

# SURVEILLANCE OF OPIOID MISUSE AND OVERDOSE IN MANITOBA

JULY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

Epidemiology & Surveillance  
Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living

## Naloxone kits distributed in the province

Distribution of Naloxone to individuals through the Provincial Take-Home Naloxone Program  
**92\* ↓**

Naloxone Kits (units) ordered and shipped through the Manitoba Materials Distribution Agency warehouse  
**250 ↓**

\*There is a delay in reporting. Subject to change as data becomes available.

Naloxone Distribution in Q3

## Naloxone administration due to suspected opioid overdose

Winnipeg  
*Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Service\**  
**164 ↑**

Northern and Rural Manitoba  
*Medical Transportation Coordination Centre*  
**1 ↓**

Provincial take-home naloxone program overdose reports  
**12 ±**

\* includes only those aged ≥ 9 years

± no change – same as the previous quarter

Naloxone Administration in Q3

## Hospitalization and emergency department and urgent care facility\* (ED) admissions

Opioid poisoning hospitalizations  
**16 ↓**

ED admissions\* for all overdoses  
*Winnipeg Regional Health Authority sites*  
**270 ↓**

*Sites in Manitoba outside of Winnipeg*  
**121 ↓**

\* includes only those aged ≥ 9 years

Hospitalizations and ED admissions in Q3

## The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner reports on substance overdose deaths

Opioids have been a primary or contributing cause of death in **approximately half of all drug-related deaths each year:**

- 2014: 94 of 175 deaths (54%)
- 2015: 85 of 182 deaths (47%)
- 2016: 88 of 173 deaths (51%)
- 2017: 106 of 192 deaths (55%)
- 2018\*: **40 opioid-related deaths**

\* Deaths that occurred in 2018 are still under review. Subject to change as toxicology results become available.

Mortality Trends (Jan 2014 – Sept 2018)

## Number of apparent opioid-related deaths (Jan – Sep 2018)

Manitoba (total)  
**40\***

Fentanyl-related opioids detected (including its analogs)  
**13\* (33%\* of deaths we have information on)**

Carfentanil (a fentanyl analog) detected  
**2\* (15%\* of deaths where fentanyl-related opioids were)**

Crystal meth present:  
**0\***

\* Deaths that occurred in 2018 are still under review. Subject to change as toxicology results become available.

Apparent opioid-related deaths in Q3

## Number of Manitobans dispensed a prescription opioid

All opioids (total):  
**8,777 ↓**

< 50 MME\*/day: **4,073 ↓**

50-89 MME\*/day: **2,175 ↓**

90-199 MME\*/day: **1,816 ↓**

≥ 200 MME\*/day: **713 ↓**

\* Morphine Milligram Equivalent per day

Opioid Prescriptions dispensed in Q3

The “increasing” and “decreasing” trends indicated by the arrows (↓ / ↑) refer to the change from updated 2018 second quarter numbers.

Across the country, opioid use and overdose continues to have devastating effects on families and communities. Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL) has been working closely with partners since the beginning of 2017, to collect and share data with stakeholders, and to monitor trends related to opioid use and overdose, in addition to harms and response efforts. The following trends were identified this quarter, and will be monitored by the Epidemiology and Surveillance unit of the MHSAL:

- Reports of multi-drug use among individuals who overdosed and used a Take-Home Naloxone Kit **continues**.
- Methamphetamine **continues** to be detected among individuals who died of an apparent opioid intoxication – 15% of individuals in 2018.
- Approximately a quarter of ED admissions for an overdose (not specific to opioids) **continues** to be among those aged 15 and 19 years.
- An overall **decrease** in the number of individuals dispensed a prescription opioid was reported.

## SUMMARY

**NOTE:** Numbers are subject to change. Delayed submission of data will be included in future reports as they become available. | **CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** This report contains confidential information. Any unauthorized use, disclosure, distribution or copying is strictly prohibited; we assume no liability for any loss or damage suffered as a result of same. Please notify the sender if you have received this report by mistake and then permanently dispose of it in a secure manner. | **QUESTIONS?** Please forward to [outbreak@gov.mb.ca](mailto:outbreak@gov.mb.ca)