

Episode 3 – Injecting Rooms scam series

- In 2011 the evaluators claimed a 35% reduction in overdose deaths close to Insite
- ruled out any displacement effect from movement of dealers, users and discarded needles away from the area around Insite due to radically changed policing
- a displacement effect they measured in a 2004 journal study vehemently condemning the police
- yet in 2011 they denied any knowledge of the policing changes

Displacement

What was the effect of the changed policing?

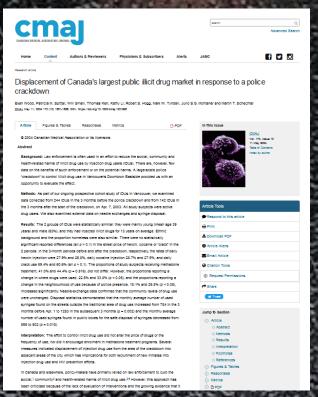
A funded study examined the impact. From its Abstract.

"In April 2003 the Vancouver Police Department embarked on a large-scale enforcement operation aimed at illicit drug users (IDUs) in the city's Downtown Eastside (DTES). The stated goals of the "crackdown" involved "disrupting the open drug market and interrupting the cycle of crime and drug use that marks the streets of the Downtown Eastside."

"Several measures indicated displacement of injection drug use from the area of the crackdown into adjacent areas of the city . . ."

Who authored this study?

Evan Wood, Thomas Kerr, Julio S.G. Montaner (amongst others)



https://www.cmai.ca/content/170/10/1551.full

Displacement

35% reduction in deaths near Insite

Articles

Reduction in overdose mortality after the opening of North America's first medically supervised safer injecting facility: a retrospective population-based study



Brandon D L Marshall, M-J Milloy, Evan Wood, Julio S G Montaner, Thomas Kerr

Summary

Background Overdose from illicit drugs is a leading cause of premature mortality in North America. Internationally, more than 65 supervised injecting facilities (SIFs), where drug users can inject pre-obtained illicit drugs, have been opened as part of various strategies to reduce the harms associated with drug use. We sought to determine whether the opening of an SIF in Vancouver, BC, Canada, was associated with a reduction in overdose mortality.

Methods We examined population-based overdose mortality rates for the period before (Jan 1, 2001, to Sept 20, 2003) and after (Sept 21, 2003, to Dec 31, 2005) the opening of the Vancouver SIF. The location of death was determined from provincial coroner records. We compared overdose fatality rates within an a priori specified 500 m radius of the SIF and for the rest of the city.

Findings Of 290 decedents, 229 (79·0%) were male, and the median age at death was 40 years (IQR 32–48 years). A third (89, 30·7%) of deaths occurred in city blocks within 500 m of the SIF. The fatal overdose rate in this area decreased by 35·0% after the opening of the SIF, from 253·8 to 165·1 deaths per 100 000 person-years (p=0·048). By contrast, during the same period, the fatal overdose rate in the rest of the city decreased by only $9\cdot3\%$, from $7\cdot6$ to $6\cdot9$ deaths per 100 000 person-years (p=0·490). There was a significant interaction of rate differences across strata (p=0·049).

Interpretation SIFs should be considered where injection drug use is prevalent, particularly in areas with high densities of overdose.

Published Online April 18, 2011 DOI:10.1016/S0140-6736(10)62353-7 See Online/Comment DOI:10.1016/S0140-6736(11)60132-3

British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

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Who authored this study?

