Project SONIC

Service Optimisation in Needle and Syringe Programs with Incentives and Clinical Pathways



Peer workers from Hepatitis NSW and the NSW Users and Aids Association (NUAA) supported people to navigate testing and treatment.

Workforce development upskilled NSP workers through online learning modules.







Outcomes

22 NSPs participated. 1,033hepatitis C tests completed. 1,033



20 people initiated on treatment.



online learning modules developed for

Learnings



Onsite testing at NSPs and incentives are crucial for reaching people at the greatest risk of hepatitis C.



Peer workers are integral to supporting people throughout the hepatitis C models of care.



Onsite prescribing or warm referral pathways^{*} are essential to encourage people to initiate treatment.



Conducting outreach activities to find hidden, hard to reach and vulnerable communities is beneficial.

Sustainability of the Initiative

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The online learning modules are now open to all NSP workers across all Local Health Districts and Non-Government Organisations in NSW.

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Local Health Districts continue to increase hepatitis C testing and treatment for priority populations.

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Supported by



* A service takes the initiative to link people to care with a co-located service. For example, a peer worker helps those who are hepatitis C RNA positive to access treatment by attending medical appointments with them.