



RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICE POLICIES TO facilitate use of safer crystal meth smoking supplies



DISTRIBUTE SUPPLIES

- Bowl pipes and mouthpieces
- Safer sex supplies, such as condoms and lubricant
- Offer mouthpieces with each bowl pipe provided
- Without requiring exchange of used ones
- Based on the quantity requested by clients with no limits

EDUCATE ABOUT

- The risks of sharing smoking supplies and unprotected sex
- Safer use of equipment
- Safer smoking practices
- The proper disposal of used safer smoking equipment
- Safer sex
- Stimulant overdose prevention practices
- When to replace a bowl pipe:
 - The bowl pipe and/or the mouthpiece have been used by anyone else
 - The bowl pipe is scratched, chipped or cracked
 - The mouthpiece is burnt

DISPOSE

- Encourage clients to return and/or properly dispose of used or broken pipes
- Dispose of used smoking supplies in accordance with local regulations for biomedical waste
- Offer multiple sizes of biohazard containers for safe disposal
- Offer multiple, convenient locations for safe disposal in rural, remote, and urban settings

RISKS

- Transmission may occur if more than one person uses smoking equipment contaminated with HIV, HBV, HCV and/or pneumonia etc
- Increased risk of HIV transmission from sexualized drug behaviour
- Prolonged use may also lead to irritability and psychosis, called “tweaking”
- Dental decay from drug use and poor oral health
- Smoking crystal methamphetamine can worsen existing conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and asthma
- Makeshift pipes (e.g., out of light bulbs, soft drink cans and converted crack cocaine stems) can lead to cuts and burns

BEHAVIORS

- Bowl pipes are commonly shared
- Group norms may endorse pipe sharing instead of individual use
- Use of crystal methamphetamine is common among men who have sex with men who engage in “chemsex” and “PnP” or “Party and Play”