Integrating Hepatitis B and Syringe Services to Improve the Health of People Who Use Drugs

Chelsie Porter, MPH
Prevention and Outreach Program Manager
HEPATITIS B  WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

In recent years, more people are becoming newly infected with hepatitis B, a disease that affects the liver and can cause health complications.

These rising infections of hep B are tied to the U.S. opioid epidemic.

A 20% rise in acute cases from 2014-2015!

HEPATITIS B CAN BE MORE DANGEROUS

If you also have HEPATITIS C

Source: Hep B United
HEP’s Syringe Services Program
Results

- March 2019 – July 2019
- 90 individuals screened for HBV
  - Average age: 40 (19 – 75)
  - 49% non-white
  - 10% Hispanic or Latino
  - 30% female; 3% non-binary or transgender
  - 70% homeless
  - 18% uninsured
Results

• Among 90 individuals screened,
  • 43% vaccinated
  • 34% not immune
  • 14% resolved acute infection
  • 3% indeterminate
  • 2% chronically infected

• Among unvaccinated, 78% currently or previously infected with HCV
Conclusions

• Significant vaccine experience and willingness
• Low series completion
  • 12% received three doses
• Successful integration with HCV testing
• Coinfection with HCV, HAV, and HIV
Challenges and barriers

Jurisdictions Determined to be Experiencing or At-risk of Significant Increases in Hepatitis Infection or an HIV Outbreak Due to Injection Drug Use Following CDC Consultation

This map lists 38 states, the District of Columbia, one tribal nation, one territory, six counties, and one city that have consulted CDC and have been determined to have demonstrated need according to federal law. These jurisdictions are experiencing or at-risk for significant increases in viral hepatitis infection or an HIV outbreak due to injection drug use. There are still 15 states/territories that have no request or determination of need pending.
Thank you!