

Supplementary Material:

A novel *mHealth* application for improving
HIV and Hepatitis C knowledge in individuals with opioid use disorder:
A pilot study

Taylor A. Ochalek^{1,2}, Sarah H. Heil^{1,2,3}, Stephen T. Higgins^{1,2,3}, Gary J. Badger⁴ and
Stacey C. Sigmon^{1,2,3}
Vermont Center on Behavior and Health¹, Departments of Psychology,² Psychiatry,³ and
Biostatistics⁴
University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

Corresponding Author: Taylor A. Ochalek, UHC-SATC Room 1415, 1 South Prospect
Street, Burlington VT, 05401; telephone: 802-656-9858; fax: 802-656-5793;
email: tochalek@uvm.edu

This material supplements, but does not replace the peer-reviewed article in
Drug and Alcohol Dependence

HIV Knowledge Questionnaire

1. HIV causes AIDS.
 2. Once you have HIV, you have it for life.
 3. Cleaning needles with water will kill HIV.
 4. AIDS is a disease of gay, white men.
 5. HIV can be transmitted from one person to another during vaginal sexual intercourse.
 6. People who are HIV positive always look sick.
 7. Injection drug users are also at risk of Hepatitis C infection; 50-90 % of HIV infected injection drug users are also infected with Hepatitis C.
 8. HIV can be transmitted from one person to another through anal sex, but not through oral sex.
 9. A person can become infected with HIV by sharing needles with other drug users.
 10. A person cannot get AIDS from a toilet seat.
 11. Condoms reduce the risk of transmission of the HIV virus.
 12. HIV can be transmitted from one person to another by sharing “drug works”, such as “cookers” or “cottons”.
 13. A person cannot get AIDS from pre-ejaculatory fluids.
 14. Transferring a drug from one syringe to another can transmit HIV.
 15. AIDS is not always fatal.
 16. An infected mother can give HIV to her infant via breast feeding (milk).
 17. Intranasal or injection drug users are the fastest growing risk group for HIV.
 18. Rubbing injection sites with alcohol can lower the risk of getting AIDS.
 19. AIDS is a preventable disease.
 20. Women on birth control pills cannot get HIV during sexual intercourse.
 21. Putting a needle in a flame before using it will prevent infection from the HIV virus.
 22. Using bleach to clean drug works after each use greatly reduce the risk of getting AIDS
 23. The HIV virus can be transmitted if blood from an infected person gains entry into another person.
 24. The HIV virus is present in vaginal secretions.
 25. The HIV virus can be transmitted by hugging or holding hands.
 26. There is currently no known cure for AIDS.
 27. Needles bought on the street in a sterile wrapper cannot transmit HIV.
 28. It is safe to re-use bleach after someone else has used it to clean their “drug works”.
 29. Wiping of a needle before using it is an effective HIV risk-reducing strategy.
 30. HIV can be transmitted from an infected mother to her child before or during childbirth.
 31. Latex condoms are better than natural skin or lambskin condoms in preventing the spread of HIV.
 32. HIV can be transmitted through menstrual blood.
-

-
33. Vaseline can be safely used to lubricate a condom.
 34. The HIV virus can be transmitted by mosquitoes or bugs.
 35. It is safe to re-use a condom as long as the male did not ejaculate in the condom.
 36. A person who has had a sexually transmitted disease is at increased risk for HIV.
 37. A person can be infected by HIV by giving blood at a blood bank.
 38. If a person is infected with HIV, he or she will feel sick within a few days to a week after infection.
 39. HIV can not be transmitted if an infected needle penetrates the skin only, because the needle must enter the blood stream in order for infection to occur.
 40. AIDS can be transmitted when an infected person coughs or sneezes on another person.
 41. Condoms that are not long enough to cover the whole penis may not be able to prevent the transmission of HIV.
 42. Using oil-based lubricants, such as hand lotion, cold cream, food products or baby oil, with a condom will weaken the condom and increase the likelihood that may break during sex.
 43. Boiling “drug works” for 15 minutes before each use will reduce the likelihood of becoming infected with the AIDS virus.
 44. People with AIDS can be cured if they are given very good medical care.
 45. A person who becomes infected with HIV may not test positive for the virus for up to 4 weeks to 6 months after infection.
 46. Drug users can increase their chances of getting AIDS by sharing water, in which needles or syringes are dipped, with another user.
 47. HIV can be transmitted from IV drug users to their sexual partners.
 48. HIV can be transmitted during a blood transfusion if HIV-contaminated blood is used.
 49. People with AIDS can get severe illnesses, which are not usually a threat to people without AIDS.
 50. AIDS is a homosexual and ethnic disease.
-

HCV Knowledge Questionnaire

1. Hepatitis is a virus that causes inflammation of the liver.
 2. It is possible to transmit hepatitis C to other people before you begin to experience any symptoms of the virus.
 3. There is a vaccine available for Hepatitis C.
 4. The risk of transmission of infection through unprotected sex is lower for Hepatitis C than HIV.
 5. There is only one test that can be used to diagnose the Hepatitis C infection.
 6. You can be treated for Hepatitis C, but it is very hard to permanently cure.
 7. People who contract Hepatitis C usually feel sick within 1-2 days of contracting the virus.
 8. Hepatitis C is spread easily through sexual contact.
 9. You can die from Hepatitis C.
 10. It is dangerous to continue drinking alcohol after learning that you have contracted Hepatitis C.
 11. Hepatitis C is primarily transmitted blood to blood.
 12. There are 6 different types of Hepatitis C; the main difference between them is that some are easier to cure than others.
 13. Hepatitis C is spread by forms of social contact, such as kissing, hugging, and touching.
 14. Symptoms of Hepatitis may include fatigue and abdominal pain.
 15. Most individuals with Hepatitis C exhibit no recognizable signs or symptoms.
 16. Hepatitis C can be cured in 100 percent of people who begin treatment.
 17. 30 out of 100 people with chronic Hepatitis C infection may not actually develop liver problems, but can still transmit the infection through blood-to-blood contact.
-

VAS Items

1. How high of a chance do you think of having HIV?
 2. How high of a chance do you think you have of getting Hepatitis C?
 3. How much do you know about how HIV is transmitted?
 4. How much do you know about how Hepatitis C is transmitted?
 5. What is the likelihood that you will use a condom next time you have sex?
 6. If you were going to have sex and no condom was available, what is the chance that you would refrain from having unprotected sex?
 7. Do you ever use a needle to inject drugs?
 8. What is the likelihood that you will use a new, sterile syringe, cooker, and cotton next time you inject?
 9. If you were going to 'shoot up' and only a used needle was available, what is the chance that you would be able to refrain from using the needle?
 10. How helpful was the Hepatitis C video?
 11. How helpful was this HIV+HCV iPad application?
 12. How comfortable were you with using this iPad?
-