One Step Closer to HCV Elimination

Lessons from 25 high intensity point-of-care testing campaigns across 14 prisons in Queensland, Australia

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Background

We evaluated HCV prevalence and treatment uptake after high intensity point-of-care testing campaigns in 14 Queensland, Australia prisons to support elimination.

What we've learnt

- Stakeholder collaboration is imperative
- Value of utilizing experienced testing teams
- People LOVE fingerstick testing and the rapid results turnaround
- Mini Mars Bars are a deal breaker for encouraging testing

Results

6% Female

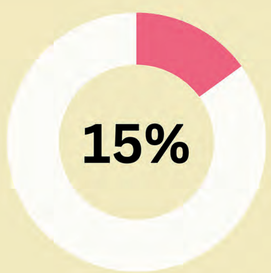
40% First Nations

61% Median Coverage

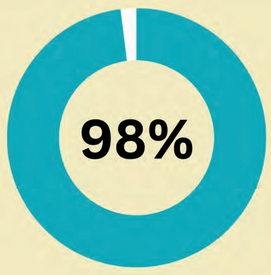
9295 people tested
Dec 2020 to Feb 2025

59% reported injecting drug history
5478 of 9295

Time to treatment
2 to 42 days



HCV RNA positive 1370 of 9295



Initiated HCV treatment 1343 of 1370

Conclusion

HCV high-intensity testing campaigns in prisons, with stakeholder collaboration, can significantly advance elimination efforts in Australia and globally.

Find out more

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Acknowledgments

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