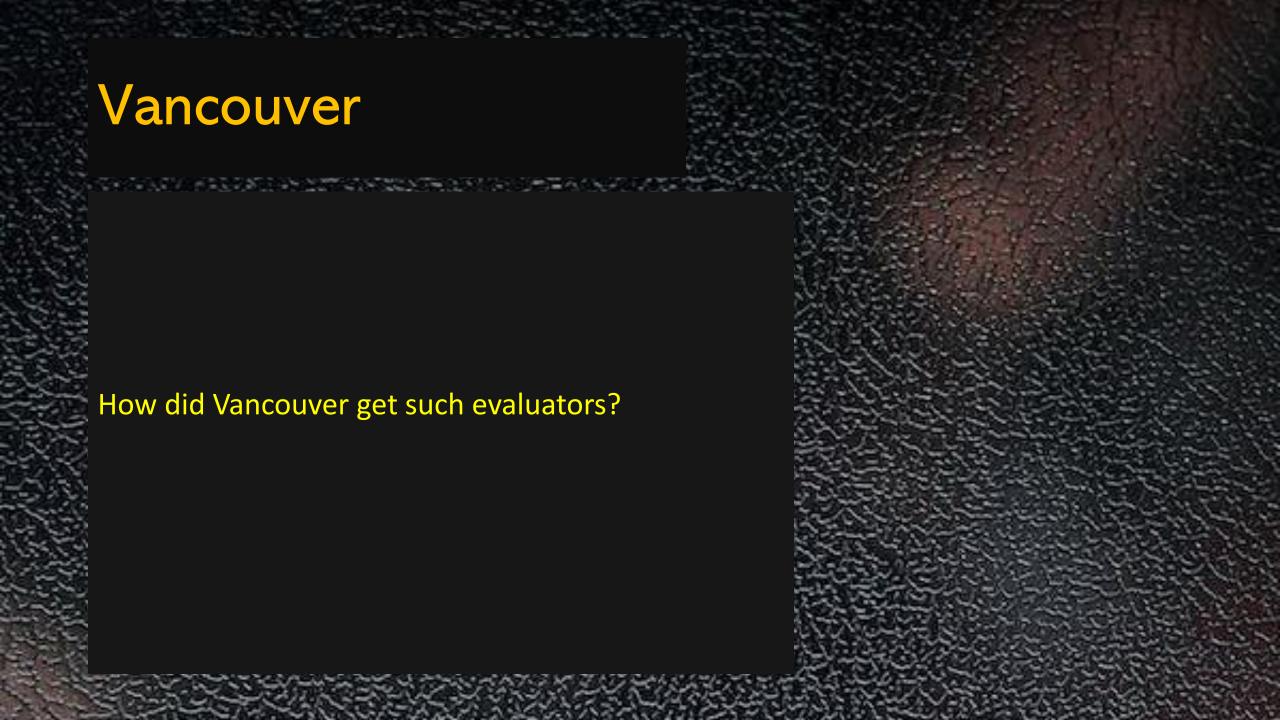
Evan Wood, Thomas Kerr, Julio S.G. Montaner (amongst others)



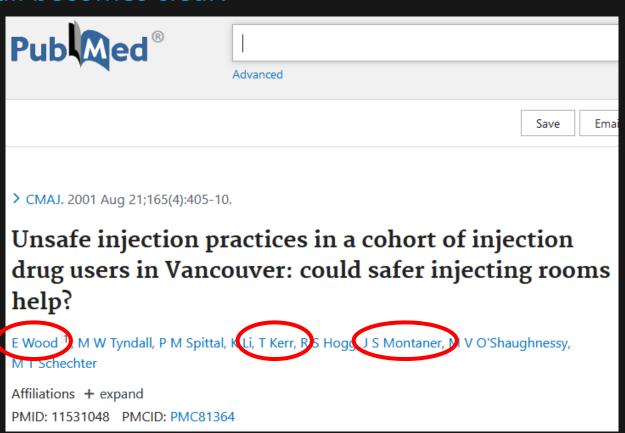
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(10)62353-7/fulltext

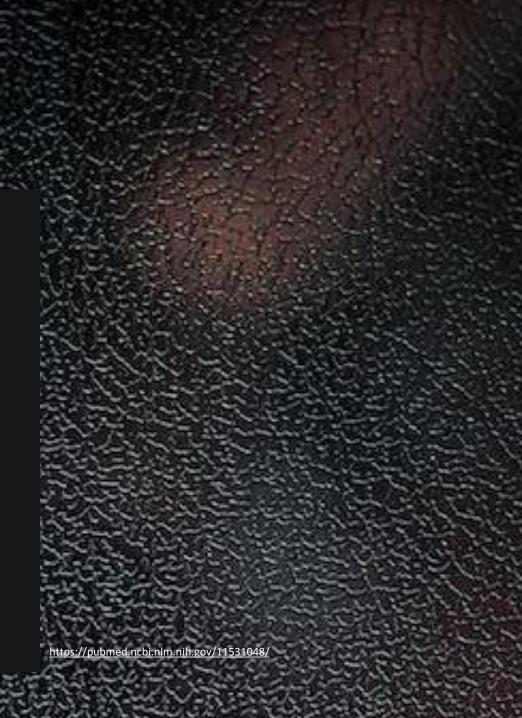
Vancouver evaluators:

