

AVOID USING ALONE.

- **Always** have narcans.
- The drug supply is still unsafe and overdose risk is still a reality.
- To minimize risk of contact try to use at least two arms length away from other people.
- If you have any symptoms, consider using outside of an OPS but be sure to use a buddy system. Using with a buddy can help reduce risk of fatal overdose because a buddy can witness use or can check on you after use either in person or by phone.
- If you have a phone buddy, make sure they are nearby and ask them to stay on the line while you are using so they can call 911 if you become unresponsive.
- Some OPS (VANDU) have designated areas for people, who might be sick, to use in.
- Use in a park (or other area you will be noticed) if none of the above are options.



HARM REDUCTION FOR COVID

- **If snorting.** always clean your surface **first.**
- **If injecting.** always clean the surface you are preparing your drugs and also the area of the body you will be injecting.
- **If smoking.** give distance from others and increase ventilation and access to fresh air if at all possible. Switching to snorting (heroin, crack) and edibles (cannabis) is a better option than smoking.
- **Always** put used drug use supplies in a sharps container so people know they are used.

SAFER USE STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RISK OF COVID-19 TRANSMISSION



TRY TO MINIMIZE CONTACT.

- Be mindful of social distancing (two arms length).
- Avoid touching your face.
- If you're buying drugs off someone who held them in their mouth or hands, do your best to cook your drugs.
- When receiving drugs, immediately wipe down the package with microbial wipes, alcohol (at least 70% isopropanol or 60% ethanol), or bleach.

DEALERS:

- Try to avoid bodily contact with drugs that are for sale. i.e. don't hold them in your hand or mouth.
- If you have to carry drugs in your body, clean well before and after you take them out.
- When packaging drugs for sale, wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds; or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer (at least 70% isopropanol or 60% ethanol); or disposable gloves.
- Always prepare drugs on a regularly disinfected surface.
- When giving out drugs, keep them in a container or clean ziplock rather than your pockets. Use a clean hand (or a clean surface) to pass anything.
- If possible, pass drugs on clean surfaces without making contact with anyone.
- Please use gloves when handling currency. If not available, wash your hands after receiving currency.



PREPARE YOUR DRUGS YOURSELF.

- Wash/disinfect your hands.
- Don't share any drugs that you have personally prepared. Let others prepare their own.
- Don't share **any** supplies.
- If you have to share either wipe with microbial wipes, alcohol (at least 70% isopropanol or 60% ethanol), or bleach; or use separate mouthpiece.
- Don't let other people handle your drugs or supplies.
- If you must split the drugs, make sure the person who touches the drugs washes their hands before and after.