

# Hepatitis C Testing and Treatment services through a “One –Stop” service delivery Model for People who Inject Drugs (PWID) in urban Colombo, Sri Lanka

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## Background

❖ **Prevalence of Hepatitis C is closing 40% among people who inject drugs (PWID) in a locality in urban capital, Sri Lanka.**

## Model of care

- ❑ **A Community Based approach was initiated as a “One Stop Model”.**
- ❑ **Services are delivered through a community center voluntarily offered by a religious entity free of any charges for location and utility bills**
- ❑ **Hepatitis C testing & treatment services were initiated in 2022**

**This community center is named**

### **ACT 4Health Community Center**

- ❑ **A – Awareness & Advocacy**
- ❑ **C- Counseling & Care**
- ❑ **T- Test & Treat**

**Services are provided under one roof**

- ❑ **Education on HIV, Blood Borne infections**
- ❑ **Education on Safer drug use & safe injection practices**
- ❑ **Testing of HIV, Hepatitis B & C, Syphilis using Point of Care tests**
- ❑ **Needle Syringe Exchange Services**
- ❑ **Hepatitis C (HCV), Hepatitis B diagnosis (HBV), Hepatitis C Direct Observed Treatment & follow up**
- ❑ **Counseling**
- ❑ **Community PrEP delivery**
- ❑ **HIV self test delivery**
- ❑ **Family & community educational programs on harm reduction & Hepatitis treatment**
- ❑ **Referral/ escorting services to other facilities**

### **Staff Composition**

**Institution based & field based staff involve in the community based program.**

**Photo1: ACT4Health Community Center & Team**



**Photo 2: Safer Drug Use & safe injection program**



**Photo 3: Counseling services**



**Photo 4: POC testing and Direct Observed Treatment (DOT) services**



## Effectiveness

### **Importance of One –Stop Model**

- ❖ **One stop model is a convenient approach**
- ❖ **A cost effective approach**
- ❖ **Has good client satisfaction**
- ❖ **Facilitate early treatment**
- ❖ **Improves treatment cascade**

*In this on-going program, during the period starting from mid June 2022 to end August 2023, Hepatitis testing and Direct Observed Treatment (DOT) data is indicated in the table 1 & 2 .*

**Table 1: Year June – December 2022**

Variable	Number	%
HCV screened	397	
HCV Ab reactive	159	40%
HCV PCR (Confirmation) done	119	80%
HCV confirmed	95	74%
Treatment Initiated	70	74%
Treatment Completed	47	65%
Death	1	1%

**Table 2: Year January – August 2023**

Variable	Number	%
HCV screened	239	
HCV Ab reactive	91	38%
HCV confirmed	54	60%
Treatment Initiated	30	55%
Treatment Completed	37	
**		
** - Calculates previous year treatment completed individuals also		
Death	4	7.4 %



**Some Success stories: end of an year**



## Conclusions

**This is the first community based treatment program for Hepatitis C for people who inject drugs (PWID) in Sri Lanka that showcases community testing, treatment and other services as one in a community “ One –stop model is a well accepted effective approach for community based programs. A good opportunity for the people who experience barriers to accessing services**

**Mobile One Stop models are planned in the future to improve service coverage**

