

INFECTIOUS DISEASE EDUCATION



Infectious Diseases, Opioids, and Injection Drug Use

A deadly consequence of the opioid crisis is increased incidence of blood-borne infections, including hepatitis B virus and hepatitis C, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and bacteria that cause heart infections. The use of contaminated injection drug equipment is a primary transmission route for both HIV and hepatitis C. Increasing injection drug use has placed new populations, including young people, at risk.

Statistics

An HIV-negative person has a 1 in 160 chance of getting HIV every time they use a needle that has been used by someone with HIV.

1/160

10%

About 1 in 10 new HIV diagnoses in the US are attributed to injection drug use.

People Who Use/Inject Drugs and Hepatitis A, B, and C

Current widespread outbreaks of hepatitis A are occurring across the country. Severe complications, high rates of hospitalization, and even deaths have occurred nationwide as a result of these outbreaks. Both hepatitis B and hepatitis C are bloodborne diseases. PWID are at risk for hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection through the sharing of needles and any equipment used to prepare and inject drugs.



Resources

988 - Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

SAMHSA National Hotline 1-800-662-4357

One Health - 1-877-778-7747 - www.onechc.org

