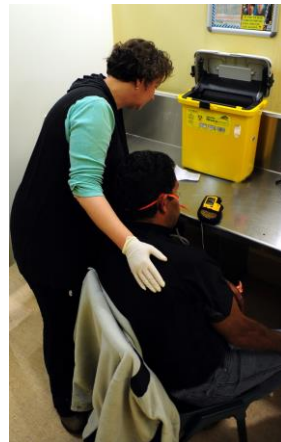
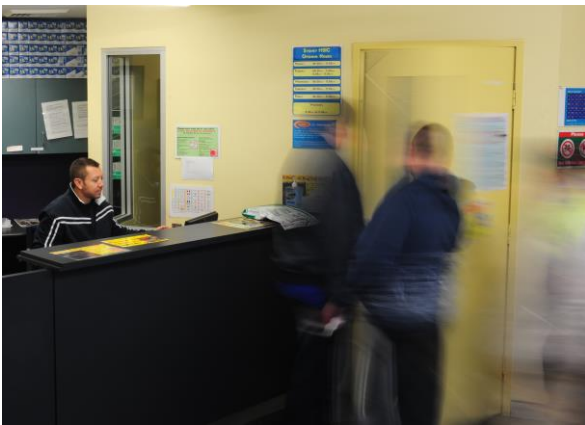
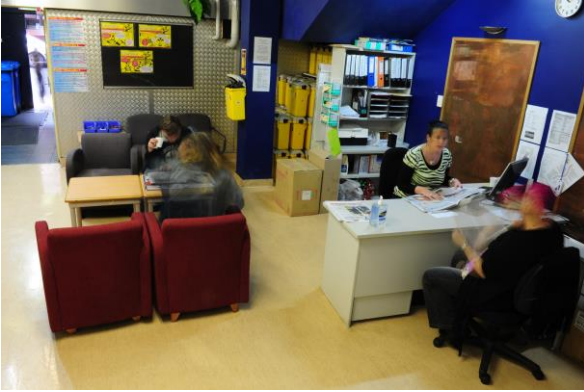


How times have changed:
Patterns of use and services at the
Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting
2001-2015

Allison M. Salmon & Marianne Jauncey
Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC)







MSIC has supervised more than **930,000** injections and managed **5,925 overdoses** without a single death.



About **70%** of the people registered had **never accessed any local health service** before.



There have been **no fatalities** at MSIC.



< 0.0001% of visits resulted in a violent event or behavioural problem.



A total of **15,054 people** have registered to use the service.



Each year more than **2,000 individualised nursing and support services** are provided onsite.

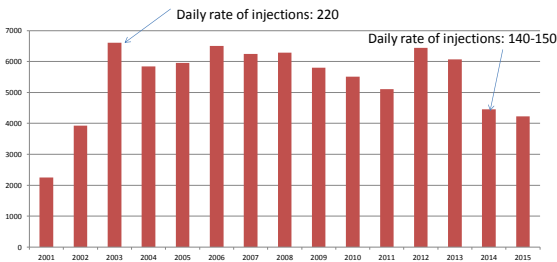
A typical client of Sydney MSIC...

- Male
- Late thirties
- Long history of drug injecting
- Poorly connected
- A history of drug overdose
- Prison history
- Often homeless
- History of public injecting
- Significant mental health issues, often untreated

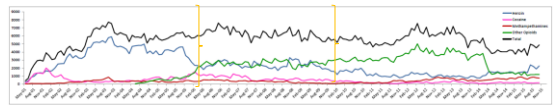


After 15 years... what changed and what has stayed the same?

Average monthly injections on site



Supervised injections per month by drug type May 2001 – September 2015



Responding to change...

- Overdose prevention
 - Naloxone training and prescription (provided to clients onsite)
 - Community overdose training
 - Randomised Control Trial of nasal delivery of Naloxone
- Tablet filtration & fentanyl
 - Provision of pill filters & citric acid
- Injecting techniques
 - Neck injecting
- Nurse lead and targeted onsite clinics
- Smoking Care & NRT
- Consumer Group
- Memorial garden

More to learn... International Network of Drug Consumption Rooms

Network website: www.drugconsumptionroom-international.org



MINISTER AODHÁN Ó RIORDÁIN TO ANNOUNCE SUPERVISED INJECTING CENTRES DURING LONDON KEYNOTE

Irish drug policy to embark to undergo a radical shift
The *Hot Press* November 10, 10 Nov 2014, 11:18

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National Drugs Strategy Minister Aodhán Ó Riordáin will use his keynote speech to the London School of Economics IDEAS Forum today to confirm that Ireland's first supervised injecting room will open next year in Dublin followed by roll outs shortly after in Cork, Galway and Limerick.

