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Background: The Kirketon Road Centre (KRC) is a publicly funded primary health care service in Kings Cross, Sydney. KRC provides prevention, treatment and care of viral hepatitis with a focus on people who currently inject drugs. Many studies of direct acting antivirals (DAAs) do not include those with current uncontrolled drug use. The aim of this study was to report the outcomes for the first cohort of active injecting drug users treated in the era of DAAs at KRC in a real life setting.

Methods: All clients initiating DAA treatment at KRC were included. Demographics, drug use history and clinical outcomes, including SVR12, were obtained from the clinical database. SVR12 will be compared for clients with ongoing injection drug use compared to those not currently using.

Results: Of 47 clients (mean age = 46) who initiated DAAs for HCV to date, 31 are male, 11 are Aboriginal, and 13 were homeless. Thirty clients reported recent injecting drug use and 10 clients are currently on OST. Overall, 58% had no/mild fibrosis (F0/1), 9% moderate fibrosis (F2), none had severe fibrosis (F3), and 9% had cirrhosis (F4). Among these clients, 44% were genotype 1a, 6% genotype 1b, 2% genotype 2b, and 48% were genotype 3a. SVR12 outcomes for clients completing treatment by September 2016 will be reported. Multiple options for treatment provision, support, and medication administration were required to ensure adherence in this population.

Conclusion: This cohort of active injecting drug users reflect the experience of treating marginalised clients in a real world setting using an integrated primary health care model. This is a particularly important population to successfully treat from a public health perspective.

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