

DIACETYLMORPHINE INTEREST

“If diacetylmorphine (medical heroin) becomes available as an option for iOAT would you want to switch from your current medication?”

Background

The iOAT Study is a provincial evaluation to assess short and long term client-based outcomes associated with injectable opioid agonist treatment (iOAT) as an expanding option within the continuum of care for opioid use disorder. Interim results have been made available to inform feasibility planning for a diacetylmorphine supply in British Columbia.

Methods

Consenting participants attend a baseline and one year follow up study visit to complete an interview and urine drug test (at baseline only). This information will be linked to data held in a range of health and social databases. A parallel qualitative study includes interviews with clients and service providers, and ethnographic fieldwork.

Interim Results

As of 14 May 2019, there were 159 participants enrolled in the study from all iOAT programs currently operating in British Columbia.

Program	# of participants	% of participants
Molson Overdose Prevention Clinic	54	34
Crosstown Clinic	39	24
Pier Pharmacy*	33	21
Surrey iOAT Clinic	24	15
Downtown Community Health Centre	9	6
Total	159	100

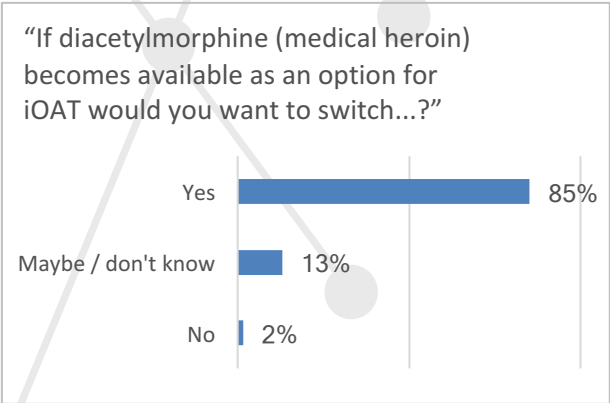
*ceased providing iOAT in late 2018 with active clients transferred to the Molson Overdose Prevention Clinic

Within the baseline interview, study participants were asked *“if diacetylmorphine (medical heroin) becomes available as an option for iOAT would you want to switch from your current medication?”*.

85% of participants would definitely choose to switch to injectable diacetylmorphine

Twenty percent of participants were already receiving injectable diacetylmorphine and 3% of participants were not asked due to the need to unexpectedly end the interview.

Of 122 participants that provided a response and were receiving injectable hydromorphone, almost all would definitely or potentially want to switch (98%). Eighty five percent responded with “yes”, 13% responded with “maybe / don’t know”, and 2% responded with “no”.



In response to a further question on a past desire for iOAT prior to start, 88 participants specified the medication of interest; 65% wanted diacetyl - morphine, 14% wanted hydromorphone and 22% wanted “either / any” iOAT medication.

Further interim results will be made available over the duration of the study. For queries, please contact: ioatstudy@bccsu.ubc.ca

Acknowledgements

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all iOAT Study participants, and to respectfully acknowledge that our work was hosted on the ancestral and unceded traditional territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the traditional territories of xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxw̓.7mesh (Squamish), and Səl.e lwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.