Legislative obstacles to the opening of injecting rooms will be removed by the new Misuse of Drugs Act that's currently being drawn up.

"We very much look forward to the LSE's policy workshop and to discussing these important issues with our international colleagues," emphasises the Ana Liffey Drug Project's Tony Duffin who's among those who've briefed the Minister. "We greatly welcome the interest members of the international drug policy community have taken in the introduction of Medically Supervised Injecting Centres in Ireland."

Lead: National Drugs Strategy Minister Aodhán Ó Riordáin. Photo: Andrew Moran, The Irish Press

Will NYC Legalize Safe Injection Facilities for Drug Users to Reduce HIV and Overdoses?

By Leahla Scott
From TheBody.com

October 30, 2015

Will New York City become the first first U.S. city to allow supervised injection facilities (SIFs) for injection drug users? Members of people, including public health and HIV advocates, filed into the wooden pews of the Lincoln Church of St. Marks on Manhattan's Upper East Side to hear four high-profile experts from around the world who strategized and battle-braided their successful fight to implement SIFs in their respective countries.

"It was a hard road," said Tom Hirschman, who led the effort to establish facilities in the US after he led the way for a heroin overdose in 1997. "But there are not actually that many opponents, they just have very loud voices. Most of the general public is not for or against it, but if you can educate and make them aware of the issues through stories like this, they will vote yes."

Globaly, at least 90 SIFs exist in 30 cities in ten countries, with three recently opening four. Numerous scientific papers have shown that these facilities drastically reduce the burden of drug overdose, death transmission of HIV and hepatitis C, and reduce the burden of drug use who inject drugs (PWID) will seek out other services. SIFs also greatly reduce the number of used syringes littering city parks and streets and the rate of other associated risks, such as carpal tunnel and hepatitis - all while saving other millions of dollars a year in associated health care costs.

Across the U.S., heroin and opioid use is surging, with the cultural city of heroin overdose deaths reaching a peak between 2002 and 2013. Who's made attributed to injection drug use have expanded to rural areas such as southeastern Indiana and northern Kentucky, which have never before confronted a large-scale epidemic, and has led to massive loss of lives of injection. And even one from New Jersey Governor (and presidential candidate) Chris Christie to New Jersey's efforts has proclaimed that the country needs to combat this type of epidemic. Nevertheless, much more remains. After the first SIFs spread their doors in Europe, and despite overwhelming evidence of their public health and economic utility, still a single SIF exists in the U.S.

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September 18, 2015



French Senate Gives Green Light to Drug Consumption Rooms

After a heated debate, Senators have decided to approve an experimental project to provide a safer environment for drug users, in order to prevent death and disease.

On Thursday, the French Senate discussed the new health law, which was passed by the National Assembly in April. The new law introduces several controversial reforms, such as banning the smoking of tobacco in the presence of minors below the age of 12, accepting gay men as blood donors, and the removal of the compulsory reflection period before an abortion. The most heated point of discussion involved Article 9 - a paragraph which allows for the opening of drug consumption rooms. Under the draft law, drug users cannot be prosecuted for drug use within the facilities, so long as the amount of the drug is limited to "personal use". The rooms will provide a hygienic environment where drug users can inject using sterile equipment. Changes will also be able to access a range of other services in these rooms, operated by a multidisciplinary team of professionals.

Conservative Senators called such rooms "anathema to the values of the Republic" and accused the socialist government of promoting drug use. They submitted an amendment to delete Article 9. The majority of Senators, however, rejected this amendment. Supporters of the reform pointed out that drug consumption rooms are in fact essential to prevent death and disease among drug users. "There is no question that this article will mean additional deaths in these rooms," said Senator Alain Milon (Union for Popular Movement). Senator Yves Daugey (Généraliste Party) added that these rooms will also reduce nuisance on the streets, thus making neighborhoods safer. By rejecting the Conservative proposal, the Senate gave the green light to a six-year experimental project which will allow the opening of the first drug consumption rooms. Similar facilities now operate in a number of European countries, including Spain, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Norway, Denmark and Germany.

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Supervised injecting rooms to tackle heroin problems ruled out in Yarra

By [Name] on [Date]

THE State Government has ruled out introducing a supervised injecting room in central Melbourne's inner city Yarra.

Minister for Health, Dr. Peter Dutton, said the government is not to consider a "heroin intervention" approach.

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Go to our website www.sydneymsic.com

Client Comments

"Without this place I would be dead. Simply, the MSIC saves lives."

"Without this facility, I'm sure my overdose would have killed me as I wouldn't have had access to first aid."

"Staff are extremely professional and take great care, and give the proper care that overdosed patients need. The aftercare is exceptionally good – a lot of lives have been saved here at the MSIC."

"Once I overdosed and if I was anywhere else, I would not still be here."