

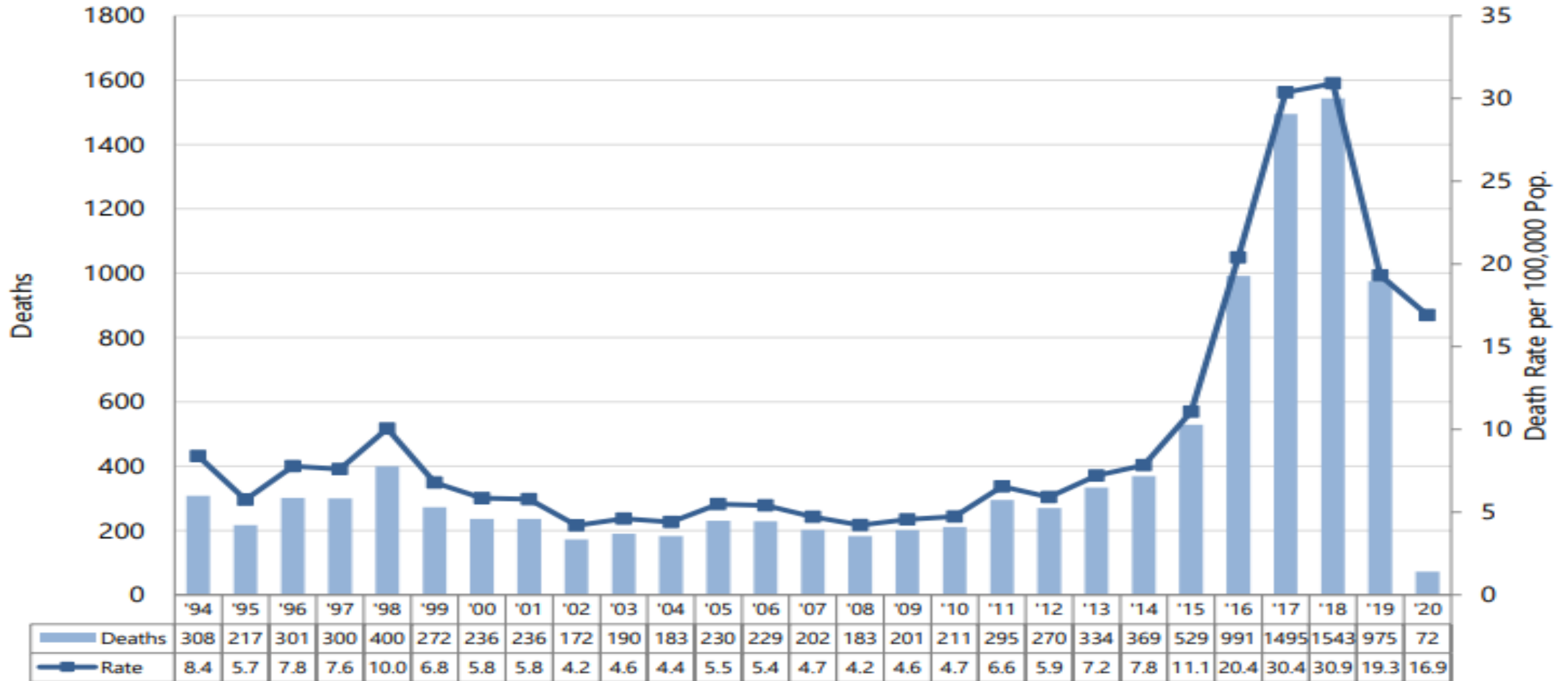
Update to Vancouver City Council Opioid Overdose Emergency

