

SAFER SUPPLY CHECKLIST

We met with 63 people who use drugs and asked them to brainstorm, sort and rate the elements of effective safer supply.

Right dose and right drugs for me.

- A safe and non-toxic supply that is decriminalized and legal.
- Drugs that don't make you dependent or are too hard to get off.
- Drugs that are strong enough to eliminate use of street drugs.
- Options and choices of drugs are important (e.g. heroin, fentanyl, morphine, ketamine, cocaine, original methadone & cannabis).
- Drugs should be available in forms that are safe and suitable for both injecting and smoking.
- Right drugs in right dose for euphoria.

Safer supply and other services are accessible to me.

- Should be easily accessible without having to jump through a lot of hoops.
- Options that recreate the ritual.
- Shouldn't be limited to a 7-day script.
- Shouldn't require urine testing.
- Services like drug checking are available.
- Access to housing and other supports should be available.
- Police should not be present.

I can easily get my safer supply.

- Caring prescribers who understand dope.
- Medical care in a safe and therapeutic environment.
- I am trusted with a prescription.
- A personalized supply with carries (more than daily or weekly).
- Not getting cut off or having dosages dropped for missing days.
- Programs with peers who understand drugs.
- Mobile and outreach options.
- Consistent and stable medication delivery.
- Ensure care is available for opioid and stimulant users.

Safe, positive and welcoming spaces.

- Spaces should be free of stigma, judgements, and blame.
- I am not labeled as a drug user or with a disorder to get help.
- I feel welcome and nurtured.
- There are people you can talk to.
- People believe what you say.
- There are teams with peers on them.
- Physical spaces are available for smoking and injecting.
- Sites should be available 24/7.
- Access to optional mental health supports.
- Programs should not be short term.

I am treated with respect.

- I am treated with respect, trust and deserving of care.
- There are people who know me and understand what I am going through.
- People who are good at communicating and following through.
- A lot of different services are merged together.

Helps me function and improves my quality of life (as defined by me).

- Not having to do daily witnessing or pickups would improve quality of life.
- Access to more than suboxone would improve functionality.
- Something that helps deal with chronic pain.
- Something for those who use stimulants
- Alternatives that get the monkey off your back.
- Drugs that help you feel normal or allow you to function.
- Access to other treatment options and next steps.

From "Perspectives of People who use Drugs on Safer Supply: A concept mapping study." visit colabbc.ca for more info.

