

WHO IS THE MOST VULNERABLE FOR HIV AND/OR HCV INFECTION

HIV+ Individuals

- 25% of HIV+ individuals are also co-infected with HCV (CDC, 2002).

Incarcerated Persons

- Approximately 39% of all those with HCV infection have a history of incarceration (CDC, 2003).

Minorities

- On Long Island, 62% of individuals newly diagnosed with HIV are Hispanic or African American/Black (NYSDOH, 2006).
- African Americans/Blacks are twice as likely to be infected with HCV than whites (Hepatitis C Harm Reduction Project, 2006).

Substance Users

- 42% of Long Island's AIDS cases can be linked to injection drug use (NYSDOH, 2004).
- Injection drug use is the primary risk factor in 60% of new HCV infections (CDC, 2003).

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SOLVING THE CHALLENGES OF HIV

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For more information
about how
Prevention on Wheels
can help your clients,
contact our hotline at:
1-877-865-4222

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PREVENTION ON WHEELS

Providing HIV & Hepatitis C counseling, testing and referrals to individuals in high-need areas of Nassau and Suffolk counties, with a strong emphasis on the post-incarcerated population

1-877-865-4222

HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C

HIV/AIDS is a disease that weakens the body's immune system. HIV is spread mainly through blood contact. This occurs when individuals share needles/syringes for injection drug use, tattoos, body piercing, or during any activity where blood, even traces of blood, is passed from one person to another. HIV can also be spread via unprotected anal, vaginal, and to a lesser degree, oral sex through infected semen or vaginal secretions from an infected person. Mother to child transmission is possible during pregnancy, delivery and through breast milk.

Hepatitis C is a disease that attacks the liver and is caused by the Hepatitis C virus (HCV). Similar to HIV, HCV can be transmitted via needles and syringes if they have been used by someone with the infection.

Although an infected individual may not show signs or symptoms, it is still possible to transmit HIV and/or HCV to others. Both HIV/AIDS and HCV infections can potentially lead to serious illness, which may take years to develop. Prevention is essential because while treatment options are available at the present time, there is neither a vaccine or a cure for HIV/AIDS or HCV.



Prevention on Wheels aims to meet the needs of individuals in underserved communities at risk for HIV and/or Hepatitis C infection by providing mobile counseling, testing, prevention education, and referrals to community resources. All Prevention on Wheels services are available in English and Spanish.

Prevention on Wheels can provide your clients with the following services:

Confidential HIV Testing

Provided by trained counselors using the OraQuick® Advance™ Rapid HIV Test, with preliminary results available in as little as 20 minutes. This test uses an oral fluid sample - no needles are used!

Confidential Hepatitis C Screening

Trained counselors facilitate the collection of a blood sample (fingerprick) and submit the specimen for laboratory analysis. Results, which are ready within two weeks, can be accessed through Home Access® by the client directly or by the counselor who will provide the client with the result.

Prevention on Wheels can provide your clients with the following counseling and referral services:

Risk Reduction Counseling

A component of each pre-test and post-test counseling session. Counselors provide transmission information and work with individuals to develop a harm reduction plan, based on personal risk factors and needs. Safer sex materials are available.

"Fast Track" Admission into Substance Abuse Treatment

Program staff can assist those individuals ready to seek treatment gain admission into inpatient or outpatient treatment settings and provide referrals to aftertreatment services and resources.

Referrals to Community Resources

Program Staff can link individuals in need with referrals for medical, social, and mental health service providers.