

## **Hepatitis Treatment in Custody Video** **Highlighting patient experiences of receiving treatment whilst in custody**

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**Background/Approach:** Justice Health is a leader in providing Hepatitis C treatment in the custodial space, however there remains a high prevalence of the virus and people in custody may experience multiple infections. It is important to promote Hepatitis C treatment through health promotion, and credible messaging for people who inject drugs whilst in custody acknowledging the challenges that are faced and how they are best navigated.

Peers with a lived experience of drug use are often seen as more trustworthy than health professionals. Having 'walked the walk' peers can often engage on a more genuine level with people who may have previously experienced discrimination from services. For these reasons the film will involve peer stories as a means to better connect with people in custody.

**Analysis/Argument:** The film portrays why and how people access curative hepatitis C treatment in custody. Individual stories explore the real motivators and challenges people face avoiding Hepatitis C and accessing treatment when they come into custody. A key focus of the film is on the concept of 'Cure in prison' - what does cure mean and what the next step post treatment is.

**Outcome/Results** The film will be shown to patients after Health Survival Tips, on the digital platform, played during induction or through network run health events and groups. It will also be used externally to help people better understand the individual experience of Hepatitis in prison.

**Conclusions/Applications:** The film will remain a Network resource and aligns with policies and promotes key strategies such as Hepatitis C treatment in custody. The use of peer stories will hopefully encourage others to come forward for testing and treatment. It will also be used externally to help people better understand the individual experience of Hepatitis in prison which is not often portrayed.

**Disclosure of Interest Statement:** Nil to disclose