

Terms of service

Though we do our very best to provide accurate information, by submitting a sample to be checked, the service user agrees to assume all risk related to the quality and accuracy of the results provided.

- Ontario's Drug Checking Community is the provincial expansion of [Toronto's Drug Checking Service](#), which launched in 2019 and has checked tens of thousands of samples donated by people who use drugs
- The purpose of this provincial public health and safety program is to find out what's circulating in our local drug supply by checking small samples of drugs or used drug equipment people are willing to donate
- We do this to prevent drug-related harm and inform evidence-based responses to the ongoing toxic opioid supply crisis
- Samples are collected from people who use drugs, who remain anonymous, at participating collection sites, which are community agencies that offer drug-related, health, and social services
- While anyone can submit a sample, this program is funded to reach those at highest risk of opioid overdose
- This program cannot be used for punitive, legal, health product compliance, regulatory, or independent scientific research purposes
- We reserve the right to deny access to this program
- This program operates by way of an exemption from Canada's Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, which allows the handling and transfer of illegal substances
- This program can currently collect a maximum of 15 samples each week
- Accepted samples are:
 - Drugs, including a small amount of powder, crystals, rocks, or liquid, a crushed bit of a pill, or blotter (for best results, all drug samples should be crushed)
 - Used equipment, including a used cooker (not folded), filter, stem or bubble pipe (not broken) or leftover liquid from a syringe
- A full microscop (10 mg) of a drug is required for analysis
- Samples are transported weekly to a participating analysis site, where they are analyzed using the best technologies currently available to communities in Ontario for overdose prevention drug checking,

including gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS), high-resolution liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (HR-LC-MS), or Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) with test strips

- Samples may also be checked using other emerging technologies with a goal of making drug checking better and more accessible (this may include technologies developed by for-profit companies)
- Samples are destroyed after they are analyzed
- Each sample has a unique ID – this ID is required to access results
- Results should be available within a few days of arriving at an analysis site
- Reported results are immediately available to the collection site and at www.drugchecking.community
- Results include the name of each substance found in a sample and some information about how much of each substance is present
- Results from all samples checked are combined to perform timely and public unregulated drug market monitoring, available at www.drugchecking.community

The following samples will not be analyzed and will be disposed of if they arrive at an analysis site:

- Drugs larger than three microscoops (30 mg)
- Drugs submitted in a baggie instead of a vial
- Capsules or entire pills
- Folded cookers, broken pipes, syringes
- Organic drugs like cannabis, mushrooms, or anything THC-, CBD-, or nicotine-related
- Hormones, steroids, vitamins, performance enhancers, or substances deemed out of scope by the service (e.g., food, biological specimens, other substances that do not present a significant risk of overdose)

About this resource: These are the terms associated with the offsite drug checking model currently offered by Ontario’s Drug Checking Community. Service users agree to these terms by submitting a sample to be checked.

About Ontario’s Drug Checking Community: Ontario’s Drug Checking Community, for which Toronto’s Drug Checking Service is the flagship program, is a national leader in drug checking service delivery and community-led unregulated drug market monitoring and education. This public health and safety program offers the most precise, timely, and accessible information on the unregulated drug supply to reduce harm and inform evidence-based responses to the worsening toxic opioid supply crisis.

Our program is comprised of a group of members, including collection sites, analysis sites, and a small central team that operates from within St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto.

Our work would not be possible if people who use drugs did not donate their drugs to our program in an effort to reduce the harms associated with using unregulated substances and facilitate community-led drug market monitoring and education.

(website) www.drugchecking.community | (email) hello@drugchecking.community | (IG) [@drugchecking](https://www.instagram.com/drugchecking)