Dr. Patricia Daly
Chief Medical Health Officer

April 28, 2020

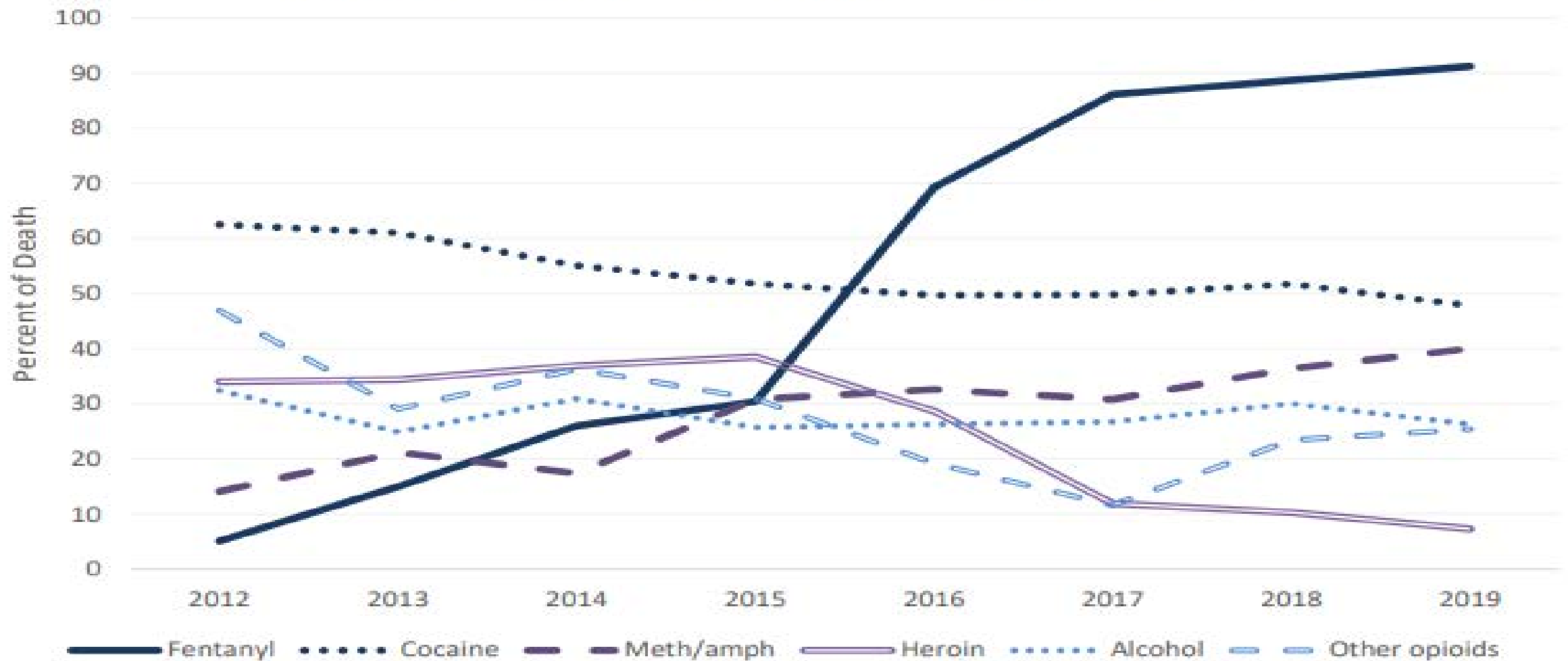
BC Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths (to Jan. 2020)

Figure 1: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths and Death Rate per 100,000 Population [3,5]

