SURVEILLANCE FOR HEPATITIS C AMONG YOUTH IN NYC

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STATEN ISLAND HEP C TASK FORCE MEETING, OCTOBER 28TH, 2014
RATIONALE FOR INVESTIGATING HEPATITIS C (HCV) IN NYC YOUTH

- Increases in other jurisdictions: what is happening in NYC?
- Young people recently diagnosed with HCV are more likely to be recently infected than older people: look at risk factors and case characteristics
- Help target prevention efforts
HCV AND INJECTION DRUG USE

• High incidence of HCV among injection drug users\(^1\)
• Increase in injection drug use and prescription opioid misuse in young adults nationally\(^2-4\) and in New York City (NYC)\(^5-7\)
• Prescription opioid abusers are at high risk of transitioning to injection drug use\(^8\)
  • Puts them at high risk for bloodborne infections, e.g. HCV and HIV
SURVEILLANCE DATA METHODS

- All hepatitis C cases reported among NYC residents from 2009-2013
- Age groups (age at diagnosis):
  - 0-17 years
  - 18-21 years
  - 22-25 years
  - 26-30 years
  - 31-45 years
  - 46-66 years (baby boomers in 2011)
  - >66 years

Youth
### NEWLY REPORTED WITH HCV, 2009-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-17 year-olds</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-21 year-olds</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-25 year-olds</td>
<td>1,356</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-30 year-olds</td>
<td>2,492</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-45 year-olds</td>
<td>10,230</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46-66 year-olds</td>
<td>23,219</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;66 year-olds</td>
<td>4,587</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>42,847</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Group</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Percent Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HCV Rates by United Hospital Fund Neighborhood, 2009-2013

0-30 Year-Olds

UHF Neighborhoods
Average annual rate per 100,000 people

- 7.4-16.7
- >16.7-20.6
- >20.6-24.9
- >24.9-29.5
- >29.5

46-66 Year-Olds

UHF Neighborhoods
Average annual rate per 100,000 people

- 66.5-118.9
- >118.9-177.9
- >177.9-216.5
- >216.5-311.9
- >311.9
ENHANCED INVESTIGATION METHODS

- Investigating youth **newly reported** with HCV
  - 100% of 0-21 year-olds reported
  - 50% of 22-30 year-olds reported
  - Diagnosis dates: January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013
  - Completed investigations:
    - 0-21 year-olds: 210
    - 22-30 year-olds: 383
- Data gathered from providers on 2-page questionnaire
Enhanced HCV surveillance, 2009-2011

RISK FACTORS FOR HCV

- Injection drug use
- Intranasal drug use
- Men who have sex with men
- Ever diagnosed with an STD
- Ever incarcerated
- Tattoo outside a licensed parlor
- Perinatal HCV exposure
- Other
- No identified risk factors

Number of cases (n=402)

- 0-17 year-olds
- 18-21 year-olds
- 22-25 year-olds
- 26-30 year-olds

0 50 100 150 200
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Type</th>
<th>N (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drugs injected (n=172)</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>145 (84%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>46 (27%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription opioids</td>
<td>12 (7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drugs snorted/sniffed (n=87)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>46 (53%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>48 (55%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription opioids</td>
<td>7 (8%)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CONCLUSIONS

• Most commonly identified risk factor among 18-30 year-olds was injection drug use (mostly heroin)
• Demographics of youth in NYC newly reported with HCV are different than those of people born between 1945 and 1965
• Most youth with HCV were white, non-Hispanic
• High rates of HCV among youth in neighborhoods without high rates among baby boomers
  • Few syringe exchanges/harm reduction programs in some of these neighborhoods
NEXT STEPS

• Continue monitoring HCV among youth
• Compare maps and demographics with data on HIV, heroin, opioid use in youth
• Publish a paper on HCV among youth in NYC
• Explore options for outreach to youth about transmission of hepatitis C and how to inject safely
  • Collaborate with drug use prevention, mental health, school health, HIV, STD
• Recommendation to clinicians – HCV screening of youth with risk factors
THANK YOU!

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