



The Ohio Department of Health HIV/HCV Integration Project (HCV testing project)

Kathleen Koechlin, PhD, MPH, BSN, RN
HIV/STD/AVH and TB Prevention and Control Program

614-644-2714

kathleen.koechlin@odh.ohio.gov

October 18, 2011

History

- July 2003 – HCV testing began at 12 HIV CTR sites around the state.
 - Funded through state tobacco funds
 - Blood draw
 - Shipped to ODH lab using HIV shipping process and supplies
 - Various protocols for confirmation testing
 - s/co ratio
 - PCR
 - Barriers:
 - It was new
 - Confirmatory testing requirements



February 2005

- Current AVHPC hired as Hepatitis C Coordinator
- Former HCV coordinator from NYC working in Cincinnati helping to set up an ASO to do HCV testing
- Questions related to how things are being done
- Confirmation testing protocol changed
- HCV counseling and testing manual created



July 2008

- New administration
- State tobacco funds were redirected
- HCV testing program can no longer exist in its current form
- Staff was aware that state funding would no longer be available for HCV testing as the *Expanded and Integrated HIV Testing for Populations Disproportionately Affected by HIV, Primarily African Americans* grant was being written
 - This grant encouraged integration of diagnostic and prevention services for HCV, HBV, STD, and TB
 - ODH wrote for \$174,900 per year for approximately 3,300 test kits per year
 - A decision was made to use the Home Access[®] Hepatitis C CheckSM collection kit
 - This caused several larger sites to drop out of the program
 - Testing became more targeted



Eligibility Criteria for a Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Test Through the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) HIV/HCV Integration Project

Clients tested for HCV through the ODH HIV/HCV Integration Project must have at least one of the following risk factors. Sites may opt to more strictly limit the eligibility criteria at their site, however, sites may **not** choose to more liberally test for HCV by expanding the eligibility criteria.

1. History of injection drug use
2. History of blood transfusion/organ transplant before July 1992
3. History of **occupational** exposure to blood (ex. needle stick or blood splash)
4. History of sex with a **known** HCV positive partner
5. History of **non**-professional tattoo
6. History of sharing straws when snorting drugs
7. History of **non-occupational** exposure to blood (ex. fights, first aid to an injured person, etc.)
8. HIV positive



Testing comparison:

Less targeted testing

- July 1, 2003 – Dec. 31, 2003
 - 1,860 tests
 - 107 (5.8%) preliminary +
- 2005
 - 3,652 tests
 - 242 (6.6%) preliminary +
- 2006
 - 3,629 tests
 - 331 (9.1%) preliminary +

More targeted testing

- October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009
 - 1,529 tests
 - 303 (19.8%) confirmed +
- November 1, 2009 – October 31, 2010
 - 1,599 tests
 - 398 (24.9%) confirmed +
- November 1, 2010 – April 30, 2011
 - 691 tests
 - 164 (23.7%) confirmed +



The near future:

- Pilot test the new rapid HCV test
 - Write protocols
 - Wait for FDA approval for CLIA waived test
 - Baseline data collection
 - Pilot test period
 - Post-pilot test data collection
 - Evaluation



Questions?