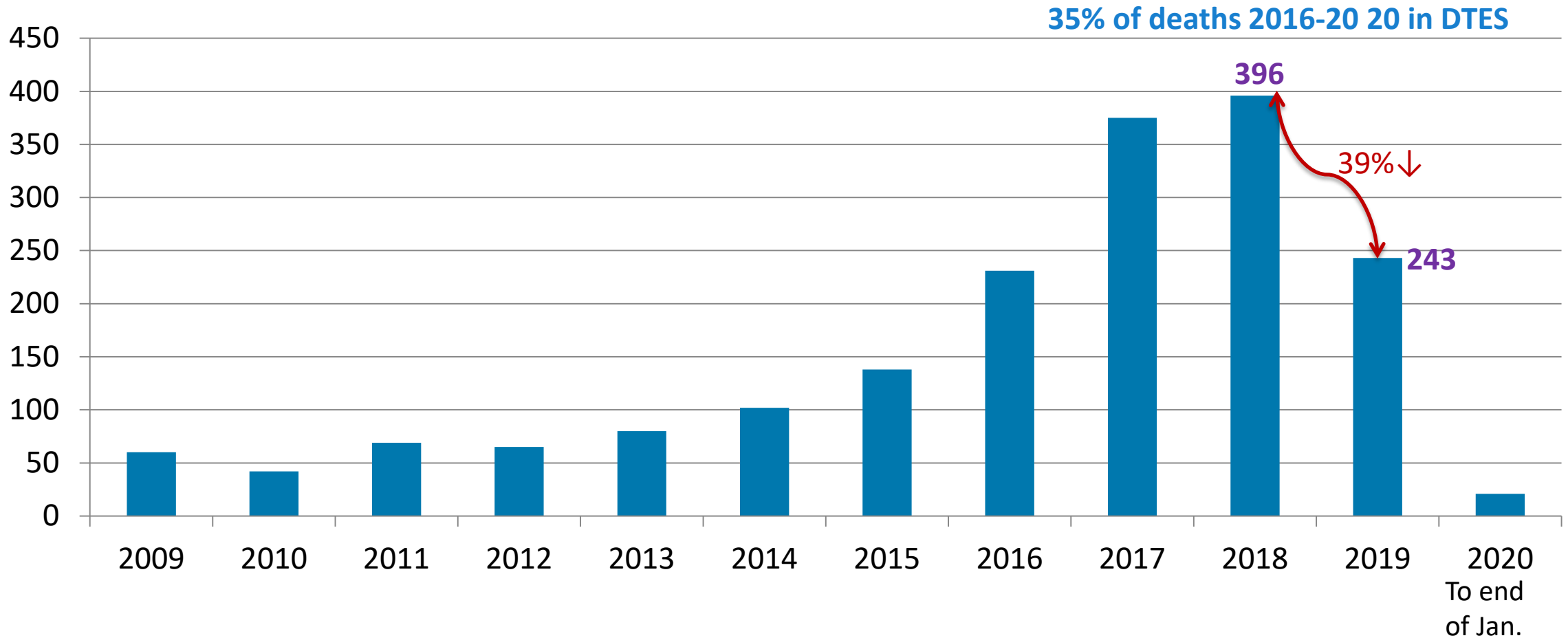


BC Coroner: Drugs Relevant to Death 2012-2019

Figure 3: Drug Types Relevant to Death, 2012-2019

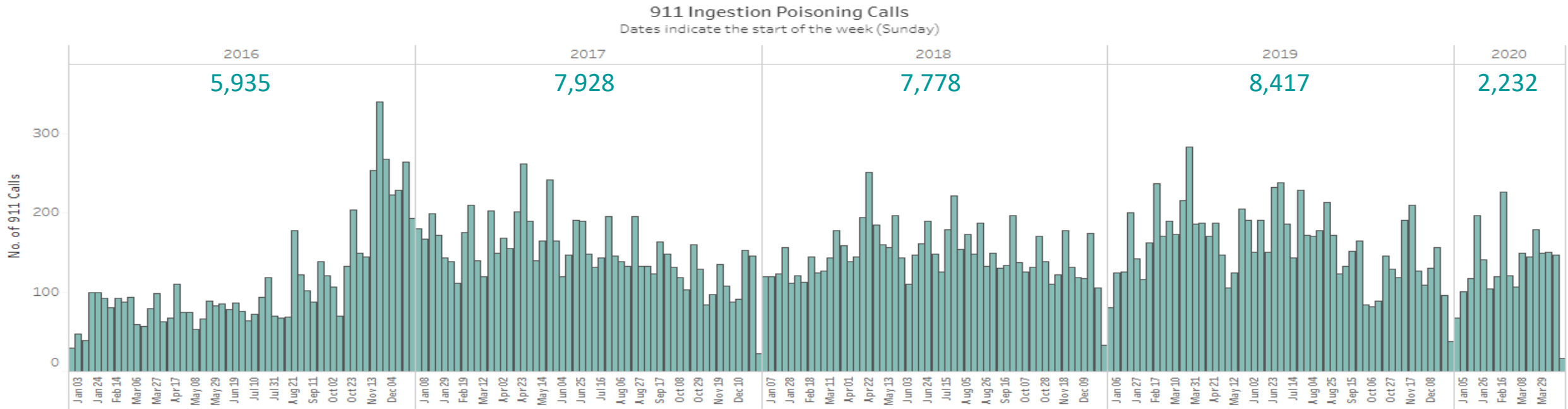


Vancouver Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths 2009 – January 31, 2020

