



Art by Edgar Alan Rosetti

# EPISODIC OVERDOSE PREVENTION SERVICE (eOPS)

**eOPS is a policy that allows clients to use substances on site with staff monitoring.**

Episodic-Overdose Prevention Service (eOPS) is guided by VCH Harm Reduction Practice policy and aligns with VCH core values.

eOPS is supported by the Provincial Ministerial Order authorizing and directing the provision of overdose prevention services.

## Scope

All regulated and non-regulated health care and social service providers.

## Responsibilities

Staff offer on-demand observed, private, and hygienic consumption spaces for people to use substances.



For more information:  
[www.bit.ly/EOPS-SOP](http://www.bit.ly/EOPS-SOP)  
[www.bit.ly/VCH-HR](http://www.bit.ly/VCH-HR)  
[www.bit.ly/BCCDC-EOPS-Protocol](http://www.bit.ly/BCCDC-EOPS-Protocol)

## Guiding Principles

As part of harm reduction practice and approach to care, e-OPS is guided by a set of principles that aim to minimize negative outcomes associated with substance use.

- Provide compassionate, non-stigmatizing and respectful care to all clients
- Promote client and staff safety
- Use evidence based, pragmatic and flexible approaches to address the toxic drug emergency
- Recognize that not all clients have a goal of abstinence

## Aims

- Reduce fatalities from toxic drug poisonings
- Improve safety and reduce distress for staff responding to drug poisonings
- Create more opportunities for people who use substances to engage with health services

For questions, contact:  
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