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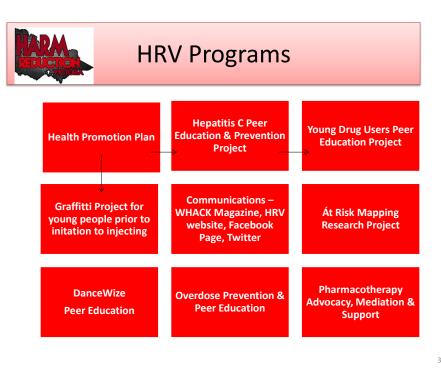


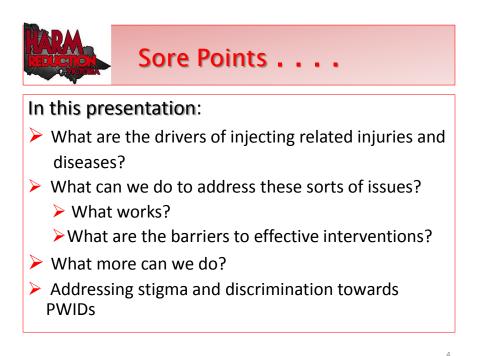
SORE POINTS: Injecting related injuries & diseases from a drug user perspective

CREIDU Colloquium

Jenny Kelsall Harm Reduction Victoria

What is Harm Reduction Victoria (HRV) and what do we do?	
HRV is the drug user organisation for Victoria	
There is an equivalent of HRV in mo	ost other states & territories across Australia
We are part of a national network of drug user organisations headed by our peak body, AIVL.	
HRV is funded primarily by the Victorian Department of Health	
Our members and primary constitute past and present and others who set	ents are people who use/inject illicit drugs, upport our aims & objectives.





Injecting related injuries & diseases

Predictors of IRID:

Injecting practices:

- frequency & duration of injecting
- sharing of needles/syringes &/or other injecting equipment
- public injecting drug use.
- unhygienic injecting environments
- injecting non-powder drug forms

Injecting related injuries & diseases

Protective Factors:

- Use of sterile injecting equipment for every injection
- Cleaning with alcohol swabs prior to injecting
- General attention to hygiene e.g. hand washing, etc.
- Safer injecting techniques
- Wound care
- Rotation of injection sites
- Filtering
- Hygienic injecting environments including SIFs

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How an abscess forms

<u>http://www.aivl.org.au/veincare/?n=issues</u>

Re-using a syringe

<u>http://www.aivl.org.au/veincare/?n=issues</u>

How veins collapse

<u>http://www.aivl.org.au/veincare/?n=issues</u>



"Experiences of discrimination are so common and relentless many [drug] users fail to recognise they are being discriminated against - it seems normal

to be treated badly and vilified if you're a user."

"I broke my leg in three places after a motor bike accident. At the hospital they wouldn't give me anything other than Panedol® even though the bone was sticking out through the skin."

" The morning he died (from hep C related liver failure) we were pleading with the nurses to give him some morphine. They wanted to wait another 30 minutes. When I asked why, they answered 'because it's not good for his liver ! Ten minutes later he slipped off into the ether".

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Putting Together the Puzzle

Stigma, Discrimination and Injecting Drug Use AIVL Training Module for Health Care Professionals and Students

