Increased drug use around income assistance payments

Past research shows that drug-related harm increases around cheque day...

Riskier drug use
More overdoses
More hospital visits
Longer waits at insite
More police interaction

...but we don’t fully understand how people’s drug use changes around income assistance payments.

The Project
Participants from three studies (ARYS, ACCESS, VIDUS) were asked about what drugs they were using and how much they were using.

We compared drug use patterns between the days around cheque day and other times.

Results
Participants used less in the 7-10 days before cheque day, and more on cheque day and the 2 days after.

What’s Next?
This study shows a need to look at other ways income assistance could be paid to reduce drug-use and related harm around cheque day.

Interested in learning more or being part of a study that is doing this?
Contact us at 778-945-5681 611 Powell Street (VIDUS OFFICE)
tasa@cfenet.ubc.ca

www.bccsu.ca/cheque-day-study