# HCV Point of care in a Kombi!

HCV treatment uptake following point-of-care HCV testing at a mobile community clinic in Queensland, Australia: The Kombi Clinic

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## Background

Increasing HCV testing in key populations, such as people who inject drugs, is hampered by current diagnostic pathways requiring multiple visits, which frequently lead to loss to follow-up and disengagement from care. This study evaluated treatment uptake following HCV point-of-care testing through a community-based mobile clinic in Queensland, Australia - The Kombi Clinic.





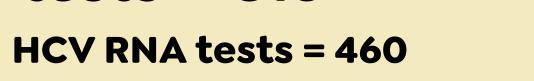


Total number of people = 740

Feb 2022 - July 2023



Total number of tests = 816 HCV Ab tests = 356.





Female

29%

**First Nations** 

Injecting drugs in past 6 months

19% People on OAT

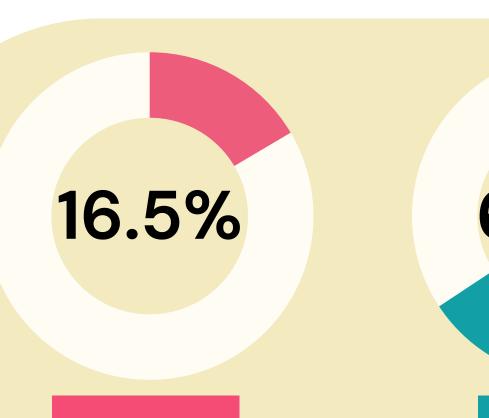


### Learnings

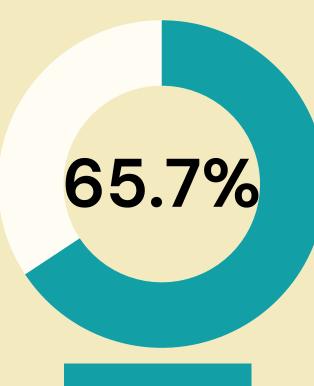
- Point of care mobile testing can achieve large numbers of people tested and help facilitate treatment from key populations
- No such thing as "hard to reach" patients
- Patients LOVE fingerstick testing and the fast turn around
- Equipment portable in mobile pop-up clinics
- 1975 Kombi Vans are awesome ... but unreliable

#### Eliminating barriers as well as HCV

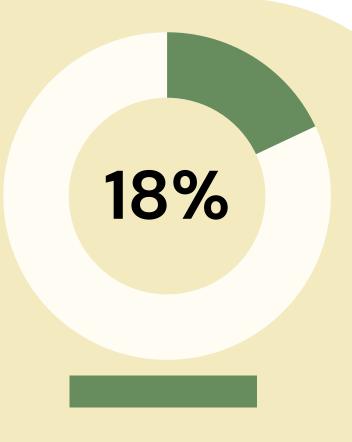
- Observational study of people receiving point-ofcare HCV testing mobile clinic in Queensland, Australia.
- Kombi Clinic operates from an awesome yellow Kombi Van, with General Practitioners and a Nurse wearing rad Hawaiian shirts.
- Clinics run at drop in centers, rough sleeping locations, community corrections, and GP clinics.
- Point-of-care HCV testing (Abbott Bioline HCV) antibody testing and/or Xpert HCV Viral Load Fingerstick testing), linkage to nursing/physician care, and HCV treatment. The primary outcome was HCV treatment uptake in the three months following testing..



**HCV RNA** positive 76 of 460



**Initiating HCV** treatment 50 of 76



**Achieving HCV SVR** 9 of 50





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