



## BC ECHO on SUBSTANCE USE



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
CENTRE ON  
SUBSTANCE USE

### Monthly Newsletter: October 2021

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In this issue of the BC ECHO on Substance Use newsletter, you'll find resources, news updates, and feature articles related to substance use care in BC, Yukon and across Canada.

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### Support line for clinicians can save lives



Telephone consultation for physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, midwives, and pharmacists providing addiction and substance use care

Available 24/7, 365 days a year

More info at [www.bccsu.ca/24-7](http://www.bccsu.ca/24-7)

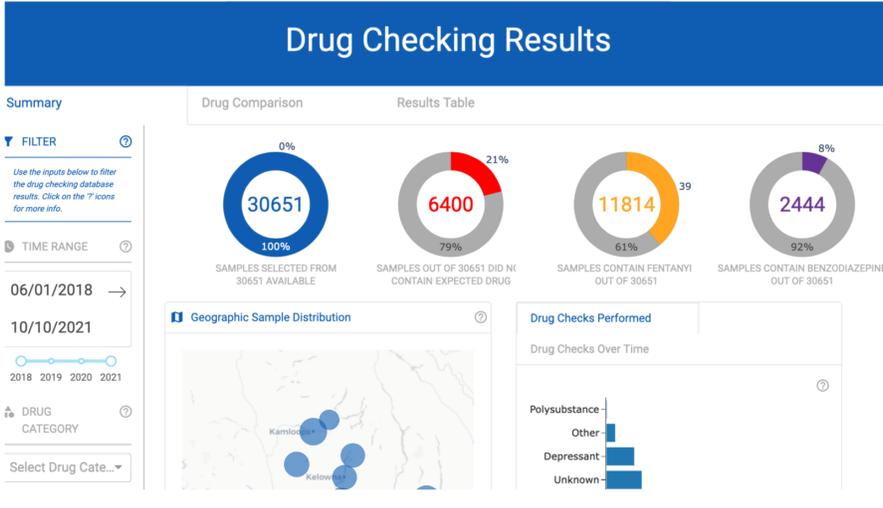


**CALL 778-945-7619**

The 24/7 Addiction Medicine Clinician Support Line provides expert advice for treating patients who use substances. Hear from BCCSU Co-Medical Director, Dr. Paxton Bach, on the value of the support line and his experience responding to calls.

- [24/7 addiction clinician support line provides expert advice for treating patients](#)
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### New dashboard for drug checking results in BC



Drug checking empowers people who use drugs to make informed decisions about the substances they intend to use and helps provide public health with timely information about what is in the unregulated drug supply. Updated weekly, this dashboard is a new tool to view trends in the unregulated drug supply across the province.

- [Drug checking results in BC](#)

## Addiction Practice Pod – new season coming soon!



The Addiction Practice Pod is a podcast for health care providers in BC and Yukon, providing clinical pearls on addiction and substance use care. We are excited to announce that our second season will be coming soon! The first episode, "Substance Use Care in Rural and Remote Contexts," drops on Friday October 29th.

Be sure to catch up on our first season on our website, or anywhere you listen to podcasts.

- [Listen: Addiction Practice Pod, Season 1](#)

# BC ECHO on Substance Use programming

## Special iOAT session

This session is meant for anyone currently providing or considering providing iOAT across Canada, and will offer training on operational iOAT guidance. Please note: CME credits are not offered for attending this session.

- October 26, 9:00am - 10:30am: [Operationalizing injectable opioid agonist treatment \(iOAT\)](#).

## Regularly scheduled ECHO sessions will return later this fall

- For new session dates and topics, stay tuned through these newsletters, or by visiting <https://bcechoonsubstanceuse.ca/#upcoming-sessions>.
- Do you have a colleague interested in joining the community of practice? New members can register for the program anytime using the link above.

