Kombi Clinic

It’s the end of the road for Hep C!

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Kombi Clinic Ltd
Australia
Kombi Clinic Disclosures:

- MSD
- Gilead Sciences
- Hesta Australia
- AbbVie
What can . . .

2 Doctors
1 Nurse
1 Phlebotomist
1 1975 Kombi Van called 'Lucy Sunshine'
1 flat tyre
5 roadside breakdowns requiring a tow!
15,000 kilometers
1 portable Fibroscan named 'Freda'
& 36,560 M&Ms

Achieve . . .
What I think you’d like to know!

• Who we are
• What we do
• What we’ve learnt
• What we dream of
The Dream Team

- Dr Joss O’Loan GP
- Dr Matt Young GP
- Nurse Mim O’Flynn
- Michael Mooney Phlebotomist
- and ‘Lucy Sunshine’ VW
Where it all began

41,000 people in Queensland with HCV¹

Inala has the highest rate of HCV by postcode in Australia

2. O’Loan J. 7th International Symposium on Hepatitis Care in Substance Users (INSHU), Cascais 2018 (Available at: https://vimeo.com/294052705)
What is Kombi Clinic?

All-inclusive, General Practitioner (GP) and Nurse led Hepatitis C Clinic in a 1975 VW Kombi van

>2500 occasions of service provided
914 individuals screened

Breaking down barriers to HCV care by simplifying testing and access to treatment with Trust and Respect
Barriers to HCV Elimination

**Patient-related barriers**
- Chaotic lifestyles
- Lack of money
- Hospital waiting times
- Fear of blood tests and treatment side effects
- Fear of stigma

**GP-related barriers**
- Lack of patients
- Lack of knowledge about DAAs
- Lack of access to elastography
- Judgemental attitudes in treating people who use drugs (PWUD)

TIME . . .
Recent Survey of 33 Brisbane GPs

- 16% preferred not to treat people who inject drugs
- GPs mistakenly believed that their practices were Hep C free
- 64% of GPs stated they lacked sufficient Hep C patients to bother learning new regimens
- 16% had moral qualms
- 88% stated they lacked knowledge on how to treat!
Why a Kombi... 

Destigmatise Hep C in the Public Arena

• Wear flamingo shirts and crank out roll 'n' roll music as you arrive in a bright yellow 1975 VW Kombi
  - Create a relaxed environment especially for those who feel judged, stigmatised or alienated in clinical settings

Where?
Kombi Pop Up Locations

- Drop in day centers
- Homeless shelters
- Hostels
- AOD clinics
- Homeless events
- Music festivals
Two-step Outreach Clinic

Kombi Clinic goes out once per week (5 clinics a month)

Taking free HCV screening and LTC to the streets in two visits

**Visit 1**
- Patients speak to a GP
- FibroScan
- Whole blood draw via venesection
  (sent to for testing and returned after ~3 weeks)

Return to same venue 4 weeks later

**Visit 2**
- Test results reviewed
- Treatment prescribed
- Follow-up visits arranged

Taking CURE to the people

Spread the Kombi gospel
'Bring a friend'

$20 Coles Voucher
Percentage of people seen by location
Proportion of people HCV Ab+

- AOD clinics: HCV Ab+ 51%
- Drop-in centres: HCV Ab+ 22%
- Homeless shelters: HCV Ab+ 23%
- Community days: HCV Ab+ 4.5%
Outcomes since June 2017

Male/female: 71.6/28.4%; average age 43 years
GT 1: 41.9%; GT 3: 53.1%; others 5%
FibroScan <12.5Kpa: 84.1%; <9.5Kpa: 70.7%

- 28 Prescription from another doctor
- 40% of patients initiating treatment (prescriptions from Kombi Clinic) have achieved SVR12
  - 13 Awaiting results
  - 38 on-treatment
  - 34 LTFU
  - 2 Treatment failures

The gaps in data
- Lost to follow up is a challenge – very transient population
- Delay to start treatment a factor – holding onto the script until ready
On Reflection

• ‘You’ll never make a difference whilst you sit in judgement of others’!

• Don’t be too proud to learn from each other

• Simplify testing and access to treatment

• Have fun – put on a happy shirt!
What Lies Ahead?

• Queensland Outback trek - Lucy queen of the desert!

• Island of Samoa - Hep C from cultural tattoos

• Finger stick POC RNA - Test and Treat

• Continue engaging with our vulnerable, marginalised and socially isolated populations

• ADEPT - Client led feedback (iPad) & peer support worker
Finally . . .

A Call to Action!

Make the Difference That You Can!

What does YOUR Kombi look like?

Maybe - You Just Need A Nurse!
We acknowledge and thank our amazing patients and I personally thank Drs Joss & Matt for trusting me with their vision

Let me leave you with these thoughts . . .
Hep C Journey Photographic Exhibition

“I have started riding my bike again” Barry

“Freedom” Kylie