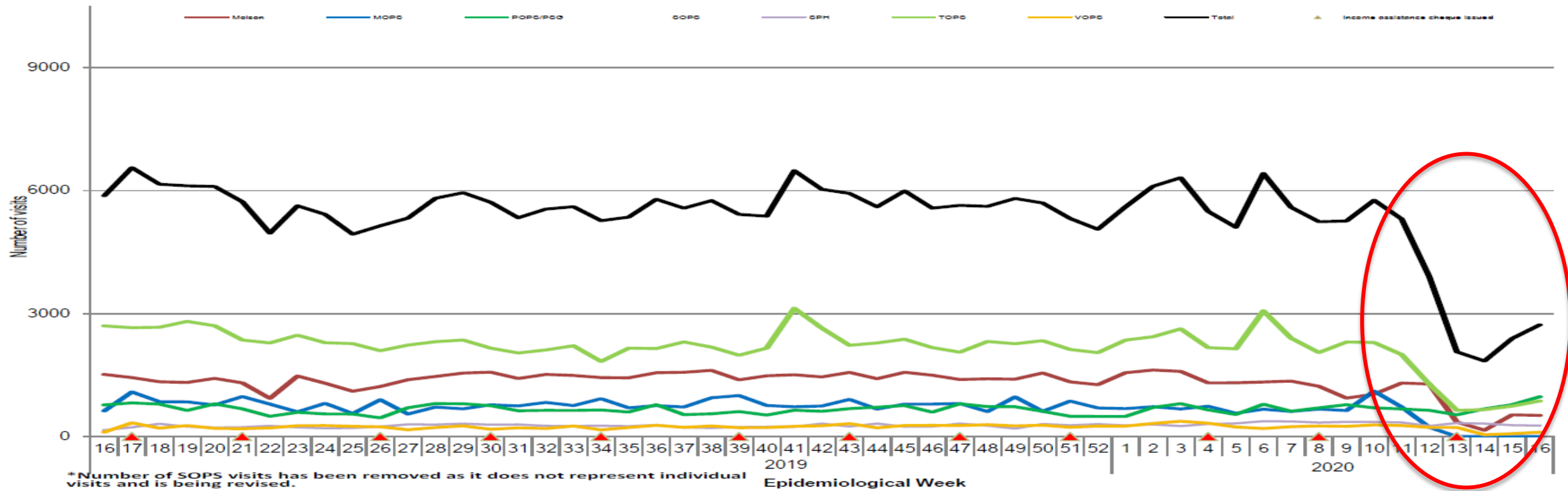


911 Calls for Ingestion Poisoning

Vancouver 2016 - 2020



Vancouver Overdose Prevention Site Visits 2019/2020



*Number of SOPS visits has been removed as it does not represent individual visits and is being revised.

Epidemiological Week

Vancouver Police Department – Suspected Overdose Deaths January 2017- April 18, 2020

