

# Does a Brief Intervention among Drug Misusing Adult Emergency Department Patients Increase Uptake of Rapid HIV/HCV Screening?

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## Objectives

Among adult emergency department (ED) patients who misuse illicit and/or prescription drugs:

- Assess if a tailored brief intervention (BI) increases uptake of rapid HIV/HCV screening
- Identify factors associated with greater screening uptake

## Methods

- Randomized, controlled trial
- 18-64-year-old English- or Spanish-speaking, sub-critically ill or injured patients recruited at two urban, medical school-affiliated EDs July 2010-December 2012
- ED patients whose Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test indicated a need for a drug misuse intervention were enrolled
- Participants received either no BI (control arm) or a tailored BI (treatment arm) about drug misuse reduction, HIV/HCV risk and HIV/HCV screening need
- Rapid HIV/HCV screening uptake measured
- Multivariable regression models used to identify demographic, clinical and temporal factors associated with screening uptake

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## Results

<i>n</i> =957	Control arm		Treatment arm		Treatment vs. Control <i>OR (95%CI)</i>
	Number eligible	Test uptake	Number eligible	Test uptake	
Test eligibility	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	
<b>HIV, HCV or both</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0.76 (0.59, 1.00)</b>
<b>HIV</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0.75 (0.57, 0.98)</b>
<b>HCV</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0.79 (0.60, 1.05)</b>
<b>HIV only</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0.56 (0.22, 1.39)</b>
<b>HCV only</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.52 (0.01, 8.21)</b>
<b>HIV and HCV</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0.79 (0.59, 1.05)</b>

**Multivariable regression models results:** greater testing uptake related to elapsed study time and which research staff member offered testing, but not to BI content on HIV/HCV knowledge (OR 1.40 [0.91-2.15]), HIV/HCV risk behaviors (OR 1.03 [0.67-1.60]), or need for HIV/HCV screening (OR 1.30 [0.85-1.99])

## Conclusions

- This BI did not increase rapid HIV/HCV screening uptake among drug-misusing adult ED patients.
- Considerations for designing future ED-based HIV/HCV screening initiatives include time elapsed in the study (reflecting questionnaire length, engagement in the topic, participant fatigue and BI duration), who offers testing (a “personal touch” interaction), and intervention content.

## Testing uptake by elapsed study time

