Factors Associated with Outbreak of HIV in People who Inject Drugs in Glasgow, Scotland

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Overview

1. Background
2. Description of the Outbreak in NHSGGC
3. Factors Associated with the Outbreak
4. Control Measures
5. Summary and Discussion
Population of Scotland 5.3 million

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde 1.2 million
Sickest City in Europe…?

• Persistent social and economic issues
• Inequalities in health
• Excess and premature mortality
• Range of health issues including Addiction
  – Approximately 6,000 injectors
  – Drug-related deaths
  – Hepatitis C
Scotland: HIV Infection

NUMBER OF HIV REPORTS PER YEAR

mid 1980s 1988 to 2001 2002 to date

300 160 360

HIV IS NOT A 1980s PHENOMENA

60% OF ALL CASES EVER DIAGNOSED HAVE BEEN REPORTED SINCE 2002

Source: Health Protection Scotland
New Diagnoses in PWID by month and strain

- Outbreak strain
- Strain unknown
- Non-outbreak strain
## New Infections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total cases in 2015</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avidity positive (recent infection)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative test in preceding 12 months</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous negative test recorded (range 2-10 years)</td>
<td>21</td>
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</tbody>
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### NESI (Needle Exchange Surveillance Initiative) Prevalence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NESI Prevalence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>4%</td>
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Characteristics of the Population

Age/Gender Pyramid of the 2015 cohort

65% Male
Average age 38 years (21-52)
## Characteristics of Population

### Addictions
- Opiate Injectors (heroin)
- Majority known to Addictions services
- Extensive use of IEP services
- Two-thirds report injecting in a public place

### Social
- 62% report being homeless within the last year
- 72% have ever been in prison
- More than half of the women report involvement in prostitution
- Links to City Centre/East End
Phylogenetics
Factors associated with the outbreak
Lack of awareness of HIV risk
Injecting Risk

- Batch preparation/group injecting practice
- Femoral injectors
- Cocaine
- Access to IEP
Social Circumstances

Glasgow's invisible citizens: 800 left to sleep rough on city streets
Low HIV Testing
HIV Treatment and Care

- Lost to follow-up (TasP)
- CD4 >500
Addictions Pathways

– Coverage and capacity
– Recovery Model
Control Measures
Communicate with at risk population or services who are in contact with them
Harm Reduction

- Water
- Spoons
- Filter
- Shared hit
- Use of other drugs

Low dead space syringes
Testing

Testing those at risk

Regular / opportunistic

'Partner'

Treatment services
HIV Testing in NHSGGC

- Year:
  - 2013
  - 2014
  - 2015

- Categories:
  - A&E
  - Addictions
  - Prisons
Appropriate Services

Often different from current
Flexible
Different kind of multidisciplinary working
Persuading that treatment is important
Summary

• Highlights prevention needs in PWID
• Risk now, risk later
• Input required by/with a range of agencies
• New relationships
• One of a number of (health, social) issues in this population
• Persuading that treatment is important
Questions

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