15 Years of Supervised Drug Consumption – Vancouver, Canada
Findings from the Scientific Evaluation:
Who Uses InSite?

✓ A wide cross-section of drug injectors uses the service.

✓ InSite has been successful in retaining IDUs at higher risk of infection & overdose, homeless/public drug users, young people (20s & 30s) & women at risk of violence.
Findings from the Scientific Evaluation: InSite Saves Lives

- There have been a large number of overdoses within InSite, and zero fatalities to date.

- InSite may have prevented between 6 and 37% of the total overdose deaths in the community.

- The fatal overdose rate in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside decreased by 35% after the opening of InSite. “Supervised injection facilities clearly have an important part to play in communities affected by injection drug use.”
Findings from the Scientific Evaluation: InSite Connects Users to Drug Treatment

- Weekly use of InSite and any contact with the facility's addictions counselor were independently associated with quicker entry into a detoxification program.
  

- InSite’s opening was associated independently with a 30% increase in detoxification service use.
  

- InSite connects clients with addiction treatment, resulting in greater likelihood of stopping injection drug use altogether.
  
Findings from the Scientific Evaluation: InSite Does Not Increase Crime

 ✓ In the year after Insite opened, there were no increases in drug trafficking or assaults/robbery in the surrounding neighborhood—and there was a decline in vehicle break-ins/vehicle theft.

 ✓ No overall changes in rates of crime recorded by police, though a private security company reported reductions in crime in the surrounding business district.
   Health Canada. 2008. Vancouver's InSite service and other supervised injection sites: What has been learned from research? Final report of the Expert Advisory Committee

 ✓ Canada's national police force concludes that supervised injection sites do not increase crime.
Findings from the Scientific Evaluation:
InSite Saves Healthcare Dollars

✓ Mathematical models of the saving from prevention of HIV infection and overdose death show InSite’s cost-benefits ratios ranging from 1.5 to 4.02.
  Health Canada. 2008. Vancouver's InSite service and other supervised injection sites: What has been learned from research? Final report of the Expert Advisory Committee.

✓ InSite has been shown to save over $6 million per year.

✓ InSite was found to decrease needle sharing, increase knowledge of safe injection practices and referral to methadone maintenance, and increase safe injection practices, which is predicted to save up to $20 million and 1070 life-years over a ten year period.
BRITISH COLUMBIA

British Columbia opens drug injection sites amid opioid crisis

ANDREA WOO
VANCOUVER - The Globe and Mail
Last updated Friday, Dec. 09, 2016 2:30PM EST

British Columbia has opened several government-sanctioned drug-injection sites, without waiting for legislative changes or approval from Ottawa, to combat the province’s worst overdose crisis on record. (Vancouver Coastal Health)

B.C. opens sites similar to supervised injection

A man is seen holding a needle at a safe injection site in Vancouver in this undated image.

Laura Kane, The Canadian Press
Published Friday, December 9, 2016 6:43AM EST

VANCOUVER - British Columbia is opening new locations where people can inject illicit drugs while monitored by trained staff - but the province says it isn’t skirting the law on supervised-injection sites.

The province announced Thursday that its opioid overdose crisis has spurred it to establish three overdose-prevention sites in Vancouver, with more planned in Surrey and Victoria.
Hospitals invest in housing for homeless to reduce ER visits

Hospitals put $75 to $100 million into housing projects to limit unnecessary ER visits and reduce wasteful health care spending for homeless.

Pauline Bartolone, Kaiser Health News
**BEFORE DCR**

- Make money.
- Buy street heroin.
- Hide from the police.
- Find or share needle.
- Use puddle water.
- Rush to inject while keeping a look out.
- Throw drug paraphernalia on the ground.
- Repeat.

*Life of people who use drugs before and after the opening of DCR’s*

**AFTER DCR**

- Make money.
- Buy street heroin.
- Visit DCR.
- Receive hygienic paraphernalia (syringe, cookers, filter, alcohol pad).
- Use under supervision of trained professional first aid.
- Properly dispose of drug paraphernalia in biohazard containers.
- Relax, take a shower, change clothes, talk to a social worker & organise the rest of my day.
Thank you for your time