

Help shape the story

STOP THE SPREAD, HELP SHAPE THE STORY

Get to know our key players



Glen (Correctional Officer)

Security's the most important thing for me—everything else comes second.



Hep C in prisons

Jean says she's heard a lot of talk about hep C lately.

She asks **Mo** if the hep C problem is as bad in prison as it is in the community.



How would you like to see this scenario play out?

How should Mo respond?

Select your answer; then click **SOUNDS GOOD!**

- "Hep C is less common in prison than it is in the community."
- "Hep C is much more common in prison than in the community."
- "Hep C is just as common in prison as it is in the community."



Correct

That's right.

Hep C is much more common in prisons than in the community.

Some prisoners may already have hep C when they come into prison and some prisoners without hep C can get infected (or reinfected) through sharing contaminated needles and tattooing equipment, or exposure to blood in the prison (such as in fights).

You can help to stop the spread of hep C and make prisons safer by encouraging all prisoners to get tested and treated.

TAKE AGAIN



An opportunity for a new perspective

Glen breaks up a fight in the yard and is exposed to blood from one or both of the prisoners. He's worried about getting infected with hep C and taking it home to his family.

Mo says he knows tons of officers who have been exposed to blood and knows that they worry and don't want to take it home to the family. He tells Glen there's a way to make the work environment safer, so he doesn't have to worry.



How would you like to see this scenario play out?

What advice do you think Mo should give Glen about how he can prevent taking hep C home to his family?

Select your answer; then click **SOUNDS GOOD!**



"The best thing you could do to protect your family is to help get all prisoners tested and if they're infected, to get treated (and retreated) to reduce the risk of being exposed to hep C in the prison."



"Keep away from prisoners if you suspect they might have hep C."



"Search the prisoner's cell so we can get rid of injecting equipment in the prison."



Incorrect

Keeping away from prisoners or targeting one prisoner isn't going to stop the spread of hep C in prison, which means you could still be at risk. You might want to reconsider your answer.

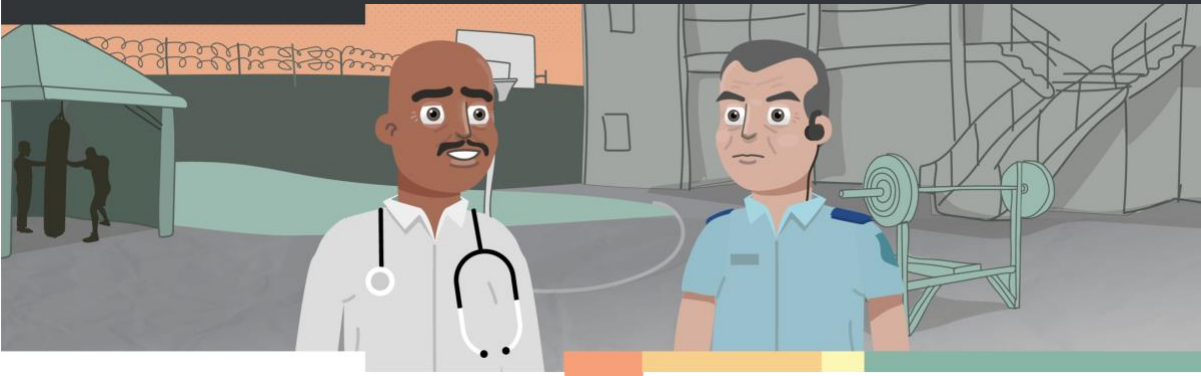
TAKE AGAIN



Working together to reduce the risks

Mo asks Glen if he's worried about getting a needlestick injury during a cell search.

Glen says that security is the most important thing to him and that everything else comes second. He says he's worried about getting a needlestick injury during a search, but that it's a risk that comes with the job. There's not much you can do about it.



How would you like to see this scenario play out?

How do you think Mo should respond to Glen's concerns about needlestick injuries?

Select your answer, then click **SOUNDS GOOD!**

- "The risk of a needlestick injury comes with the job, but you can reduce the risk of catching blood borne viruses such as hep C, by getting all prisoners tested and treated."
- "Almost all needlestick injuries transmit hepatitis C."
- "If we kept drugs out of the prison, we could eliminate the risk of needlestick injury."



Correct

That's right. The risk of a needlestick injury does come with the job, but you can reduce that risk of contracting blood borne viruses such as hep C, (or hep B or HIV), by encouraging prisoners to get tested and treated. The risk of hep C infection from a needlestick injury is less than 1 in 100, however it is still important to encourage prisoners to get tested and treated to reduce the risk.

Supporting prisoners to access testing and treatment helps stop the spread of hep C in the prison. There'll be fewer risks to everyone's health and a safer prison environment.

TAKE AGAIN



Helping prisoners to access testing and treatment

Bob wants all officers to do whatever they can to help prisoners get tested and treated.

Glen thinks it's a waste of time getting prisoners tested, they'll get reinfected anyway.



How would you like to see this scenario play out?

What advice should Bob give Glen about helping prisoners to access testing and treatment?

Select your answer (there may be more than one correct answer); then click SOUNDS GOOD!



"Encourage prisoners to get seen in the clinic, that's a great way to stop it spreading and to help everyone to stay safe."



"We recommend escorting prisoners to the clinic and not making it hard for them to get there, even though you're right, they may be reinfected."



"There's no need to babysit prisoners, they know the process to get seen in the clinic, they should just follow it."



Incorrect

Not quite. Supporting prisoners and not making it hard for them to get seen in the clinic is a great way to help them access testing and treatment. Even if prisoners get reinfected, the recommendation is that they get retreated, as many times as needed.

TAKE AGAIN



Starting a conversation

Glen suspects a prisoner is sharing needles and probably has hep C. He reckons he doesn't feel like encouraging prisoners to get tested and treated today.

Mo encourages Glen to start a conversation with the prisoner. He says if we work together, we can stop the spread and make this place safer for everyone. Mo asks Glen how he'd approach the prisoner.



How would you like to see this scenario play out?

How should Glen start a conversation with the prisoner he suspects of sharing needles and having hep C?

Select your answer; then click SOUNDS GOOD!

- "I think you ought to be put on a charge for sharing needles and spreading hep C around the place, but they tell me I have to get you to come forward for testing."
- "Mate, I know you're a regular user, probably sharing your fit? You ever been tested for hep C? If you have it you know you can get treated, there's a cure for it now."
- "Mate, I know you're a regular user, probably sharing your fit? You should probably get tested. Not that it'll make much difference, you'll just get yourself reinfected anyway."



Correct

Great choice. Asking prisoners if they've been tested is a good way to start the conversation.

Let them know that:

- Treatment is easy
- Hep C can be cured in >95% of people
- There are very few side effects (not like the old treatment)

If you can help to stop the spread, you'll reduce the risks and it'll be a safer and healthier environment for everyone.

TAKE AGAIN



Congratulations, you've completed the quiz and shaped your own story!

DOWNLOAD MY STORY

Click the **DOWNLOAD MY STORY** button to complete this module and view your story in a separate browser window. You can print it out to refer back to later.

Make sure you print your story before exiting the quiz—if you return to the quiz at any time, you will need to start again.

Let's work together to stop the spread of hep C and make prisons safer for everyone. Do your part and talk to prisoners about getting tested and treated—talk to your manager or workmates about the best ways to start a conversation.