

Emergency Department Visits due to Opioid Poisoning in Grey Bruce



As of April 1, 2017, all Ontario hospitals with emergency departments (ED) are required to report cases of opioid poisoning presenting in their EDs. This brief report presents ED visits due to opioid poisoning in Grey Bruce for the month of September 2021. It also includes preliminary deaths from opioid-related causes from January 2020 through March 2021. Keep in mind that healthcare utilization information provides an approximation of opioid-related harms, but does not present a complete picture.

There are two different numbers reported for the total number of ED visits per month due to opioid poisoning in Grey Bruce. The first is based on a patient’s postal code. It represents the number of ED visits due to opioid poisoning among patients with a Grey Bruce postal code (e.g. an opioid overdose patient with a Markdale postal code visits any Ontario emergency department). The second is based on the location of the emergency department. It represents the number of ED visits due to opioid poisoning in emergency departments located in Grey Bruce (e.g. an opioid overdose patient visits the Markdale emergency department). If a patient with a Markdale postal code visits the Markdale ED for opioid poisoning, the ED visit will fall into both categories.

September Overview

In September of 2021 there were 8 ED visits recorded due to opioid poisoning by patients with a Grey Bruce residence, and 7 ED visits recorded due to opioid poisoning in Grey Bruce emergency departments. These numbers are subject to change as emergency departments continue to submit and classify data.

**Total September ED Visits:
Patients with a Grey Bruce
Residence**

8

**Total September ED Visits:
Visited Grey Bruce
Hospitals**

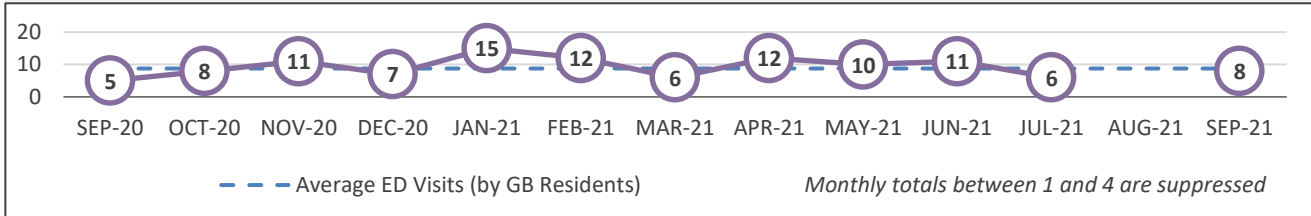
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These data are current as of Oct 19 2021, but results may change over time as emergency departments continue to submit and classify data

ED Visits among Grey Bruce Residents

There are two different numbers presented for the total number of ED visits per month due to opioid poisoning in Grey Bruce. The first, presented below, represents ED visits by patients with a Grey Bruce postal code. In September of 2021, there were 8 ED visits recorded due to opioid poisoning among residents of Grey Bruce (Figure 1). From September of 2020 to September of 2021, there has been an average of around 9 ED visits due to opioid poisoning per month by Grey Bruce residents.

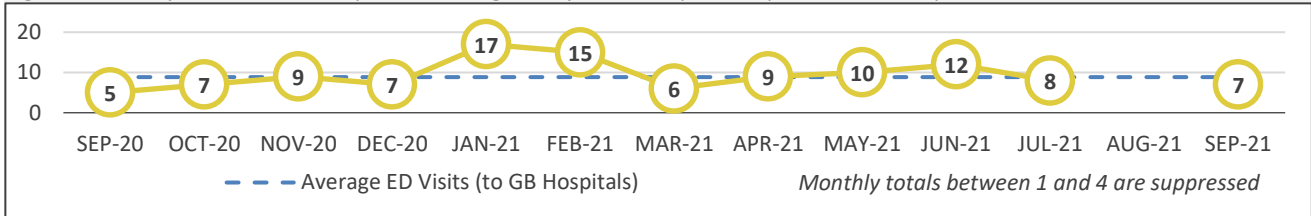
Figure 1. Monthly ED Visits due to Opioid Poisoning by Grey Bruce Residents, September 2020-September 2021



ED Visits in Grey Bruce Hospitals

There are two different numbers presented for the total number of ED visits per month due to opioid poisoning in Grey Bruce. The first is based on the patient's postal code. The second, presented below, represents visits to emergency departments in Grey Bruce hospitals. In September of 2021, there were 7 ED visits due to opioid poisoning recorded in Grey Bruce emergency departments (Figure 2). From September of 2020 to September of 2021, there has been an average of around 9 ED visits due to opioid poisoning per month in Grey Bruce hospitals.

Figure 2. Monthly ED Visits due to Opioid Poisoning in Grey Bruce Hospitals, September 2020-September 2021



Opioid-related Deaths in Grey Bruce

The Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario releases preliminary counts of deaths where opioid poisoning was considered as contributing to the cause of death. These data include both confirmed cases and probable cases (those for which the investigation to determine cause of death is ongoing). This data was retrieved from Public Health Ontario's Opioid-related morbidity and mortality in Ontario Interactive Tool.

Table 1. Preliminary Counts of Deaths due to Opioids, Grey Bruce and Ontario, January 2020-March 2021. Last refreshed Aug 16 2021

Month	Grey Bruce	Ontario
2020 Jan	1	152
Feb	0	138
Mar	2	168
Apr	1	209
May	1	229
Jun	1	179
Jul	4	214
Aug	2	217
Sep	2	195
Oct	2	229
Nov	2	246
Dec	7	246
2020 Total	25	2422
2021 Jan	1	240
Feb	5	235
Mar	3	248
2021 Running Total	9	723

These data are current as of Aug 16 2021, but results may change over time as cases are closed by the coroner's office.

Data Sources:

National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS), Canadian Institute for Health (CIHI), via Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Last updated Oct 19 2021

Preliminary Death Data (Table 1): Ontario Opioid-Related Death Database, 2017-2019, Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario via Public Health Ontario.

Last updated Aug 16 2021