

were compared across four exclusive infection groups—HIV-seropositive-only, HCV-seropositive-only, HIV-HCV seropositive and HIV-HCV seronegative individuals.

**Results** Of 2969 IDU, 1.7% were HIV-seropositive-only, 57.5% were HCV-seropositive-only, 11.6% were HIV-HCV seropositive, and 29.2% were HIV-HCV seronegative. The proportion of IDU who were accurately aware of their negative or positive HIV infection status (based on concordance between self-report and laboratory result) was 85.7% among HIV-seropositive-only, 87.5% among HCV-seropositive-only, 78.7% among HIV-HCV seropositives and 77.5% among HIV-HCV seronegatives. The highest proportions reporting needle borrowing (past 6 months 24.2%) and high drug injecting frequency (69.4% > once or twice per week) were in the HCV-seropositive-only group. The highest proportions reporting multiple sex partners (past 6 months 44.9%) and no condom use at last sex (33.8%) were among HIV-HCV seronegative IDU; this group was also least likely to have been tested for HIV or HCV (85.1% and 80.6% respectively). Among those who were HIV-seropositive-only, 87.8% were under the recent care of a doctor and 74.2% were taking prescribed drugs for HIV. Among those HCV-seropositive-only, 45.5% were under the recent care of a doctor and 13.1% were taking prescribed drugs for HCV.

**Conclusions** Injecting and sexual risk behaviours were prevalent particularly among HCV-seropositive-only and seronegative IDU, respectively. Awareness of correct HIV infection status and frequency of HIV testing were lowest among seronegative IDU. These findings underscore the importance of routine and integrated HIV and HCV testing for at-risk IDU which may lead to higher levels of awareness for both HIV and HCV infections.

#### P1-S2.25 HIV SEROSTATUS KNOWLEDGE, ABSENCE OF PREVIOUS TESTING AND SEXUAL BEHAVIOURS AMONG INJECTING DRUG USERS

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**Background** Few studies have examined the association between HIV status knowledge and sexual behaviours among injection drug users (IDUs). We tested the hypothesis that IDUs who know their HIV positive status will have safer sexual practices than IDUs aware of their HIV negative status or never tested for HIV.

**Methods** IDUs who had injected in the past 6 months were recruited in harm reduction programs across the Province of Quebec and Ottawa, Canada. Participants completed a questionnaire including questions on sexual behaviours and provided saliva for HIV antibody testing. For IDUs with multiple participations, the last interview was selected. Data from 2003 to 2009 were analysed. Three groups were compared—IDUs aware of their positive HIV status (n=510), IDUs aware of their HIV negative status (n=2928) and IDUs never tested for HIV (n=427). Proportions were compared using  $\chi^2$  tests.

**Results** Male IDUs aware of their positive HIV status were less likely to have had sex in the last month (HIV positive—32.4%, HIV negative—47.2% and never tested—55.0%;  $p<0.0001$ , n=2741) and, among those sexually active, more likely to have used a condom at last sexual intercourse (HIV positive—57.4%, HIV negative—43.7% and never tested—51.7%;  $p<0.005$ , n=1249). This was not observed for women. In the last 6 months, the proportion of male IDUs who had always used condoms for vaginal or anal sex with their female sex partners was significantly higher in HIV positive than in HIV negative and in those never tested, for regular (54.3%, 22.4% and

33.1%, respectively,  $p<0.0001$ , n=1131), casual (77.4%, 54.4% and 51.2%, respectively,  $p=0.0002$ , n=933) and partners of whom they are a client (86.7%, 69.7% and 42.1%, respectively,  $p<0.02$ , n=123). Women never tested for HIV were less likely than the other groups to use condoms with their regular partners (never tested—4.7%, HIV positive—21.3% and HIV negative—20.2%;  $p<0.05$ , n=550) and their client sex partners (never tested—46.2%, HIV positive—82.1% and HIV negative—76.6%;  $p<0.05$ , n=259). Women aware of their HIV positive status were more likely to report condom use with their casual sex partners, whereas those never tested were less likely (HIV positive—66.7%, HIV negative—48.0% and never tested—15.8%;  $p<0.01$ , n=250).

**Conclusions** IDUs aware of their positive HIV serostatus reported more consistent condom use with their various types of sex partners than those aware of their HIV negative status or never tested.

#### P1-S2.26 DRUG AND SEXUAL HIV RISK AMONG INJECTION DRUG USERS - A LATENT CLASS ANALYSIS

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**Background** Injection drug users (IDUs) are at increased risk of HIV infection because they are more likely to engage in high risk injection behaviours (eg, needle sharing) as well as in high risk sexual behaviours (eg, exchange sex). This analysis examines factors associated with HIV risk using a latent class approach.

**Methods** Our study includes 523 eligible injection drug users, recruited into the 2009 National HIV Behavioural Surveillance project. Using maximum likelihood we calculated the posterior probability of being in an HIV risk class from nine drug and sexual behaviours. We simultaneously fitted a multinomial regression model to identify socio-demographic factors associated with HIV risk class.

**Results** We identified 3 HIV risk classes—high (42%), moderate (25%) and low risk (33%). Compared to the high HIV risk class, homeless IDUs had lower odds to be in the moderate (OR=0.16, 95% CI 0.04 to 0.70) and in low risk HIV class (OR=0.28, 95% CI 0.15 to 0.52). Moreover, IDUs who were arrested in the past 12 month had also lower odds to be in low risk class (OR=0.52, 95% CI 0.32 to 0.86) compared to high HIV risk class.

**Conclusions** Our results show that the majority of our IDUs were engaged in high HIV risk behaviours. Though temporality cannot be established due to the cross-sectional study design our findings indicate that homelessness and history of incarceration are associated with HIV risk. Interventions targeting system-level change may help to reduce the burden of HIV among the injection drug user population.

#### Epidemiology poster session 2: Population: Vulnerable youth

##### P1-S2.27 RESPONSE OF TROUBLED YOUTH AND STIS

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**Description** Pakistan, the second most populous Muslim nation in the world, has started to finally experience and confront the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The country had been relatively safe from any indigenous HIV cases for around 2 decades, with most of the infections being attributable to deported HIV positive migrants from the Gulf States. However, the virus finally seems to have found a home-base, as evidenced by the recent HIV outbreaks among the injection drug user community. Extremely high-risk behaviour has