## We want your cases!

During the ECHO sessions, case presenters from diverse clinical backgrounds (e.g., family practice, nursing, pharmacy) have an *opportunity to receive guidance and recommendations on patient cases in their practice from addiction experts*. Presenting a case includes submitting a brief written case summary and joining an ECHO session to give a 5-minute de-identified overview of the case and questions for clinical consultation.

To submit a de-identified patient case for a future ECHO session, providers are asked to fill out the [case presentation form](#), or submit a brief paragraph to [BCCECHOonsubstanceuse@bccsu.ubc.ca](mailto:BCCECHOonsubstanceuse@bccsu.ubc.ca).

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## Additional resources for substance use care

### Webinars:

#### Substance Use and Addiction Lunch & Learn Series

This free webinar series, hosted by UBC Health and the BCCSU, provides foundational knowledge about substance use and addiction. The series is geared towards health program instructors and preceptors from any discipline who supervise students, but anyone who might benefit from this resource is welcome and encouraged to attend. Join us on November 19th for the first in this series.

- [November 19, 12:00 - 1:00pm: Substance Use and Addiction 101](#)

#### Think Twice! The (lack of) evidence for opioid analgesics to treat minor acute and chronic pain

This webinar, put on by the UBC Innovation Support Unit, the BCCSU and the Therapeutics Initiative, aims to engage prescribers in a collaborative discussion related to prescribing opioids to opioid naive patients. Opioid-

sparing approaches in the context of primary care for non-cancer pain will be examined, and participants can receive CME credits.

- [November 24th at 12pm: Think Twice! The \(lack of\) evidence for opioid analgesics to treat minor acute and chronic pain](#)

#### **Additional resources:**

#### **New prescription checklist for oral OAT**

This checklist provides reference information for filling out oral opioid agonist treatment (OAT) prescription forms in BC. Explanations and instructions are featured on this annotated form.

- [Prescription checklist for oral opioid agonist treatment \(OAT\)](#)

#### **Bevel Up – "Lunch Box Sessions"**

Bevel Up is a 2007 documentary by acclaimed filmmaker Nettie Wild. The film follows street workers as they connect to people who use drugs and work in the sex trade. An associated series of "Lunch Box Sessions" have been developed to support clinical educators and students to deliver compassionate, effective health care to people who use substances. Lessons include questions and activities as well as short videos and footage from *Bevel Up*.

- [Bevel Up – "Lunch Box Sessions"](#)

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## **News from BC and Yukon**

- News (from Island Health): [Temporary inhalation-focused overdose prevention service to open on Pandora Avenue in Victoria](#)
- News (from BCCSU): [Preliminary results from an evaluation of risk mitigation services amidst the dual crises of COVID-19 and overdose in Vancouver](#)
- News (from CBC): [B.C. records 2nd highest number of monthly overdose deaths](#)
- News (from CBC): [First of its kind take-home heroin program suspended and no one will say why](#)
- News (from CBC): [Overdose survivor hopes to inspire others to seek help](#)

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## **News from across Canada**

- News (from CBC): [Toronto prepares to ask Health Canada to decriminalize illicit drug possession](#)

- News (from CBC): [Sydney overdose prevention site could include machine that dispenses safe supplies of opioids](#)
  - News (from CBC): [Alberta doctors call for more drug-use sites to reduce strain on acute-care resources](#)
  - News (from CBC): [Opioid overdose response now part of Red Cross first aid, CPR training as deaths mount](#)
  - News (from CBC): [Finding their inner light: mothers recover from addiction with support of Indigenous healing camp](#)
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*The BC ECHO on Substance Use aims to build confidence and skills among primary care providers and their teams in British Columbia and Yukon. By bringing clinicians with addictions expertise and primary care providers together in a substance use community of practice, we hope to improve the implementation of evidence-based care in our communities.*

*This newsletter is one part of the BC ECHO on Substance Use, an initiative funded by Health Canada and the GPSC, a partnership of the Government of BC and Doctors of BC. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of Health Canada or the GPSC.*

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