

HELP ELIMINATE HCV STIGMA

CCUIH's GRASP-HCV campaign measured stigma across California's Urban Indian community. From a survey of 100 Urban Indians in 2017, here is what some of the data collected said about:

EDUCATION

Almost 90% of AIAN people feel comfortable talking about HCV with family and friends.



RELATIONSHIPS & TRUST



More than half of AIAN people are not sure if they feel comfortable dating someone with HCV.

CULTURAL IMPLICATIONS

Two out of three AIAN people are not sure if HCV carries a stigma in the Native community.



THERE IS MORE TO KNOW ABOUT HCV SO
GET THE FACTS.

CCUIH'S GETTING REAL ABOUT STIGMA PREVENTION

The GRASP-HCV Project is a statewide, community driven, public awareness campaign to reduce stigma associated with the Hepatitis-C Virus (HCV) in Urban Indian communities throughout California. GRASP-HCV works to combat stigma through the promotion of prevention resources, education, and understanding of HCV to the American Indian Alaska Native (AIAN) community. The broader goal of the GRASP-HCV project is to reduce health disparities among AIAN individuals struggling with HCV and those that are at the highest risk for infection.

YOU MAY ALSO CHECK OUT THESE SITES:

- hcvadvocate.org
- hepatitis.va.gov
- help4hep.org
- cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/patienteduhcv.htm



FOR MORE ON THIS PROJECT, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
WWW.CCUIH.ORG/GRASP-HCV/

GRASP



Getting Real About Stigma Prevention

A GUIDE TO HEPATITIS-C IN THE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY

*In 2017 CCUIH administered an electronic survey via iPad and a paper version at 5 community events in California. The survey garnered a total of 100 respondents. The survey utilized an HCV related stigma scale.

Let's

Get

Real

THE NEED FOR AWARENESS

An estimated 3.5 million people in the United States have the chronic Hepatitis-C Virus (HCV). Of these, only 50% have been diagnosed, and an estimated 9% have been successfully treated.

National data shows American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) individuals as both having the highest rate of acute HCV infection and the highest HCV-related mortality rate of any U.S. racial or ethnic group.

WHO IS MOST AT RISK?

- Baby Boomers (adults born between 1945-1965).
- Current and past injection drug users.
- People with HIV.
- Persons receiving tattoos and piercings in unregulated environments.
- Children born to an HCV-positive mother.
- Anybody who received a blood transfusion or organ transplant before 1992.

HEPATITIS-C: THE BASICS

1

HCV is an infection caused by the bloodborne Hepatitis-C Virus.

If left untreated, HCV can cause severe liver damage, cirrhosis, and liver cancer, which can lead to liver failure.

2

3

HCV is transmitted by blood infected with the virus, which must come into contact with another person's bloodstream for the virus to spread.

PREVENTING INFECTION

3 WEEKS:

The length of time the Hepatitis-C Virus can survive on surfaces. It is important to clean and disinfect areas that may have come into contact with infected blood, including:

WOUNDS • SURFACES • PIERCINGS • AND GROOMING ITEMS SUCH AS:



NAIL CLIPPERS



TOOTHBRUSHES



RAZORS

REMEMBER, THERE MUST BE TRANSFER OF BLOOD FOR ANY ACTIVITY TO PUT YOU AT RISK OF GETTING HCV.

WAYS YOU CANNOT GET HCV

- HUGGING AND KISSING
- SHARING EATING UTENSILS, FOOD, OR DRINK
- SHARING REGALIA
- BREASTFEEDING
- SNEEZING OR COUGHING
- SHAKING OR HOLDING HANDS
- GOING TO SWEAT OR CEREMONY

TALK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HCV.

GETTING TREATED AND CURED

HCV treatment has advanced significantly since 2011, resulting in the development of medicine that not only has greatly reduced side-effects for most patients, but also has a **95% cure rate.**