

# INTRODUCING “SURKIT” – A best practice substance use response toolkit for use in emergency departments

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## With regional digital and physical resources, SURkit supports VCH/PHC ED staff in delivering high-quality substance use care

### What is SURkit?

*SURkit is part of VCH and PHC’s regional strategy to help reduce drug toxicity deaths.*



- SURkit is a best practice substance use response toolkit that brings together the resources—both physical and non-physical—needed by ED staff to deliver quality care to patients presenting with substance use disorders.
- SURkit will be implemented across all VCH/PHC EDs to ensure more uniform substance use care, focusing on a non-stigmatizing approach to harm reduction, substance use stabilization, treatment initiation, and transition of care.

### The 3-pronged approach of SURkit

The Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) position statement on clinical practice recommendations for Emergency Departments to address the toxic drug crisis prioritizes providing:

1. Harm reduction services,
2. Opioid agonist therapy (OAT)
3. Transition to community care and follow up for people who use substances.

SURkit takes these three prongs of best practice substance use care and brings them together into one standardized resource comprised of:



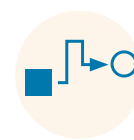
#### Harm Reduction

- Take-home naloxone kits
- Safer use supplies
- Information for patients and staff



#### Opioid Agonist Therapy

- Guidelines for dispensing missed doses in EDs
- Guidelines for OAT starts in ED
- Standardized Buprenorphine/naloxone to-go (BTG) packs



#### Improving Transition of Care

- Guidelines and contact information for outreach referrals
- Pathway to community SU services for follow-up care
- More options and instructions for next day follow-up