><u>Social stabilization</u> Community-level strategies to ensure on-going psycho-social support, access to housing, income stabilization, transportation, food.</p>
<p><u>Overdose Prevention Services</u> Supporting a diversity of community-level, low barrier services tailored to population/ community needs.</p>	<p><u>Peer empowerment and employment</u> Providing individual skills and capacity building initiatives within individuals and communities with lived experience.</p>
<p><u>Acute overdose risk case management</u> Robust surveillance, analytics and referral system to identify individuals at risk within communities and capacity for follow-up connection to care.</p>	<p><u>Cultural safety and humility</u> In collaboration with Indigenous communities and organizations, ensuring services are rooted in an understanding of the social and historical context of health and healthcare inequities.</p>
<p><u>Treatment and Recovery</u> Ensuring low-barrier access to full spectrum of evidence-based medications and comprehensive treatment and recovery services.</p>	<p><u>Addressing stigma, discrimination, and human rights</u> Policy/legal analysis and action plans to address barriers to services based on stigma and discrimination.</p>

# Examples of Priority Strategies

- Outreach Teams
  - Connect to those at high risk of overdose
  - Vancouver: Referral directly from hospital emergency departments
- Drug Checking
- Expansion of Opioid Agonist Therapy
  - Oral and injectable
  - Training and support for primary care providers
- Addressing risk of using alone indoors
- New, innovative strategies