

IDU & HIV Transmission: How?

With injections, blood is introduced into needles and syringes.

The reuse of a needle or syringe with HIV–infected blood by another drug injector carries a high risk of HIV transmission because infected blood can be injected directly into the blood stream.

IDU: What does it mean?

IDU = Injecting Drug User

People who inject drugs into their veins in order to get high.



Injecting Drug User

Sharing Equipment – The Risk



Sharing drug equipment can also provide a risk of HIV transmission Infected blood can be introduced into drug solutions by using blood contaminated syringes to prepare drugs, reusing water, bottle caps, spoons, cookers or other containers used to dissolve drugs in water and to heat drug solutions, reusing small pieces of cotton or cigarette filters used to filter out particles that could block the needle.

HIV: Not the Only Risk

HIV is just one of the adverse health consequences related to IDU and equipment sharing, others include



- Abscesses in superficial veins, subcutaneous tissues and muscles.
- Septicaemia.
- Hepatitis B.
- Hepatitis C.
- Depression, anxiety, memory loss.
- Poor sexual performance.
- Coughs, difficulty breathing.

IDU: A Global Perspective

- HIV infection among IDUs has become a worldwide public health problem.
- By 1999 Drug injection had been reported in 136 countries and HIV infection among drug injectors in over 114 of these countries.
- There is an estimated 13.2 million IDUs in the world with over 10 million from developing countries.

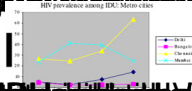
IDUs in India? Yes

- The most significant shift in drug use in India is the move from smoking or chasing to IDU.
- Heroin, Brown Sugar (Crude Heroin) and pharmaceuticals like fortwin, dextropropoxyphene are drugs commonly injected in India.
- IDUs are present among all sections of the population.

Cities



Drug use is a major public health problem in India. It is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality, and is a major risk factor for HIV/AIDS.



India has a high burden of HIV/AIDS, with an estimated 2.5 million people living with the virus. The epidemic is concentrated in certain regions, particularly in the south and west.



The epidemic is concentrated in certain regions, particularly in the south and west. This is due to a combination of factors, including high levels of drug use, high rates of injection drug use, and high levels of risk behavior.



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