Homeless Outreach Service

Rebecca Hawley
Senior Staff Nurse
56 Dean Street
Service Background

Started in April 2013

Clinic Team consists of

- Consultant in Infectious Diseases
- Clinical Nurse Specialist (HIV Community)
- Health Advisor
- Sexual Health Nurse
- Homeless Outreach Nurse Practitioner

Monthly service
Based in Great Chapel Street Medical Centre
Booked and Drop-in Service
The Team
Aims of the Service

- Outpatient HIV and Viral Hepatitis Management
- Point of Care Tests for HIV and Hepatitis C (HCV)
- Sexual Health Screening
- Vaccinations for Hepatitis A (HAV) and Hepatitis B (HBV)
- Harm reduction advice; needle sharing, endocarditis, co-infection and re-infection with HCV, substance misuse, mental health etc
- Referral to appropriate additional services
- Contraception advice and Cervical Cytology
Engagement

- ‘Goody bags’ given to clients
- Taking ownership of own health care
- Flexible clinic to meet patients health needs; drop in appointments both GP and ID consultant care delivered simultaneously- able to deal with multiple issues in one consultation
- Community Group support to help bring patients to the clinic; using peer support workers from Groundswell and other networks
- Hostel and outreach staff (multi-agency) actively aware of clinics and proactively bringing people in/reminding them to attend.
- Proactively tracking down traditional non-engagers
A Flexible Clinic!

- Changing the clinic time to suit the needs of our clients

- Introduction of HCV treatment assessment at the clinic
Service Evaluation Results

- We conducted a review of the service in April 2014

- Results indicated high rates of HCV
HCV Point Of Care Test (POCT)

- HCV Declined
- HCV Known Positive
- HCV new Positive
- HCV negative
Patient A

- Born in UK but grew up in USA
- Ex-IVDU
- Homeless
- HCV Positive
- Multi agency working on starting HCV treatment
Patient B

- Homeless
- HIV and HCV co-infection
- IVDU
- Endocarditis, valve replacement
- On warfarin, antiretrovirals
- HIV Community CNS, pharmacy, District nurses
Points to consider

- Look for opportunities
- Multi-agency working to achieve the same goal
- Requires good communication between teams – email excellent for this (nhs.net)
- Be flexible
- Estimated that 40% of patients accessing GCS have literacy issues and struggle to read and write (designed posters and cards)
- Interpreters
• Any Questions ??
Thank You
● References for places/organisations referred to?

● Great Chapel St
  www.greatchapelst.org.uk

● Groundswell
  http://www.groundswell.org.uk