



Burnet Institute
Medical Research. Practical Action.



Risk behaviour following hepatitis C treatment among gay and bisexual men living with HIV

B Harney, M Stoové, R Sacks-Davis, D van Santen, C Fairley, N Medland, M O'Reilly, R Moore, BK Tee, J Sasadeusz, D Iser, J Roney, J Hoy, G Matthews, E Gane, M Prins, M Hellard, J Doyle
Australasian Viral Hepatitis Elimination Conference
Sydney, Australia, August 2019



@BrendanLHarney

Equity Through Better Health
burnet.edu.au



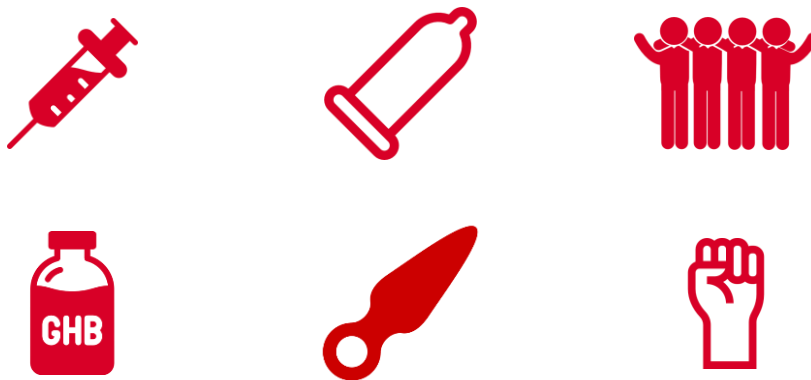
Disclosures

- Investigator initiated funding received from Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Presenting author has no financial disclosures

HCV Among Gay & Bisexual Men Living with HIV



HCV associated with numerous behaviours



Mahony et al. Med J. Aust. 2013; Lea et al. Sex Health. 2013
Vanhommerig et al. Open Forum Infect. Dis. 2015



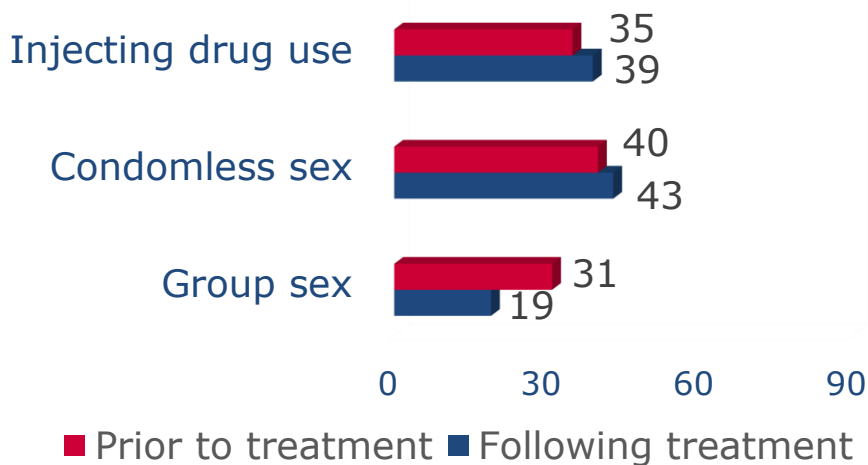
- Eliminating Hepatitis C Transmission by Enhancing Care and Treatment Among HIV Co-infected Individuals



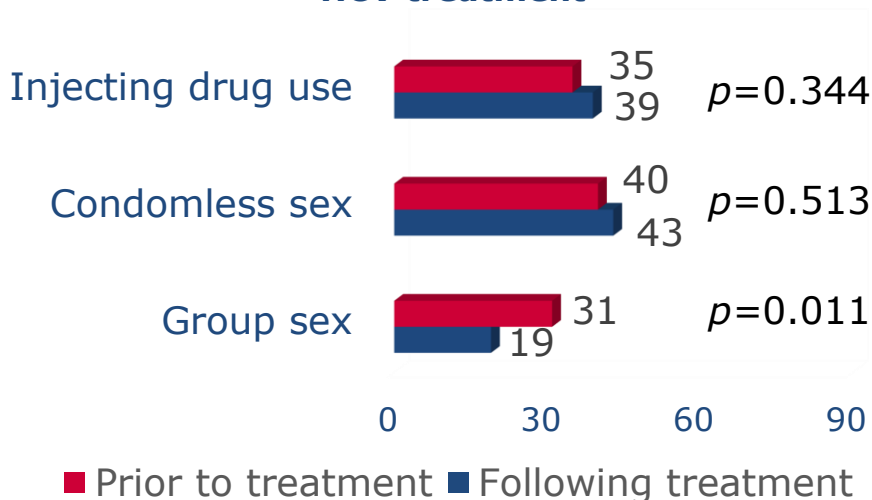
co-EC study

- Behaviours; condomless sex, injecting drug use & group sex
- Males reporting ≥ 1 male sex partner in the six months prior to enrolment and/or during follow-up
- Proportion compared; McNemar's test for paired data
- Prevalence ratios; Poisson regression with robust variance

Risk behaviour prior to and following HCV treatment



Risk behaviour prior to and following HCV treatment



Behaviour following treatment commencement

- Injecting drug use during follow-up associated with the use of crystal methamphetamine (aPR 4.36, 95%CI 1.27-14.94)
- Condomless sex highest among those who reported prior to enrolment (aPR 1.8, 95%CI 1.07-3.03)
- Group sex highest among those who reported it prior to enrolment (aPR 4.53, 95%CI 1.76-11.67)

Conclusion

- No significant increase in risk behaviour
- Decrease in group sex
- Stigma-free post-treatment testing for potential reinfection and immediate treatment required
- Community input essential to develop acceptable programs to reduce potential HCV primary infection and reinfection



- Study participants for their time & contribution
- co-EC nurses and clinicians
- co-EC project managers; Dr Anna Bowring, Dr Rebecca Winter, Dr Julia Cutts & Dr Daniëla van Santen
- Supervisors; Dr Joseph Doyle, Dr Rachel Sacks-Davis & Professor Mark Stoové
- Bristol-Myers Squibb



Equity Through Better Health

burnet.edu.au
85 Commercial Road Melbourne, Victoria, 3004