- Two options
 - really bad memory inept
 - perpetrating a fraud



It all becomes clear:





It all becomes clear:





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CMAJ. 2002 Feb 19; 166(4): 422.

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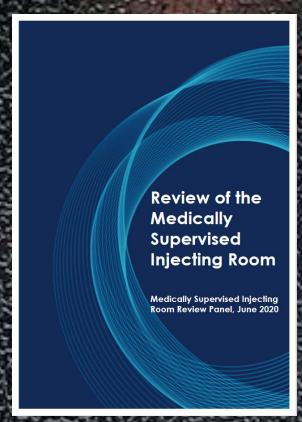
Safer injection facilities for injection drug users: the debate continues

Evan Wood, Mark W. Tyndall, Thomas Kerr, Patricia M. Spittal, Michael V. O'Shaughnessy, and Martin T. Schechter



Evaluators -p4

- Margaret Hamilton Chair
- Alex Cockram
- John Ryan
- Ken Lay
- Ruth Vine



https://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/resource-files/2020-06/apo-nid306054.pdf

Harm Reduction International

Overdose, overdose response and drug consumption rooms (DCRs)

Australia is now home to two DCRs, known in the country as medically supervised injection facilities. The DCR in Sydney, in operation since 2001, was joined in July 2018 by a second DCR in Melbourne (currently under a two-year trial). The Sydney DCR has registered 1.1 million injections since its inception, sees approximately 600 individuals per month (155 per day) and is open 80 hours per week. The centre in Melbourne is expected to be used by up to 300 people per day. Civil society organisations have raised concerns that the Australian DCRs offer no specific times or services for women.



https://www.hri.global/files/2019/02/05/global-state-harm-reduction-2018.pdf

Harm Reduction Australia

http://www.harmreductionaustralia.org.au/people/advocates/

56 captures
3 Mar 2016 - 20 Sep 2023

AP

2017

Join Harm Reduction Australia here

Professor Margaret Hamilton AO

Professor Margaret Hamilton AO – her over forty five years' experience in the alcohol and drug field includes clinical work, education, training, research, publication and policy development.

She was founding Director of Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre (Vic.) 10 yrs; Chair of the Multiple and Complex Needs Panel (Vic) 5 yrs; an Executive member of Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) 16 yrs. [...]



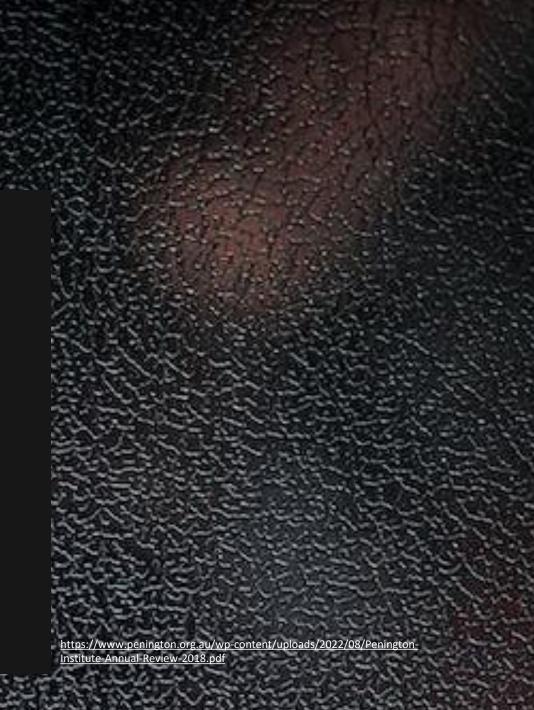
https://web.archive.org/web/20180407082324/http:/www.harmreductionaustralia.org.au/people/advocates/

