

Cass Lake IHS Harm Reduction

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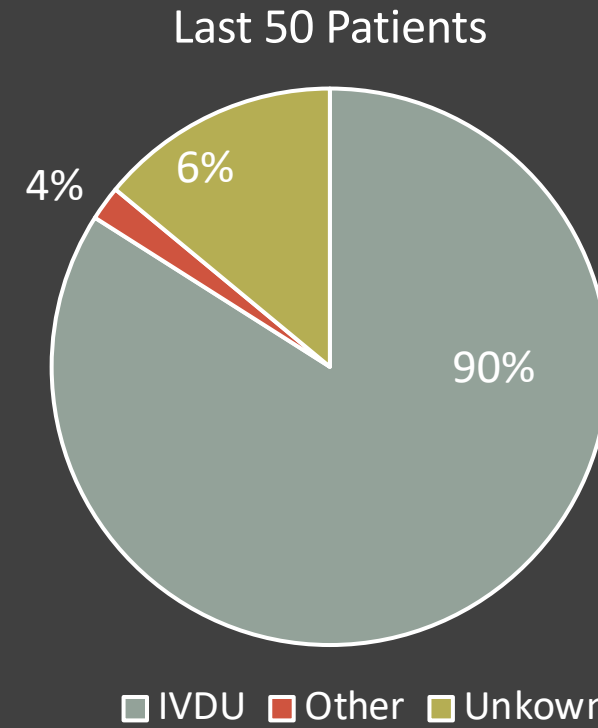
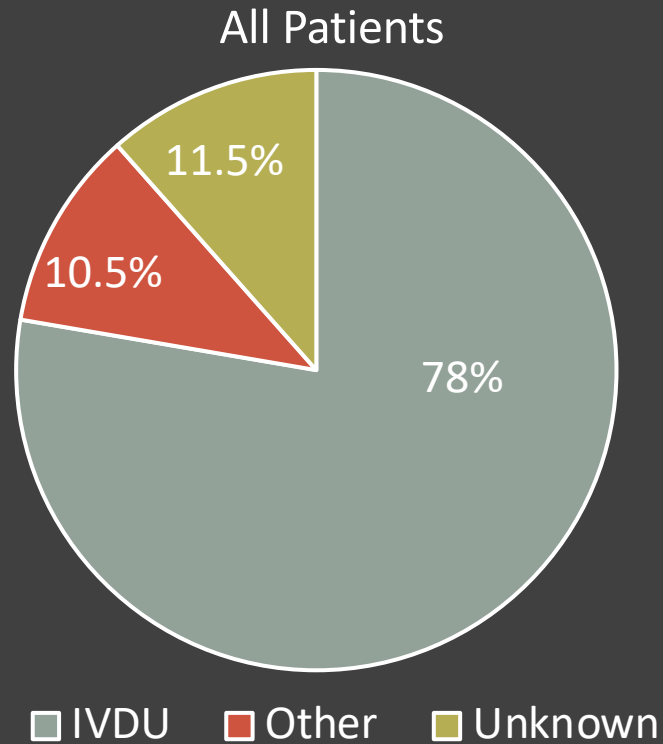
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Learning Objectives

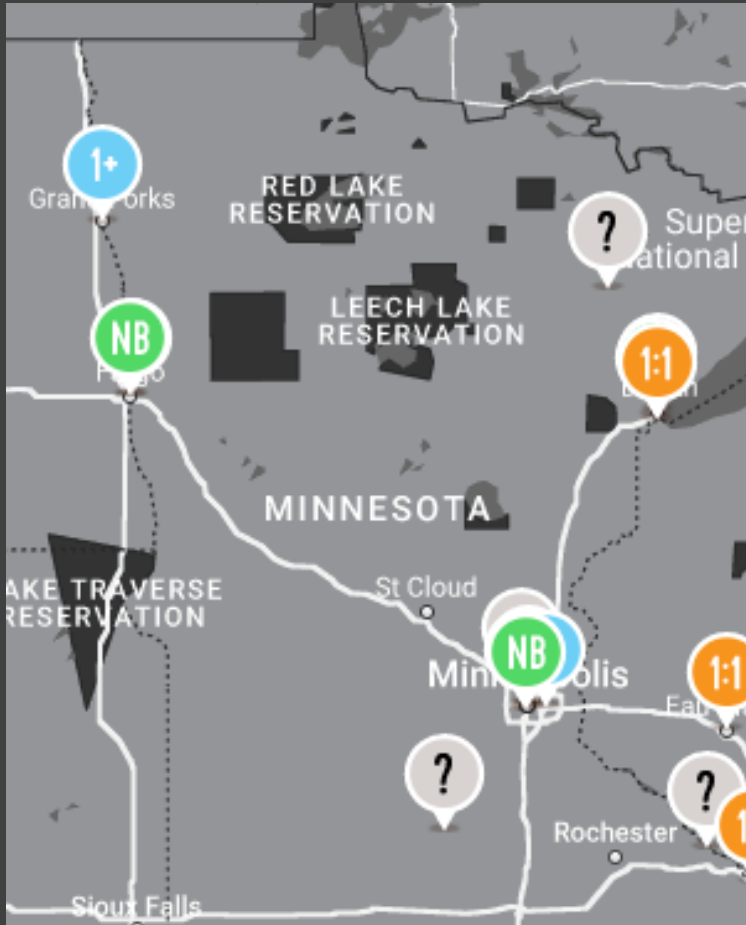
- Understand the need for local harm reduction services
- Describe the steps taken to initiate harm reduction services
- Identify benefits of harm reduction services

