STBBI Factsheet (HCW#2)

STBBI=Sexually transmitted blood borne infections



Hepatitis C (HCV)



HCV is passed by blood-to-blood contact (e.g., sharing drug use equipment or water; sharing tattoo equipment, rough sex when blood is present).



The only way to know if a person currently has HCV is with a hepatitis C virus test.



In 2019, across BC prisons, 10-20% of people incarcerated got tested for HCV.

Hepatitis C (HCV) Treatment



People who currently use/inject drugs can be treated for HCV.



Everyone is covered by PharmaCare, even if treated before or don't have liver damage.



Sofosbuvir/Velpatasvir (Epclusa)

- 1 pill 1/day for 12 wks
- Must space antacids by 4 hours
- >95% cure rate



Glecaprevir/Pibrentasvir (Maviret)

- 3 pills 1/day, for 8 weeks (longer with cirrhosis or previous treatment)
- Must be taken with food
- >95% cure rate



The common side-effects of current HCV treatments are: headache, fatigue, GI upset





When people living with HIV take their HIV meds every day, HIV will usually be undetectable in their blood. This means they <u>CANNOT</u> pass HIV to others during sex. This is called U=U (undetectable = untransmittable).



STBBIs

STBBIs are more prevalent among people who have ever been incarcerated

- Limited access to STBBI testing, care and treatment in prisons
- Fear of being stigmatized
- Being more likely to pass it on because they don't know their STBBI status
- High risk behaviours



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