An Overview of hepatitis B in the LatinX MSM community

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Testing and vaccination outreach in high-risk settings

Capacity-building for communities impacted by viral hepatitis

Advocacy at the local, national, and global level

Other prevention, education, and care services

- Syringe Services Program
- Overdose education and naloxone distribution
- HCV Medical Case Management
- Low-barrier access to medications for opioid use disorder through Seattle STEP Clinic
- Correctional health education
- National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable
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- HIV - STI Testing
- PrEP Navigation
- Condom Distribution
- Case Management For Latinos Living with HIV
- Support Group For Latinos Living with HIV

Other Services
- HIV-STI Prevention & Education
- Immigration Legal Services for LGBTQ
- Family Law Clinic
- Workers’ Rights
- LGBTQ Civic Engagement & Advocacy
- Social Activities and Events
- Spanish Radio-Podcast Program
HBV in MSM community

• In a Seattle study, 40% of MSM have been exposed to HBV and only 27% had immunization coverage\(^1\).
  • Assumed to be lower for minority communities.

• Even though 9/10 MSM reported accessing a regular source of health care, only 10% had been immunized\(^1\).
  • Nearly two-thirds of susceptible MSM had been tested for HIV infection.
    • HIV testing presents an opportunity to test and vaccinate for HBV!
HBV in the LatinX community

- Prevalence of vaccine-induced immunity\(^2\)
  - Women: 25%
  - Men: 21%
  - Adults had the lowest rates of hepatitis B vaccine coverage, regardless of presence or absence of a history of high-risk behaviors\(^3\)
- LatinX community is less likely to be tested for HBV than any other racial/ethnic group (REACH US study)\(^3\)
- Higher liver rates of death from chronic liver disease and cirrhosis when compared to whites.
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Collaboration
Community Education & Awareness

HBV Education through Radio-Podcast

EH community presentation

Social Media Reach
Collaboration by the numbers

Outreach activities:
• ~4,000 people reached through Radio 1360 AM per week
• ~2,500 people reached through Radio 99.3 FM per week
• ~95 people reached through podcast per week
• 15 people reached at EH Community Forum
• 325 people reached through Facebook/Instagram post
• 80 people reached each week through FB/Instagram stories

Referrals, testing, and vaccination (before COVID-19 interrupted services):
• 74 people assessed through rapid HIV testing at EH
• 9 people tested for HBV
• 3 people received one dose of HBV vaccine
Social Media
(Facebook and Instagram stories)

Free hepatitis B & C testing!
Free hep A & B vaccines!

La Gordis
(Radio Host)
Citations

1. MacKellar DA; Valleroy LA; Secura GM; McFarland W; Shehan D; Ford W; LaLota M; Celentano DD; Koblin BA; Torian LV; Thiede H; Janssen RS. “Two Decades After Vaccine License: Hepatitis B Immunization and Infection Among Young Men Who Have Sex With Men.” American Journal of Public Health, U.S. National Library of Medicine, pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/11392942/.

2. Jung M; Kuniholm MH; Ho GY; Cotler S; Strickler HD; Thyagarajan B; Youngblood M; Kaplan RC; Del Amo J. “The Distribution of Hepatitis B Virus Exposure and Infection in a Population-Based Sample of U.S. Hispanic Adults.” Hepatology (Baltimore, Md.), U.S. National Library of Medicine, pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26523403/.


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