Need for Local Harm Reduction Services

Risk Factors for Hepatitis C at Cass Lake IHS



Need for Syringe Services



- MN Pharmacy Syringe Access
 - Pharmacies can voluntarily participate
 - Individual pharmacist may decide
 - Limit of 10 syringes
 - Can not display syringes for purchase
 - Can not advertise availability of syringes

Need for Syringe Services

- ER visits for STD testing
 - Need for quick and easy access to testing outside of the ER
- Association between our syphilis cases and IVDU
- Increase in ER overdose visits
 - Need for additional access to naloxone
- Patients accessing ER for services not empaneled with primary care provider

Getting Started- People

- Meetings with Tribal counterparts
 - What services we can both provide
 - What gaps can we fill for each other
 - Meeting with Tribal Police Department
- Pharmacy leadership and staff buy in
 - Survey staff
- Presentation to medical staff
- Word of mouth advertising
 - One Facebook post after ~ 3 months

Getting Started- Education

- Gathered resources for patients
 - Mental Health
 - Substance use
 - Patient education
 - Safer injection
 - Numbers for clinic appointments
 - Sharps disposal in Minnesota
- Education for pharmacy staff (ongoing)
 - Background presentation given
 - Invited NPAIHB staff to present and answer questions
 - Emailed resources on harm reduction
 - Rationale behind items provided

Getting Started- Supplies

- Created list of supplies needed
- Compared pricing from different sources
- Created NASEN account
- Majority of items the pharmacy already offered or the facility orders for other departments
- Identified funding source
- Resources
 - NPAIHB
 - National Harm Reduction Coalition
 - NASEN
 - NASTAD

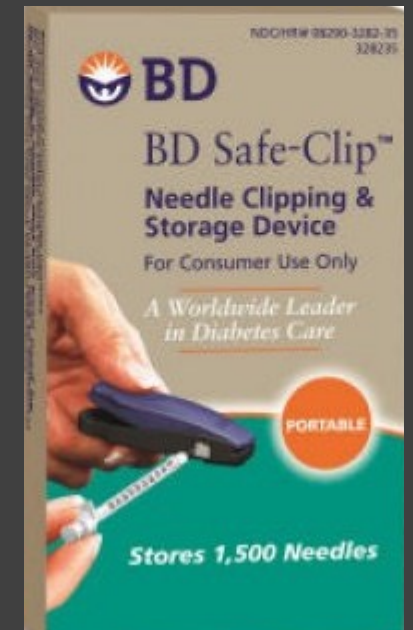
Harm Reduction at CLIHS

- Within CLIHS pharmacy provides harm reduction services which include
 - Syringe services
 - Sharps containers/syringe disposal
 - Naloxone
 - STI testing
 - Condom distribution
 - Education on safer use
 - Resources for mental health and addiction

Harm Reduction at CLIHS

- Patients complete a voluntary intake form
 - Provided a participant card with an ID number
 - Encounter is not documented in medical record
 - Naloxone prescription and STD testing is entered in EHR, but not linked to harm reduction visit
- Pharmacist or student pharmacist provides information on what is available
 - Handouts on safer use and mental health and addiction resources
 - Participant can request items they would like
- Return visit participants can show their participant card to request services or ask to speak with a pharmacist
- Pharmacy tracks visits based on ID number

Harm Reduction Supplies





Harm reduction through Tribal Health

- 2 nurses
 - 1 RN, 1 LPN
- All of the same services provided at Cass Lake IHS
- Ability to meet people where they are at
- Abscess and wound care
- Rapid HCV and HIV testing
- Visit 3 different communities one day each week
- Disease intervention services
 - Syphilis, HCV, other STIs

Participant Demographics

- First participant 10/24/22
- Currently have 75 participants
- Median age: 35
 - Age range: 21-67
 - 53 participants with no primary care provider (70%)
- 320 visits
- ~15,500 syringes, 250 naloxone, and 1,000 condoms provided

