

“RESPONDING TO RISING OPIOID OVERDOSES; WHAT NEXT?”

In response to increasing opioid overdoses, the BC provincial health officer announced a public health emergency in April 2016. Despite the expanded access of opioid agonist therapy and naloxone, and the opening of overdose prevention sites, overdoses in BC continue to rise. In 2016, more than 900 overdose deaths (the highest number ever) were reported in BC. This presentation will discuss the role of fentanyl and its analogues in the opioid overdoses, current interventions and potential next steps.