Overdose Related Sudden Death Reporting from VPD Starting from 2017

As Of	Total	SRO (%)	Supportive Housing (%)
Apr 18, 2020	986	33	18

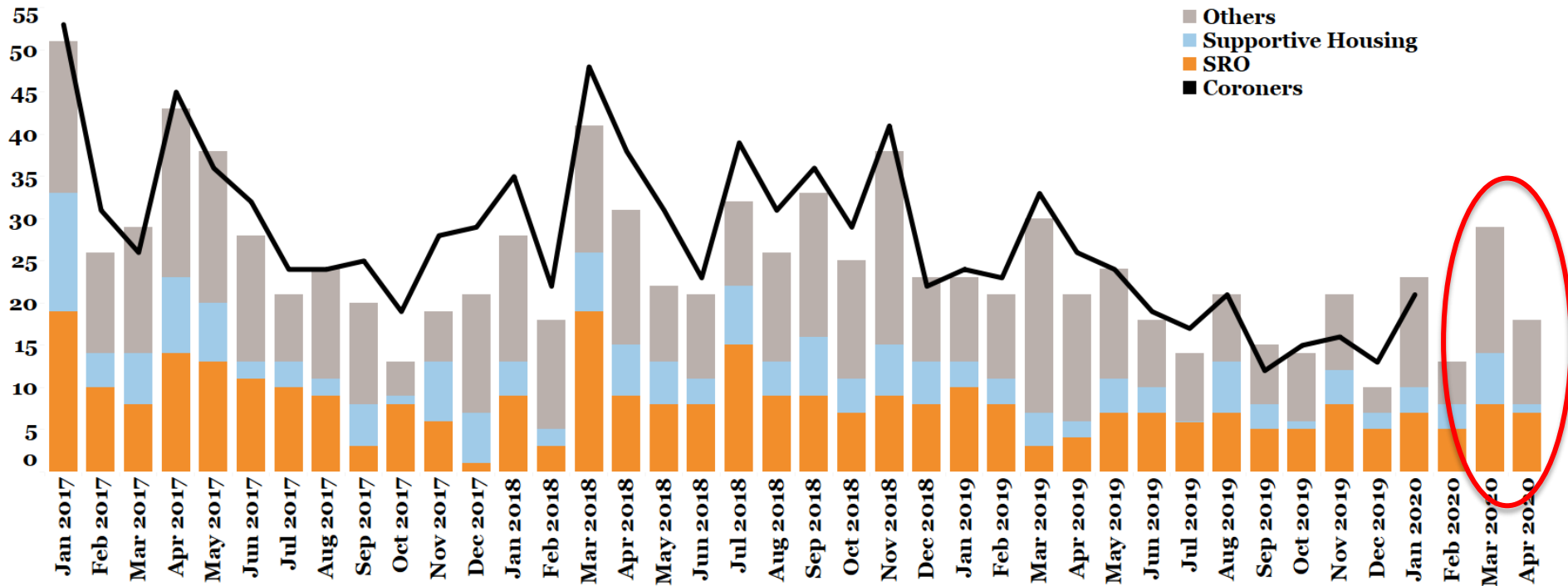
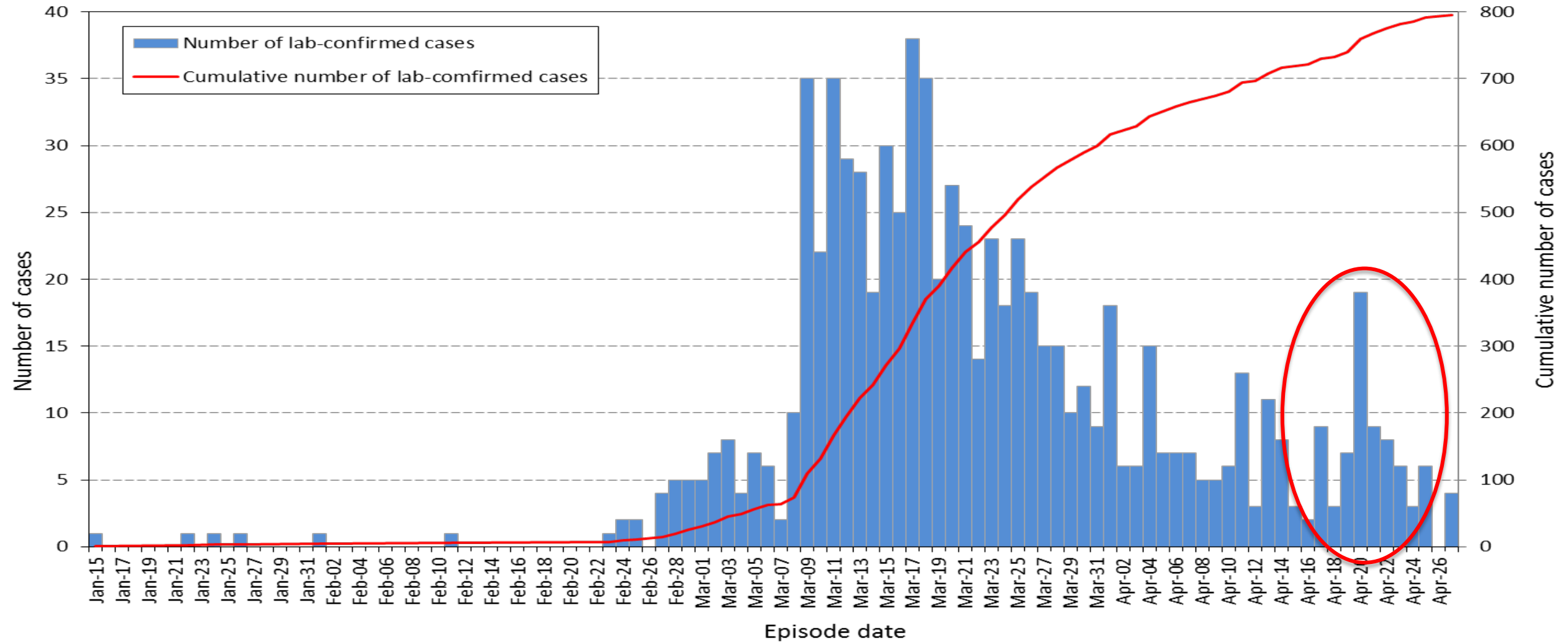