STI Testing first 7 months

- STD panel ordered at 8 visits (6 patients)
 - 3 positive HCV
 - 3 reactive RPR
 - 1 late latent case in need of treatment
 - 2 with history of treated syphilis
- 7 participants with known HCV in need of treatment
- 35 participants

Pharmacy Based Incentive Program

- Implemented July 10th 2023
- \$10 incentive card offered for STI testing
 - Testing ordered under pharmacy standing order
 - No STI testing within the last 3 months
- Second \$10 incentive card offered for notification of results or if treatment needed
 - Treatment ordered under pharmacy standing order
- No advertising done
- Do not have to be part of harm reduction program

Pharmacy Based Incentive Program

- 85 incentive cards given out
- 49 individual patients completed STI bundle
 - 10 not part of harm reduction program
- Positive results– 21 positives in 17 patients
 - 2- syphilis cases- late latent
 - 8- Hepatitis C (+ 5 with previous positive in EHR)
 - 3- Chlamydia
 - 1- Gonorrhea
 - 6- Trichomoniasis
 - 1- Pregnancy
- 4 positives were outside of harm reduction program

Difficult to Reach Patients

- Tribal Disease Intervention Specialist Consult
 - Utilized if unable to reach patient by phone
 - Consult placed in EHR
 - Can assist with getting patient into clinic, obtaining labs, or providing treatment
- Follow up Flag
 - Placed and removed by one pharmacist
 - Only used as a last resort if patient unable to be contacted after multiple attempts
 - Education needed for staff to ensure action when patient presents
 - Need to proactively remove flag as soon as action is taken
- Internal communication
 - Notes in harm reduction binder
 - Notes in Scriptpro

CASS LAKE IHS EHR -- DICKSON,WHITNEY

User Patient Tools Help Web Sites Dosing Calculator Vista Imaging Print RX

Privacy Patient Chart Communication RPMS MIIC Direct Web Mail MNTrac Quest iCare Forms/education RCIS EPCS Vista Imaging

Zany Adolescent BB 38340 02-Dec-2004 (18) F Visit not selected Primary Care Team Unassigned Visit Summary 0 c/c Health Summary Report Postings WAF

Pharm Ed Broadcast Transfer Med List

PWH Dental Micro-Medex login - white3 pass word - earth2

File View Action Options

Last 100 Signed Notes

Visit: 02/24/23

Category I Flags

Category II Flags

FOLLOW UP NEEDED

LOCAL TITLE
DATE OF NOTE
AUTHOR
URGENCY

Flag Name: FOLLOW UP NEEDED

Assignment Narrative:
+RPR IN NEED OF TREATMENT- **SEE 2.22.23 PHARMACY NOTE**

Flag Type: CLINICAL
Flag Category: II (LOCAL)
Assignment Status: Active
Initial Assigned Date: OCT 31, 2022@14:19:08
Approved by: DICKSON,WHITNEY
Next Review Date: MAR 26, 2023
Owner Site: CASS LAKE HOSPITAL
Originating Site: CASS LAKE HOSPITAL

Signed, Linked Notes of Title: FOLLOW-UP NEEDED

Date	Action	Author
02/24/23		/es/ Whitne CPS

Signed: 02/24/23

Diagnoses: Chaf evaluation by non-care professional on 02/24/23 (primary)

Notifications Visit Requirements Notes Medications Labs CPT Superbill Consults D/C Summ Asthma Zones Anti-coagulation Designated Providers Reports

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Opportunities for Growth

- Community engagement
 - Homeless shelters
 - Opioid Treatment Program
 - Powwows
- Talk about your program
- Ask questions about other programs or services in your area

What Works Well

- People know where to find us
 - Consistent hours
 - Consistent location
- Always a pharmacist available
 - 10 pharmacists and typically 1-2 students
- Private space
 - Same space used for all pharmacy services
- Lab available during harm reduction program hours
- Ability to test and treat for STIs/HCV within the pharmacy
- Same Day clinic and ER on site if needed

What Could Be Better

- Multiple staff might be a disadvantage
- How do we engage more with patients
- Consider adding fentanyl or xylazine test strips
- Input from people with lived experience
- Offer rapid testing
- Remove barriers for HCV treatment
- Could offer additional supplies

Key Takeaways

- It is ok to start small
 - Growth provides an opportunity for education/conversation
- Be flexible
- Alternate forms of communication are needed
- You don't have to be an expert
- We are always learning

Resources

[Materials for Syringe Services Programs: A Guide for Staff & Volunteers | NASTAD](#)

[Safer Drug Use Technique | Bevel Up \(bvlup.com\)](#)

National Harm Reduction TA Center

[NASEN | North America Syringe Exchange Network: NASEN Directory](#)

Questions?
