



58 to 80 million
 are living with HCV²

Is it common?

HCV, Hepatitis C, is a blood borne virus.¹

What is HCV?

How to Stay Safer..

HCV Edition



- Inject drugs²
- Share equipment when using drugs²
- Share personal items that involve blood or body fluids when the other person has HCV²
- Have multiple sex partners²

risk if you...

But, you're most at



Yeah, anyone can.

So, can I get HCV?

Find out more about harm reduction at PreventOverdoseRI.com



Works Cited

Kågström E, Lannergård A, El Khosht J, Lörelius P, Månflod J, Strömdahl S. Prevalence, risk factors, treatment uptake and treatment outcome of hepatitis C virus in people who inject drugs at the needle and Syringe Program in Uppsala, Sweden. *Harm Reduction Journal*. 2023;20(1). doi:10.1186/s12954-023-00806-w

Global progress report on HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections, 2021. Accountability for the global health sector strategies 2016–2021: actions for impact. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2021.

Hepatitis C. World Health Organization. July 18, 2023. Accessed November 28, 2023. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/hepatitis-c>.

What is hepatitis C - FAQ. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. October 31, 2023. Accessed November 28, 2023. <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/cfaq.htm>.



1 out 2
 people who get HCV get a chronic infection



Treatment is available!

- If you go untreated,⁴ it may lead to...
- Cirrhosis
- Liver Cancer
- Death¹

- Symptoms³**
- fever
 - tired more than usual
 - not feeling hunger
 - dark urine
 - vomiting or throwing up

SSPs in Rhode Island

1. PWR
 - a. Pawtucket
Tel: 401-867-2882
@ 124 Broad St 1st Floor
 - a. Providence
Tel: 401-383-4888
@ 640 Broad St
2. ENCORE
TEL: 401-781-0665



Testing Locations

1. AIDS Care Rhode Island (ACOS)
Tel: (401) 273-1888
2. Sojourner House
Tel: (401) 861-6191
3. PWR
See above

How do I avoid being at risk if I use drugs?

- Always use fresh equipment
- Don't share equipment, especially if the other person has HCV

- Get tested
- Do not share personal items with others in the meantime

I've been exposed, what do I do?



Where do I get this stuff and get tested?

Syringe Service Programs (SSPs)

They may have...

- Free HCV testing and treatment referral
- New needles, cookers, pipes, pushers, chore boys
- Condoms
- Ointment
- Sharps containers