Figure 1. Lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases by episode date* (n=795).
Vancouver Coastal Health, January 15-April 27, 2020



Vancouver Coastal Health COVID-19 Cases

January 15-April 27, 2020

795 Cases:

- 56% female, 44% male
- 19% of cases hospitalized (61% male)
 - 8% ICU (68% male)
- 8% died (52% male)
 - Median age: 87 years (78% over age 80+ years old)
 - 72% (48 of 67 deaths) residents of long term care facilities

COVID 19

"THA VIRUS"

A PANDEMIC THAT INFECTS
THE ENTIRE WORLD
CAN'T STOP IT, BUT WE SLOW IT
AN FLATTEN THA CURVE. STAY IN,
STAY HOME, SAFE AN CONNECTED
FROM A DISTANCE.

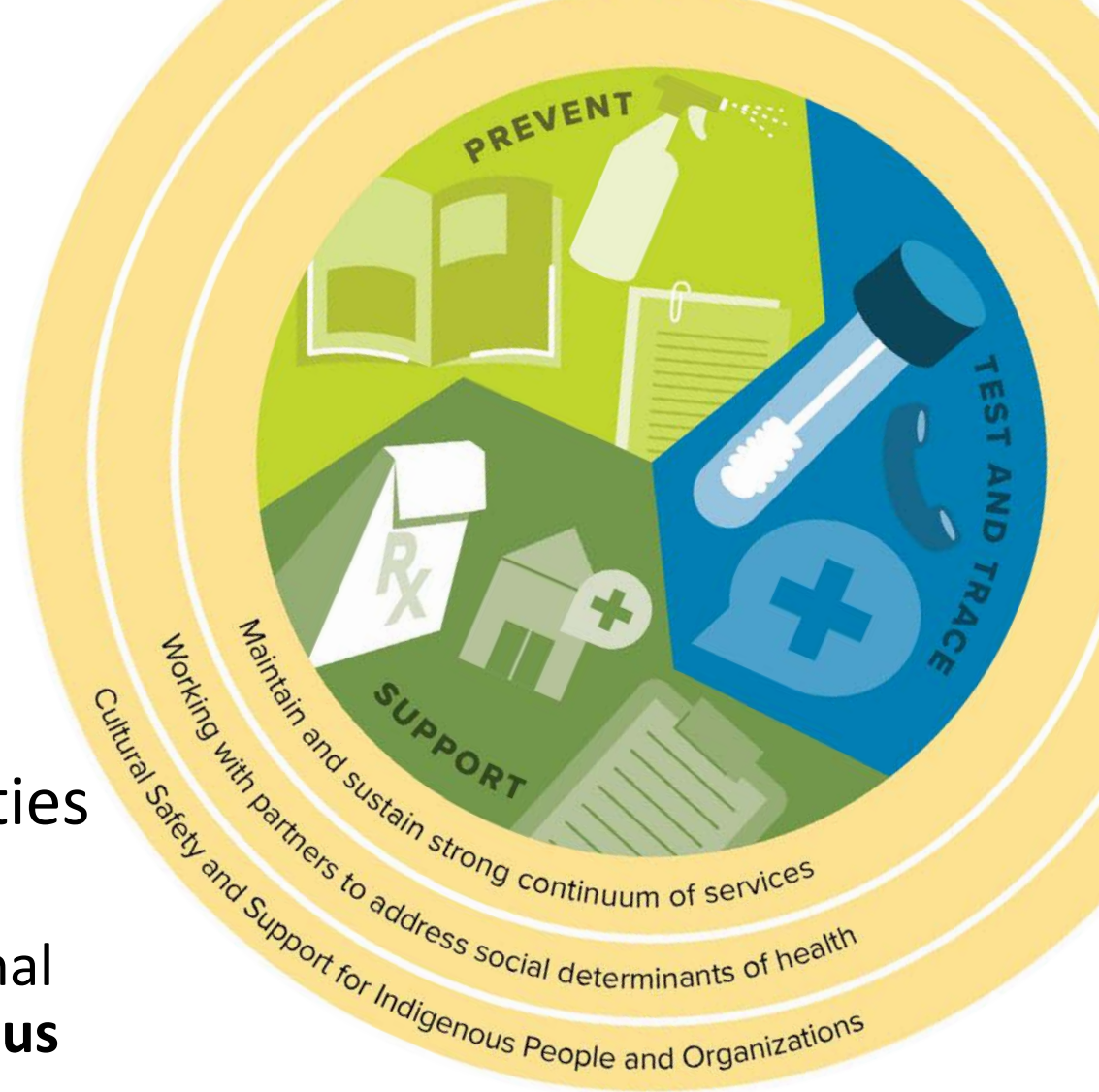


WASH YOUR HANDS
10 TIMES A DAY
PLEASE STOP
TOUCHING YR FACE!!

