



## **Appendix**

**This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed. It is posted as supplied by the authors.**

Appendix to: White B, Dore GJ, Lloyd AR, et al. Opioid substitution therapy protects against hepatitis C virus acquisition in people who inject drugs: the HITS-c study. *Med J Aust* 2014; 201: 326-329. doi: 10.5694/mja13.00153.

**Table 2 Unadjusted and adjusted associations between baseline factors and incident hepatitis C virus infection among the HITS-c cohort, 2008-2011 (n=129)**

	N	Case (n)	(%)	Person years	Incidence (per 100 py)	95% CI*	HR**	95% CI*	P	AHR†	95% CI*	P
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>215.15</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>4.9, 12.7</b>						
<b>Gender</b>												
Male	96	10	10	161.09	6.2	3.3, 11.5	1.00					
Female	33	7	21	54.06	12.9	6.7, 27.2	2.00	0.76, 5.26	0.16	1.83	0.52, 6.49	0.34
<b>Age</b>												
≥27 years	66	4	6	113.31	3.5	1.3, 9.4	1.00			1.00		
<27 years	63	13	21	101.84	12.8	0.74, 21.9	3.77	1.23, 11.57	0.02	5.66	1.69, 18.95	0.005
<b>Ethnic background</b>												
Anglo-Australian	89	8	9	149.01	5.4	2.7, 10.7	1.00					
CALD <sup>1</sup>	40	9	23	66.14	13.6	7.1, 26.2	2.50	0.96, 6.47	0.06	2.09	0.71, 6.13	0.18
<b>Education, years</b>												
≤10 years	78	10	13	133.93	7.5	4.0, 13.9	1.00					
≥11 years	51	7	14	81.22	8.6	4.1, 18.1	1.07	0.41, 2.82	0.89			
<b>Moved twice or more, last 12 months</b>												
No	86	11	13	145.31	7.6	4.2, 13.7	1.00					
Yes	42	6	14	67.14	8.9	4.0, 19.9	1.17	0.43, 3.17	0.76			
<b>Full-time employment, last 6 months</b>												
No	110	14	13	182.06	7.8	4.6, 13.0	1.00					
Yes	19	3	16	33.09	9.1	2.9, 28.1	1.21	0.35, 4.20	0.77			

\*Confidence interval; \*\*Hazards ratio; †Adjusted HR, controlling for gender, ethnic background and variables significant at p<0.05; <sup>1</sup>Culturally and linguistically diverse

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	N	Case (n)	(%)	Person years	Incidence (per 100 py)	95% CI*	HR**	95% CI*	P	AHR†	95% CI*	P
<b>Incarcerated last, 12 months</b>												
No	105	15	14	175.67	8.5	5.1, 14.2	1.00					
Yes	24	2	8	39.48	5.1	1.3, 20.3	0.58	0.13, 2.53	0.47			
<b>Accessed NSP<sup>2</sup>, last 6 months</b>												
No	38	5	13	61.4	8.1	3.3, 19.6	1.00					
Yes	88	12	14	147.3	8.1	4.6, 14.3	1.00	0.36, 2.86	0.99			
<b>OST<sup>3</sup>, last 6 months</b>												
Yes	50	3	18	91.25	3.3	1.1, 10.2	1.00			1.00		
No OST, mainly injected heroin	30	10	59	37.15	26.9	14.5, 50.0	7.14	1.95, 26.05	0.003	5.64	1.30, 24.42	0.02
No OST, mainly injected another drug	47	4	24	82.01	4.9	1.8, 13.0	1.53	0.34, 6.84	0.58	1.80	0.39, 8.24	0.45
<b>Time since first injection</b>												
≥5 years	67	6	9	118.99	5.0	2.3, 11.2	1.00					
< 5 years	62	11	18	96.16	11.4	6.3, 20.7	2.07	0.76, 5.58	0.15			
<b>Injecting frequency, last 6 months</b>												
<Daily	94	7	7	164.66	4.3	2.0, 8.9	1.00			1.00		
≥Daily	32	10	31	44.02	22.7	12.2, 42.2	4.93	1.89, 12.97	0.001	4.06	1.15, 14.30	0.03
<b>Receptive syringe sharing, last 6 months</b>												
No	109	12	11	187.49	6.4	3.6, 11.3	1.00			1.00		
Yes	17	5	29	21.19	23.6	9.8, 56.7	3.34	1.17, 9.53	0.02	1.16	0.30, 4.55	0.83

\*Confidence interval; \*\*Hazards ratio; †Adjusted HR, controlling for gender, ethnic background and variables significant at p<0.05; <sup>2</sup>Needle and syringe program; <sup>3</sup>Opioid substitution therapy

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	N	Case (n)	(%)	Person years	Incidence (per 100 py)	95% CI*	HR**	95% CI*	P	AHR†	95% CI*	P
<b>Receptive ancillary equipment sharing, last 6 months (spoon, water, filter)</b>												
No	112	14	13	191.6	7.3	4.3, 12.3	1.00					
Yes	14	3	21	17.1	17.6	5.7, 54.5	2.17	0.62, 7.61	0.22			
<b>Backloading±, last 6 months</b>												
No	113	15	13	186.4	8.0	4.9, 13.3	1.00					
Yes	13	2	15	22.3	9.0	2.2, 35.9	1.20	0.27, 5.12	0.83			
<b>Public space injecting, last 6 months</b>												
No	69	8	12	120	6.7	3.3, 13.3	1.00					
Yes	56	9	16	88	10.2	5.3, 19.7	1.43	0.55, 3.73	0.46			
<b>Pooled money to buy drugs, last 6 months</b>												
No	35	1	3	62.3	1.6	0.2, 11.4	1.00					
Yes	90	16	18	145.7	11.0	6.7, 17.9	6.40	0.84, 48.01	0.07			
<b>Injected by another, last 6 months</b>												
No	80	8	10	134.7	5.9	3.0, 11.9	1.00					
Yes	45	9	20	73.3	12.3	6.4, 23.6	1.90	0.75, 5.01	0.18			
<b>IDU sex partner, last 12 months</b>												
No	72	10	14	114.1	8.7	4.7, 16.2	1.00					
Yes	56	7	13	98.5	7.1	3.4, 14.9	0.85	0.32, 2.24	0.74			
<b>Severity of dependence</b>												
< Dependence cut-off	45	6	13	73.34	8.2	3.7, 18.2	1.00					
≥ Dependence cut-off	70	9	13	117.76	7.6	4.0, 14.7	0.91	0.33, 2.57	0.87			

\*Confidence interval; \*\*Hazards ratio; †Adjusted HR, controlling for gender, ethnic background and variables significant at p<0.05; ± Receiving drug solution into one's own syringe from a syringe used by another by removing the plunger and squirting the drug into the syringe

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	<b>N</b>	<b>Case (n)</b>	<b>(%)</b>	<b>Person years</b>	<b>Incidence (per 100 py)</b>	<b>95% CI*</b>	<b>HR**</b>	<b>95% CI*</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>AHR†</b>	<b>95% CI*</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Recruitment region</b>												
South West Sydney	83	12	15	138.9	8.6	4.9, 15.2	1.00					
Inner Sydney	23	2	9	39.9	5.0	1.3, 20.1	0.60	0.13, 2.68	0.51			
Western Sydney	23	3	13	36.4	8.2	2.7, 25.6	0.92	0.26, 3.33	0.92			

\*Confidence interval; \*\*Hazards ratio; †Adjusted HR, controlling for gender, ethnic background and variables significant at p<0.05