

VIOLENCE AND HEPATITIS C TRANSMISSION IN PRISON – A MODIFIED SOCIAL ECOLOGICAL MODEL

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Disclosure of interest

Nothing to declare



Background & Methods

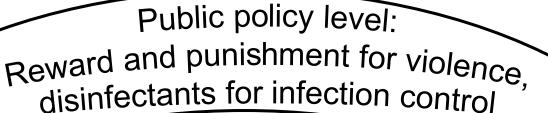
- HCV infection:
 - 1% global prevalence¹
 - 15% among prisoners²
 - mainly among PWIDs
- Non-injecting risk behaviours: Tattooing, body piercing, violence involving blood-toblood contact
- Hepatitis C Incidence and Transmission Study in prisons (HITS-p): 590 prisoners from 30 prisons in NSW between 2005 and 2014

- Qualitative sub-study:23 participants; 8 female
- Analysis based on Modified social ecological model:
 - Individual
 - Network
 - o Community and
 - o Policy level

¹Global prevalence and genotype distribution of hepatitis C virus infection in 2015: a modelling study. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2017;2(3):161-76. ²Dolan K et al. Global burden of HIV, viral hepatitis, and tuberculosis in prisoners and detainees. The Lancet. 2016;388(10049):1089-102.



Results



Community-level:

Racial identity and social status of the prisoners, sexual assault of children

Interpersonal social network level:

Orug debt, dobbing to the correctional officers

Individual-level:

Nature of violence -boxing, stabbing, slashing, or blading 'in the heat of the moment'



Conclusion

- Contextual concerns regarding violence and HCV transmission were evident at each level of the framework
- A unique integrated opportunity to frame the intricate context of HCV transmission
- Interventions to reduce HCV transmission should target violence involving blood-to-blood contact at every steps of the framework



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