Viral hepatitis and beyond

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2016 Twitter impressions from 1 July – 24 July reached a total of 10,112, averaging at 422 impressions/day
- Twitter impressions from 25 July – 29 July reached a total of 61,254, averaging at 12,251 impressions/day
- In July, profile visits on Twitter totalled a number of 3,868. This had risen by 420.6% from June
Trends in HCV testing in Scotland’s 4 largest NHS Boards

Number of HCV antibody tests

- Source: Hepatitis C Test Database
Chemsex in Scotland: Starting the conversation

A national series of events, bringing together key groups to learn, and contribute to discussions on current knowledge and practice regarding Chemsex in Scotland, and how to better respond to an emerging public health issue.
Preventable
Not
Inevitable
• Px
• Tx
• HR
• Long term injectors who have avoided hepatitis C can be seen as ‘positive deviants’ – people who have managed to ‘stay safe’ in environments of high risk.
- Types of drugs
- Technique
- Poor knowledge and awareness
- Access to testing and treatment
■ Prolong the life of veins – once they collapse, they’re gone for good.

■ Take time and be careful

■ Give the used veins time to heal

■ Inject at least one centimetre away from last injection site

■ Try not to inject below a recent hit on the same vein: go above it (towards the heart) so the previous site is not irritated twice.
http://www.exchangesupplies.org/pdf/P112_slamming.pdf
• “Some of our patients don’t have many friends and quite a lot of them are estranged from their family … you have to be careful, you have to make sure that the patient understands that you are ultimately doing your job and you’re not their friend … some patients who are having trouble at the end of treatment, disengaging a bit, we actually carry on seeing them for a few weeks, every couple of weeks … because it’s funny how they can start acting out a bit towards the end and getting a real pain, I think it’s panic, sometimes, that treatment is finishing, they’ve got quite reliant on you.”

(Mary, Manager BBV team, East London D&A)