

## **There is a vulnerable group we must not leave behind in our response to COVID-19: people who are dependent on illicit drugs.**

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Users of illicit substances are vulnerable to a variety of health concerns. This article discusses how the COVID-19 pandemic places illicit drug users at increased risk for COVID-19 due to their predisposition to infection and social contact; how [disruptions](#) to illicit drug supply chains increase risk for overdose due to drug [substitution](#) and; the impact of missing out on [drug treatment services](#). The piece highlights the role of pharmacists in keeping this marginalized patient population safe.