**Objectives**

To evaluate the prevalence of blood borne infections among people aged 18-30 attending counselling or treatment for drug misuse.

**Results**

Engaging people who use drugs (PWUD) in prevention of and testing for HIV, Hepatitis B(HBV) and Hepatitis C(HCV) is important. Besides diagnosing infectious diseases, testing can provide an opportunity to discuss risk behavior, provide education and offer advice on prevention.

In Denmark there is limited knowledge of risk behaviors and prevalence of blood borne viruses(BBV) among young people – especially for the non injecting population.

A registry based study among people in treatment for drug use in Denmark 1996-2016 found that in people < 30 years of age with a history of injecting – but never on OST; the test uptake for HCV was 39.6% and anti-HCV prevalence only 1.8 %. The prevalence of HIV and HBV exposure in the same group was <1%.1

The same study also demonstrated a significant testing lag of 6.5 years from first injection to first HTC test. Implementing simple point of care testing in the youngest group of PWUD might improve test uptake and adding behavioral data can provide insight into potential for risk reduction and prevention.

**Method**

Prospective cohort study from 2017-2018 in people aged 18-30 years of age attending public drug treatment or counselling services in Funen Denmark.

**Prevalence of Chronic Blood Borne Infections**

Among 174 DBS samples available for analyzes
- 0% anti-HIV+
- 0% HBs-Ag +
- 1.7% (n=3) anti-HCV+
- 1.1% (n=2) HCV-RNA+

All cases of HCV were among people on OST with a history of injecting and previously diagnosed. Chronic HCV prevalence among PWID was 20% (2 of 10)

**Hepatitis B protection**

Among all tested 30 individuals (17%) had a detectable level of anti-HBs but only 7% with protective level. All were offered confirmative venous testing and booster immunization if level less than 10 IU/ml in venous sample.

All 162 anti-HBs negative/low level subjects were referred for immunization with an accelerated regime

**Conclusion**

This study investigated an important population for primary prevention of BBV. We found
- Prior test uptake for BBV was low among PWUD 30 years engaged in this study.
- DBS provides comprehensive screening limiting use for multiple tests.
- Injecting drugs was infrequent and mainly associated with Heroin use of non recent initiation.
- No evidence of injection of prescription opioids
- Hepatitis C infection found only in PWID
- Linkage to immunization had a high uptake
- No evidence of spread of HBV or HIV infection

**Disclosures**

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**References**

1. Øvrehus et al., Test uptake and hepatitis C prevalence in 5483 Danish people in drug use treatment from 1996 to 2015: a registra Tion-based cohort study, Addiction March 2019

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