



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
ACTION PLAN TO

PREVENT AND MITIGATE OPIOID-RELATED OVERDOSES AND DEATHS

Opioid-Related Overdose and Deaths Surveillance

*Understanding the
PEI situation*

Rapid Response

*Recognizing and
responding to spikes
in opioid-related
overdoses*

Collaboration on Opioid Supply

*Promoting appropriate
use and reducing the
abuse and misuse of
opioids*

Harm Reduction

*How to get naloxone
How to respond to
an overdose
Opioid replacement
treatment*

October 2019 Progress Report

ACTIONS TO DATE: **SPRING/SUMMER 2019**

- Continued surveillance and quarterly public and national reporting of opioid-related overdoses and deaths.
- Continued to provide Take Home Naloxone (THN) kits free of charge to individuals at risk of opioid-related overdoses, with 1067 distributed to sites from June 2017 to end of September 2019.
- Conducted a survey with clients of the Needle Exchange Program (NEP). The majority of respondents indicated that they use opioids when they are alone, and feel stigmatized by police, emergency medical services, and others as a result of opioid use. Results are being used to inform NEP practice and other harm reduction efforts.
- Finalized second annual prescription monitoring report on narcotics (with 2018 data).
- Opioid Replacement Therapy (ORT) Committee continued to develop provincial ORT guidelines and standards for measurement, monitoring and induction to treatment.
- Continued bus service from Charlottetown to Mt Herbert Addictions Treatment Program running Monday - Friday to facilitate access to ORT services. There is no cost to clients to use the bus service.
- Conducted an internal review of Mental Health & Addictions ORT.
- Initiated work on a proposal for uniform access to opioid replacement therapy medications.
- HPEI has begun process to form a multi-stakeholder committee to address pain management services, practices and education.

ACTIONS TO COME: **FALL/WINTER 2019/2020**

- ORT Committee to continue work to develop provincial ORT guidelines and standards for measurement, monitoring and induction to treatment.
- Coordinator to begin planning and policy development of the Emergency Treatment Fund initiatives.
- Results of the internal ORT review to be shared with Mental Health & Addictions ORT staff.
- A work plan for establishing a prescription monitoring program oversight committee, with stakeholders including professional regulatory bodies, to be developed.
- HPEI to continue work to form a multi-stakeholder committee to address pain management services, practices and education and develop an initial workplan.

For more information on the opioid situation in PEI, opioid treatment, naloxone, needle exchange, and more, please visit:

PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/opioids

