THE DOG ATE MY DACLATASVIR: REAL LIFE EXPERIENCES DELIVERING DIRECT ACTING ANTIVIRALS TO MARGINALISED, HOMELESS, AND ACTIVE DRUG USERS

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Kirketon Road Centre

- Publicly funded primary health care service
- Aim to prevent, treat, and care for HIV and other transmissible infections among
  - People who inject drugs
  - Sex workers
  - “At risk” young people (less than 25 years)

- Established in 1987
- Provide care for >3500 people per annum -45% of whom are PWID
- Drop in service- monthly ID specialist
Background

• Marginalised populations often excluded from studies of direct acting antivirals (DAAs)

• KRC treating clients with HCV using DAAs since late 2015
  o Patient access programs
  o Clinical trials
  o Direct access through PBS
Aim & Methods

• To describe outcomes from the first cohort of current injecting drug users treated in the era of DAAs at Kirketon Road Centre

• Descriptive statistics for all clients who have commenced treatment by 31st August
  o Demographic variables (age, gender, education, employment)
  o Injecting patterns
  o Clinical history and outcomes
Demographic Characteristics

- 92 clients commenced treatment by 31st August
- Mean age 46 ± 10.3 years, range 25 – 69
- 25% Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- 30% homeless in last 12 months
- 71% male
- 86% unemployed
Injecting pattern

- Age first injecting: 21.6 ± 8.0 years; range 9 - 47
- 69 (75%) currently injecting
  - 59% injecting weekly, including 21% daily
  - 52% last injected heroin; 37% methamphetamine
  - 23% reported receptive syringe sharing in the preceding year, including 5% within the last month
- 33 (36%) currently taking opioid substitution treatment
- 28 (30%) had previous opioid substitution treatment
Injecting profile of Kirketon Road Centre clients

- Lifetime PWID: (n=92)
  - Current PWID: (n=40) 43%
  - PWID in OST: (n=29) 32%
  - Current PWID in OST: (n=4) 4%

Slide design courtesy Greg Dore
Clinical History

- Time since diagnosis: 15 ± 10.1 years
- 96% treatment naïve
- 7 (8%) HIV co-infected
- Genotypes
  - Type 1: 56 (62%)
  - Type 2: 1 (1%)
  - Type 3: 34 (37%)
- Fibroscan:
  - Median = 5.9
  - Range 3.2 – 50.6
Treatment Prescribed

- sofosbuvir + ledipasvir, 47, 51%
- paritaprevir + ritonavir + ombitasvir + dasabuvir ± ribavirin, 6, 7%
- sofosbuvir + daclatasvir, 35, 38%
- sofosbuvir + velpatasvir, 4, 4%
Treatment Outcomes

- Commenced: 92
- Current: 45
- Completed: 45
- ETR tested: 40
- ETR undetectable: 39
- Waiting: 30
- SVR12 tested: 10
- SVR12 undetectable: 10
Adherence Support

• 60 (65%) managed monthly treatment
  o Telephone support

• 32 (35%) utilised intensive support
  o Daily dosing at KRC
  o Pick up medication weekly dosette box
  o Arrange dispensing through another facility
  o Delivery of medications to prison, psychiatric units, police cells, homeless hostels
  o Monitoring in outreach settings
  o Picking up medications at pharmacy
Example Cases

• Case study- 43, Aboriginal homeless schizophrenic poly-substance user

• Case study- my dog ate the Daclatasvir
Discussion

- Initial adherence and treatment outcomes appear favourable in this population
- Rapport with client - client centred care
- Rapport with local pharmacy
- Multi-disciplinary approach
- Liaison with other services (mental health/homeless)
- Flexibility, walk in, outreach
- Link to related services – counselling, etc
- Dosing options
- Working with peers
- Continue to evaluate and evolve
Questions?

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