

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION SPEARHEADS EFFORTS TO TRANSLATE HCV INTERVENTIONS TO PRISON SETTINGS IN JAKARTA

Thomas C¹, Perfect C², Donatelli C², Boscardin H², Khwairakpam G³

¹ Indonesian Drug Users Network (PKNI), ² Coalition PLUS, ³ TREAT Asia

Background:

The Indonesian Drug Users Network (PKNI) is a community-based organization that works closely with marginalized populations, including people who use injection drugs (PWID), and many from their community live with or are at risk of HIV and HCV. Additionally, many in their community also face an elevated risk of incarceration due to the criminalization of drug use in Indonesia. It is in this context that a community-led effort to increase HCV knowledge and testing within the prison setting was conducted.

Description of model of care/intervention:

In July 2018, PKNI signed a memorandum of understanding with the Correctional Department of Ministry of Law and Justice to provide a protocol and guideline for HCV screening and treatment in the prison setting by medical personnel. Additional stakeholders involved in the initiative included the Ministry of Health, the Indonesian Hepatologist Association, and Clinton Health Access Initiative. Study clubs were conducted to improve the literacy of incarcerated individuals on HCV prevention and treatment. As part of each club, anonymous HCV testing was offered; those who tested positive were offered same-day treatment. Every session was facilitated by one doctor and one PKNI staff.

Effectiveness:

As a result of the MoU, 447 persons were tested, 77 (17.2%) of whom tested positive. PKNI conducted 3 HCV study clubs attended by 90 prisoners in narcotics prison. In Pengayoman Hospital, 14 of the 30 people (46.7%) tested by the trained internist were later confirmed with HCV viremia. These individuals were given the option to immediately start DAA treatment. Trainings of doctors were conducted in six prisons.

Conclusion and next steps:

This community-led initiative helped increase HCV knowledge in the prison setting, identified HCV positive individuals and allowed provision of same-day treatment. This collaborative effort between may serve as a blueprint for further scale up in Jakarta, a city with approximately 17,000 prisoners.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

PKNI's intervention was made possible through financial support from Unitaid.