Penington Institute - p 10

Policy influence

Penington Institute is engaged with committees and advisory groups at local, state, national and international levels including:

- Department of Health and Human Service,
 Hepatitis C Elimination Working Group
 (Victorian Government)
- Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence Patient Access Taskforce (Pharmaceutical Society of Australia)
- The Premier's Ice Action Taskforce (Victorian Government)
- Review Panel for the North Richmond Medically Supervised Injecting Room
- The Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections (Australian Covernment)
- Harm Reduction International (United Kingdom) (chaired by Penington Institute CEO John Ryan).



The Sydney Morning Herald

National Victoria

This was published 6 years ago

'We probably weren't brave enough on injecting rooms,' says Victoria's former police chief Ken Lay

"Forget about trying to arrest your way out of this."

By Goya Dmytryshchak

Updated July 22, 2017 — 5.56pm, first
published at 5.07pm

f



Victoria's former police chief has spoken out in support of supervised injecting rooms for Melbourne, saying drug use is not an issue to "arrest your way out of".

Ken Lay, now Ambulance Victoria chairman, told Joy FM's Saturday Magazine program that drug users were sick, not criminals.





2003 evaluators

- Richard Mattick
- Helen Lapsley
- John Kaldor
- Don Weatherburn
- Andrew Wilson

FINAL REPORT OF THE EVALUATION OF THE SYDNEY MEDICALLY SUPERVISED INJECTING CENTRE

MSIC Evaluation Committee

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https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/5706/1/MSIC_final_evaluation_report.pdf

















NDARC

FOREWORD



Foreword

The drug debate has moved on sig-lowing the Drug Summit. There has been a softening of the previous resistance to try new measures. The commitment of the New South Wales Government to trial a safe injecting room for heroin addicts at Kings Cross over an 18 month period is the most controversial of a raft of recommendations of the Drug Summit now being implemented. Increased funding is being made available by the State Government to supplement efforts at the Federal level under the National Drug Strategic Framework.



negotiations for the relocation of the Centre. We have clearly outgrown the accommodation at our present address and redevelopment proposals for the Prince of Wales site compound the problem. The University of New South Wales has been very supportive of our needs and has been giving consideration to interim accommodation while plans for a new medical faculty building within the University are developed. We have received an assurance that we will eventually be located within that building. It is hoped that a final decision on interim accommodation will be made soon. It NATIONAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL RESEARCH CENTRE

Annual Report

2000



https://ndarc.med.unsw.edu.au/sites/default/files/ndarc/resources/NDARC%2B2000%2BANNUAL%2BREPORT.pdf

Don Weatherburn

http://www.sydneymsic.com/dsummitoutcome1.htm

Go SEP: JUN OCT and a response to a very complex problem that requires appropriate responses at several levels from the management of the problem of the spectrum of drug users. I (Page 220 2003 2004 2006 very supporting it.)

The Hon. P. FORSYTHE: I second the amendment.

Dr WEATHERBURN: This is just a small point, but you will really tie the hands of the evaluator if you commit to a number of safe injecting rooms now that are to be evaluated. I would urge you to consider something like "a small number". At this stage of the game, not knowing what the research design would be - and I hope this job does not fall to me - to say "five" might really put the evaluator in a delicate position.

Ms TOOHEY: That would be one million people per injecting room; five million people in New South Wales, five injecting rooms. That is my understanding of what is being proposed, that is, five injecting rooms to be trialled. Let us say users want to come, you have to access about one million people.

Senator PAYNE: I take Mr Weatherburn's point. I thought that the figure of no more than five was a small number. I am happy to accede to an amendment from the floor of a small number, strictly controlled, if that is more appropriate.



Claim – 'independent'

Sydney

https://www.uniting.org/community-impact/uniting-medically-supervised-injecting-centre--msic/history-of-uniting-msic

Melbourne

https://www.health.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/migrated/files/collections/research-and-reports/r/review-of-the-medically-supervised-injecting-room-june-2020.pdf

Vancouver

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3492113/