

Partyandplay.info

Key Messages

Wednesday, September 28th, 2022

Elevator Pitch

Partyandplay.info uses the latest evidence on sexualized drug use, and the powerful stories of queer men in our community to improve access to information, care, and supports, meeting people where they're at.

Party & play and the use of drugs like crystal methamphetamine is increasing among gay, bi, queer guys in Ontario. The GMSH works with community-based service organizations to promote sexual health and reduce the impact of HIV, HCV, and other STBBIs that disproportionately affect our community. **This stage of the project is about improving the quality of care available to guys who Party & Play by offering training and resources to a range of health and social service providers.**

What's in it for the community?

This project will help guys who have sex with guys who are also into sexualized drug use (PnP)—both through direct content/messaging and through improved service provider capacity.

The project is rooted in **an anti-stigma and non-judgmental approach**. The long-term objectives of our efforts are to:

1. Reduce adverse events resulting from PnP practices
2. Diminishing shame and stigma around PnP within the 2SGBTQ+ community and within service delivery
3. Empowering people who PnP to participate fully in their communities

Why are we doing this?

PnP in the community and public imagination has been deeply stigmatizing at best and de-humanizing at its worst. Our stories show that there are multiple truths about PnP, unique life trajectories, but a universal desire to experience meaningful connection.

The use of methamphetamine and engagement in PnP in the context of HIV risk has been well-documented in the literature and is associated with various drug- and sexual health-related harms.

Find the latest epidemiological data on HIV and 2SGBTQ+ men at [OHESI](#).

Receipts: Prevalence estimates from the European Men who have Sex with Men Internet Survey (EMIS) in 2017 and Sex Now study indicate 5 to 6% of 2SGBTQ+ men in Ontario had used meth within the past six months, with prevalence higher in urban areas and among people living with HIV.

Brogan, N., Paquette, D.M., Lachowsky, N.J., Blais, M., Brennan, D.J., Hart, T.A., Adam, B. (2019). Canadian results from the European Men-who-have-sex-with-men Internet survey (EMIS-2017).

Increasing capacity of health care providers.

The experiences that people have with physicians, front-line and other service providers shape their health outcomes in a major way. Through the stories captured in this work and the research on sexualized drug use, we know that one provider's competence, understanding, and support can change the direction of someone's life.

Communications & Media

Our efforts align with best practices described in an [OHTN report](#).

At the time of launch we are focusing our efforts on reaching healthcare providers.

If approached by media locally, please contact [Dane](#) at GMSH

We have additional resources available including media training/consultation.

Any local media/press engagement should emphasize your participation in a province-wide initiative, the need for this work, and what makes it relevant locally (to your programs/services/organization and community).