

LIVING WITH HCV:

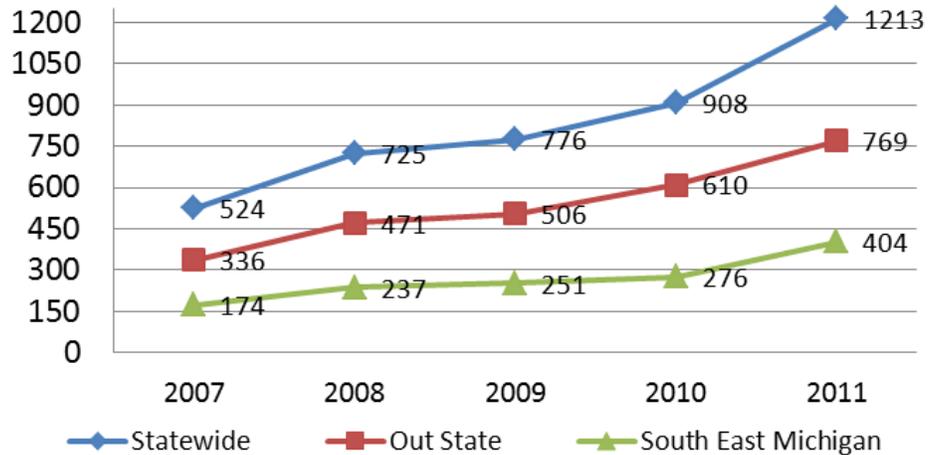
SUPPLEMENTAL FACT SHEET TO THE YOUNG ADULTS WITH HEPATITIS C STUDY

Bureau of Disease Control, Prevention and Epidemiology
HIV/STD/VH/TB Epidemiology Section, October 2012

Overview of Young Adult HCV Infection Study

- The rate of infection of HCV in young adults has seen a steady increase in Michigan in recent years
- As a result, MDCH attempted to conduct phone interviews with all HCV cases reported from July 2011 to April 2012 that were between the ages of 18 and 25
- The intent was to obtain demographic, behavioral and clinical information related to participants' HCV infections

Figure 1:* The number of probable and confirmed acute and chronic hepatitis C cases reported in Michigan between the ages of 15 and 29 years



* In this graph SE Michigan includes: Lapeer, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, and Wayne counties

Demographic data for study participants

Age: Average 23yrs (Range: 18-26)

Sex: Male 63% Female 36%

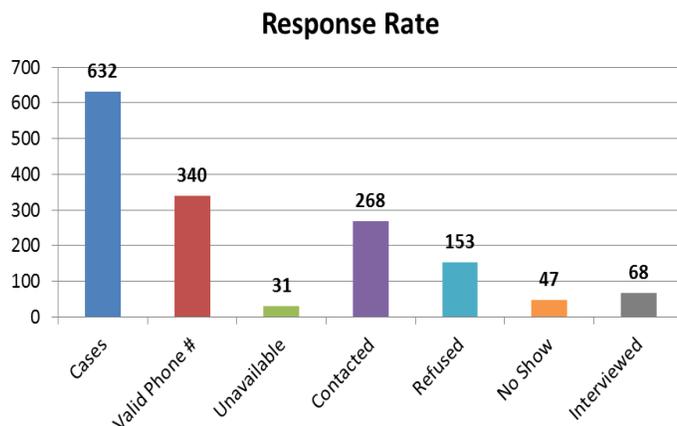
Race: White 95%, Black 3%, American Indian/Alaska Native 1%, Other 3%

Education: Elementary school (Grades 1-8) 4%, Some high school 22%, High school graduates 50%, Technical school 2%, Some college 19%, College graduates 3%.

Employment: Employed Full-Time 21%, Employed Part-Time 12%, Full-Time Student 1%, Unemployed 50%, Disabled for work 1%, Temporary work 1%, Other 15%

Geography: Wayne 16%, Oakland 14%, Washtenaw 11%, Jackson 8% *

Figure 2: Phone interview response rate for study



Interview Methods

- If participants contact or testing information was missing, primary physician was contacted
- Participants were contacted by phone
- Participants living in a correctional facility were interviewed by nursing staff
- Of the 632 people identified, 68 agreed to

Footnote: * Excludes participant residing in a correctional facility. Top four counties listed.

Drug Use as a Risk Factor

- 97% of participants had used street drugs in their lifetime; 94% stated they had used intravenous street drugs.
- 63% identified heroin as the first drug they injected; average age of first injection was 19 years (range 13-24 years).
- 57% of participants were introduced to intravenous drugs by a friend.
- 79% believed they had been infected with HCV through intravenous street drug use.

Figure 3: Study participant lifetime drug use by drug type

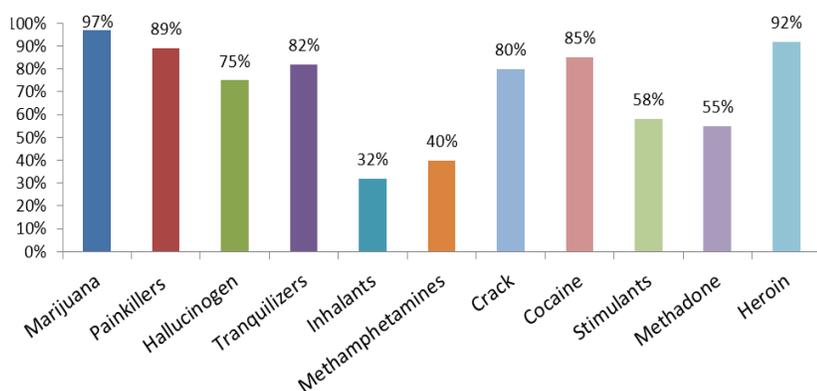
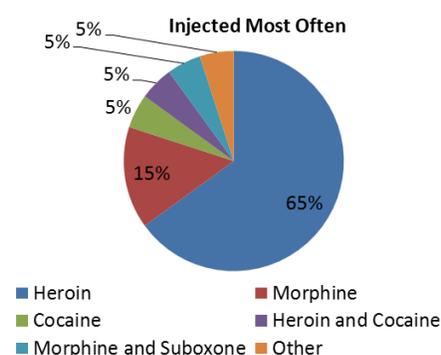


Figure 4: Drug most frequently used intravenously (n=20).



Hepatitis Symptoms, Treatment, and Awareness

- 15% of participants stated that they had yellowing of the skin or eyes in the 12 months prior to their interview.
- 87% of participants were notified of their HCV status by a doctor prior to their interview.
- 51% of participants stated that they were seeing a physician specifically for their hepatitis C infection.
- Only 5% stated that they were receiving treatment for their hepatitis C infection.

Figure 5: Participant reason for HCV testing

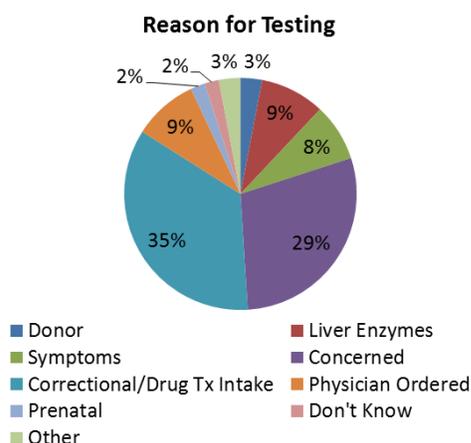


Figure 6: Participants who injected with a previously used needle in the six month preceding their interview

