

The First 7 Minutes

"The First 7 Minutes" is a short film designed to promote discussion and the design and implementation of tailored overdose prevention protocols in all agencies that serve marginalized populations – from needle exchange programs to "Money Mart." It is part of a growing arsenal of resources and services being developed and delivered by the *Toronto Harm Reduction Task Force* and *Toronto Public Health – The Works* to help address the issue of overdose in the city.

Discussion/Checklist Questions:

What are some barriers to designing and implementing an overdose prevention protocol at your agency?

What is your agency's official policy around substance use on site?

About people accessing services while they're high or intoxicated?

About sleeping in the drop in or waiting area?

About using washroom facilities?

Does your agency distribute safer use tools (syringes, pipes)?

What are the biggest risks of overdose faced by the clients you serve?

What kind of drugs do clients of your agency use? How do they use these?

At your agency, are there health care professionals on site?

Who is trained in first aid and CPR?

Is there a first aid kit? If so, what's in it? Who is responsible for keeping it stocked? Does it include rescue breathing masks? Are gloves readily available for universal precautions? Is there a defibrillator in the building? Who has been trained to use it?

Who is responsible for clearing the building in case of emergency (fire or other)?

Are there panic buttons anywhere in the agency?

Is the street address of the agency and notation of cross streets posted by all telephones?

Are there any posters/algorithms on what to do in the event of overdose displayed in your agency?

Does your agency offer ongoing training for front line and peer workers e.g. crisis management? HIV/Hep C prevention? overdose prevention?

What's the physical layout of the building (e.g. long hallway, offices with doors, fire doors etc.)? Are there places someone might be without being noticed right away?

What about the outside surrounding area? Are there obstacles around (e.g. dumpsters etc.)?