Inner-City COVID-19 Response Strategy

Inner City COVID-19 Response

- Three pillars:
 - **Prevent**
 - **Test + Trace**
 - **Support**
- Supporting Urban Indigenous Communities in the Inner City
 - Partnership with Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council (MVAEC) **Urban Indigenous Communications Network**



Inner City COVID-19 Response Strategy: PREVENT

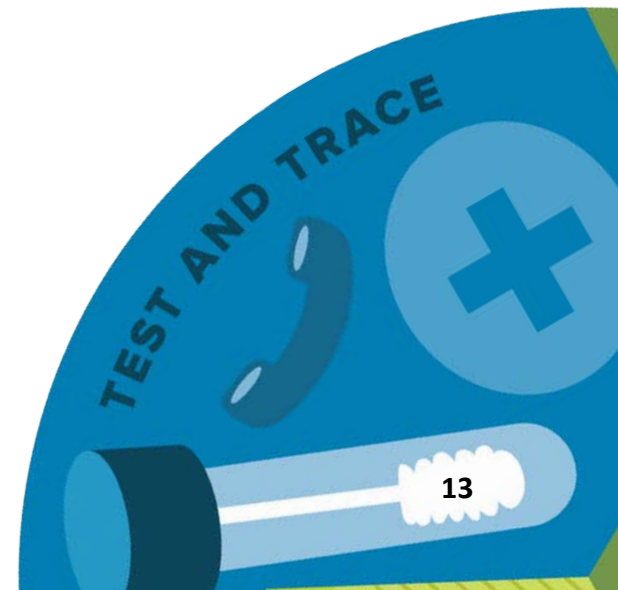
- **Training and guideline development** for community providers, including housing providers
- Support **Emergency Response Centres** to reduce shelter crowding:
(Partnership with BC Housing and City of Vancouver)
- Central coordination of **personal protective equipment (PPE)** for Vancouver Coastal Health managed and contracted services



