



Myths & Facts

About Supervised Consumption Services



MYTH SCS promote drug use ❌

FACT Staff adopt a non-judgmental approach ✓

These services are part of a harm reduction approach that aims to keep people safe and healthy irrespective of whether they choose to use drugs or abstain.



MYTH SCS increase drug use ❌

FACT Drug use remains the same or decreases ✓

SCS typically serve people who have used drugs for a long period of time and service use is associated with increased uptake into treatment.



MYTH SCS bring more drugs to an area ❌

FACT SCS bring existing drug use inside ✓

Federal SCS exemptions require that applicants demonstrate need for the service based on local drug use patterns. Research shows people are typically unwilling to travel far to use an SCS.



MYTH SCS increase crime in the community ❌

FACT Crime rates remain the same or decrease ✓

Available research shows either no change or a decrease in drug trafficking, violent crime, and public drug use in surrounding areas.



MYTH SCS are a waste of resources ❌

FACT SCS save money ✓

SCS contribute to decreased emergency response costs, fewer instances of HIV transmission, and fewer deaths. Research shows Vancouver's Insite saves up to \$6 million per year.