

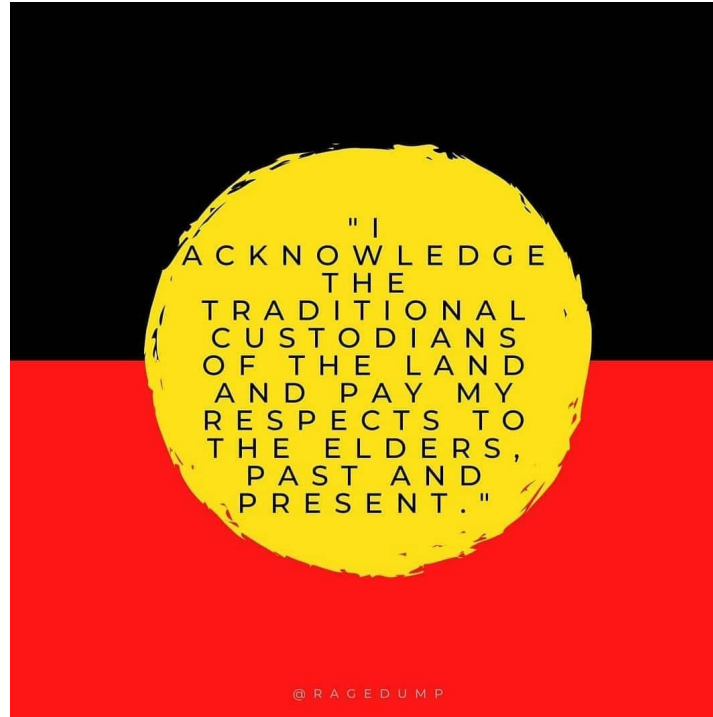
Australian community pharmacists' preparedness to offer and discuss Hepatitis C testing

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Acknowledgements



Hepatitis C- what do we know?



Globally 58 million living with chronic Hep C



In Australia 75,000 living with Hep C, 300 deaths/year



WHO Global Health Sector Strategy set targets to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030

Explore a range of models of care to reach elimination goals



Aim

To explore community pharmacists' comfort and willingness to discuss and offer Hepatitis C testing and treatment within their pharmacy

Methods: recruitment processes



Online anonymous survey



Approached $n=1955$ pharmacists from 4 Australian states (NSW, QLD, VIC and WA)



Invited pharmacist in charge to participate
Email survey link = 1396



Data for current study $n=530$
Response rate 38%

Methods: Hepatitis C questions

Do you stock Hepatitis C treatment/medications in your pharmacy?

Yes

No

If an outreach Hepatitis C testing and treatment team (based at a local or state service) offered to provide free testing and treatment in your pharmacy, how willing would you be to accept that service?

Willing

Somewhat willing

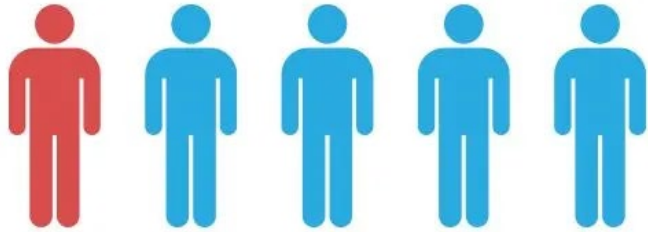
Undecided

Not really willing

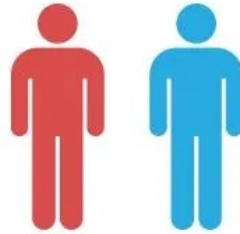
Not willing

Factors associated with increased or decreased willingness and comfort to partake in these activities

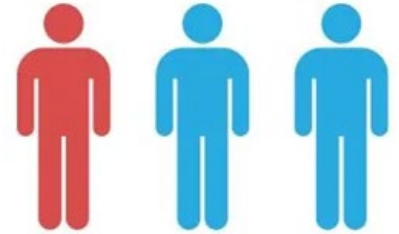
Hepatitis C finding



Stock Hep C medications



Willing to host
outreach Hep C
treatment team



Comfortable
discussing Hep C
testing/treatment

Hepatitis C finding- willingness to host outreach Hep C team



1.5x higher odds



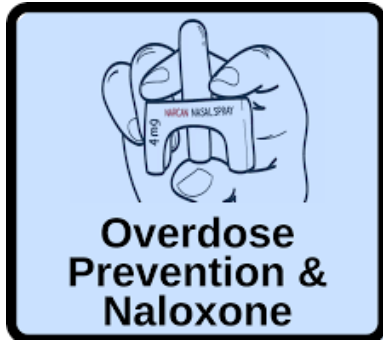
1.7x higher odds



1.9x higher odds

>15 years pharmacy experience had 35% reduced odds

Hepatitis C finding- comfort discussing Hep C testing



3x higher odds



33% lower odds

Summary and implications

- Pharmacists generally willing to host Hep C outreach
- Less comfortable discussing Hep C testing and treatment
- Challenges/Barriers: Time, remuneration, impacts on workflow etc
- Advantages of pharmacy-based models
 - Accessible, extended hours, close proximately to people's residence
 - Access hard-to-reach populations e.g. older people and PWID



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Thank you

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