Inner City COVID-19 Response Strategy: TEST & TRACE

Enhanced testing in the Downtown Eastside, as well as public health follow-up for any suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19

- **COVID-19 testing** – Proactive community testing to identify cases and clusters
 - Mobile Testing Van
 - Testing available at multiple primary care sites
 - Walk-in COVID testing clinic at 611 Powell Street (VCH and BC-CfE)
- Proactive Public Health **follow-up for suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases, and any potential exposures**



Downtown Eastside (DTES) COVID-19 Testing

- Testing rate in the DTES: **40.8 tests/1,000 population**
 - More than twice the VCH average of 15.9 tests/1,000 population
 - More than three times the BC testing rate 11.6 tests/1,000 population
- Percentage positive of those tested in the DTES: **1.6%**
 - Overall VCH positivity rate of those tested is 4.2%
 - Note this is not the overall positivity rate in the community as testing is only recommended for people with symptoms

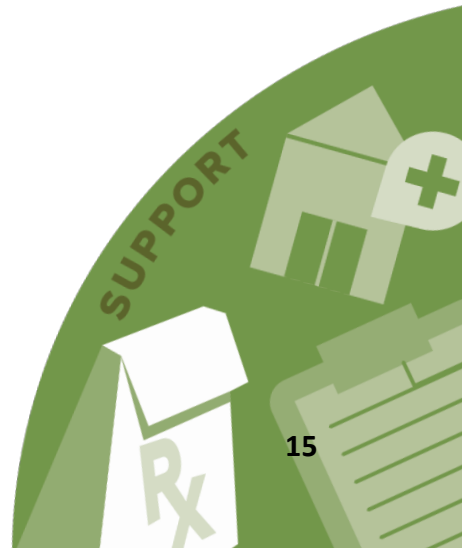


Inner City COVID-19 Response Strategy: SUPPORT

Access to overdose prevention services, temporary housing and clinical care needed to safely self-isolate anyone who has, or was exposed to, COVID-19

- **Clinical supports**

- **COVID Assessment Team:** Arranges access to housing, and mobilization of clinical and other supports
- **COVID Outreach Team:** Outreach nursing for people with COVID-19, including access to urgent and primary care, and prescribed medications to prevent withdrawal



Inner City COVID-19 Response Strategy: SUPPORT

- **New prescriber guidelines** to support people who use drugs who may experience withdrawal symptoms while in self-isolation due to COVID-19
- Ensuring continued operation of **Overdose prevention sites (OPS) and Supervised Consumption Sites (SCS)**
- **Temporary housing** (BC Housing and City of Vancouver): Hotels in downtown Vancouver to provide people with COVID-19 (or who are contacts of COVID-19) who are homeless or precariously housed space to self-isolate safely



Prescriber Guidelines for Risk Mitigation in the Context of Dual Public Health Emergencies

Notification to all prescribers in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region

Prescriber Guidelines

ENROLMENT AND PRESCRIBING



Attached Clients

Clients will be encouraged to work with their existing family physician or nurse practitioner who can use the outlined pharmacotherapy protocols and pharmacy delivery as per their already existing process.



Unattached Clients (or GP declines to prescribe)

Clients will be connected to the Overdose Outreach Team (OOT).



Prescribing Support

Specialist phone consult service can be accessed via the Overdose Outreach Team (OOT) at:

604.360.2874

Available Mon. – Sun., 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Pharmaceutical Protocols: Based on Substances Used

1. Opioids
2. Stimulants
3. Illicit Benzodiazepines
4. Alcohol
5. Tobacco

Implementation (April, 2020):

- ***Over 200 clients***
- ***Over 40 prescribers***