

Opioid Use & Pain Management In Canada

Brought to you by **Ontario's Anesthesiologists**; the experts in pain management

What You Need to Know

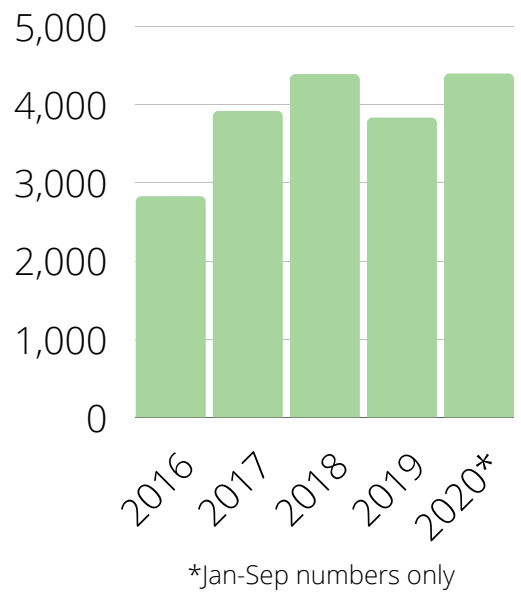
Prescription opioid use is on the decline but in 2018, almost **1 in 8** Canadians were prescribed opioids



Appropriately prescribed opioids can be taken safely by most patients

Less pain can = quicker recovery & better patient outcomes

Opioid-related deaths have increased across Canada



Most deaths are accidental & involve illegal fentanyl use

Jan-Sep 2020, 85% of deaths occurred in BC, Alberta & Ontario

The role of prescription opioids is mostly indirect, but it's one that provides the opportunity to **intervene early**

Nearly 10% of Canadians using prescription opioids report "problematic use"



As many as **83%**

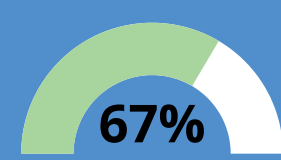
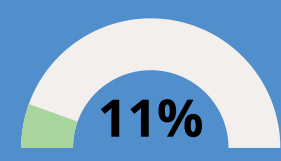
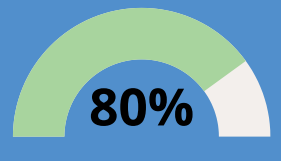
of prescribed opioid pills are not used following elective adult surgeries

This tells us too many pills are still being prescribed

Excess pills are sometimes diverted & misused

- Approximately 80% of heroin users report being introduced to opioids through prescription pills, many of which were diverted from legitimate prescriptions
- 11% of Ontario high school students report using prescription painkillers non-medically
- 67% of students using opioid painkillers non-medically say they got them from their homes

Diversion = "selling or sharing a prescription medication"



It's about prescribing the right amount of opioids given the situation or scenario



Healthcare professionals: Learn to manage surgical pain more effectively at SolvingPain.ca, a new tool aimed at improving patients' experiences with pain while reducing the number of excessive & unnecessary opioid pills in your community



See our sources at SolvingPain.ca/infographic-sources