



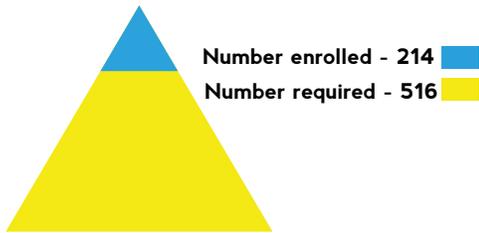
# Per-SVR Newsletter

Fall 2018

Per-SVR (PrEseRvation of Sustained Virologic Response) pronounced as “persevere” is a study of people who have been successfully treated of “hep C” virus infection using Direct Acting Antivirals therapy. The aim is to learn more about people’s health care needs and the factors that protect against reinfection. The hope is this information will be useful in developing policies and services for those affected by hepatitis C virus.

## How is the study doing so far?

### Number of Participants

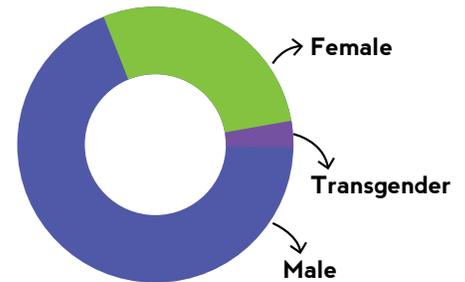


### Key Population

# 78%

of study participants were born between 1945 and 1975

### Distribution of Gender



## Persevering with Kindness

Valerie Shields (on left of pic) is our kind volunteer who, despite having severe limitations with her vision, arm-knits scarves and donates them to Per-SVR. The warm, beautiful scarves have surely brought a smile to the faces of our participants. Valerie is happy to know that she can help to keep someone a little warmer this winter.

## Message from the Per-SVR team

We are in full swing with the study and are looking for many more people to join us in the study. Contact details provided on page 2.

## Meet the Per-SVR Team



Shaf is currently doing her Masters’ at the University of British Columbia in Public Policy and Global Affairs. She has worked as a social worker with diverse, marginalized populations in the past and is currently working as an interviewer with the Per-SVR study. She is keen on learning more about HCV and its impact on different populations. In her spare time Shaf loves to cuddle up with a nice book and a cup of tea.

“It is amazingly positive how people who have struggled with addiction can receive help. People like the Per-SVR study team are an incredible support to people like me.” V.F. (Per-SVR study participant)

# Want to know more about hep C reinfection?

Once you are cured of hep C, you can become reinfected.

## HOW?

Any **blood to blood** contact with someone living with hep C through...



Sharing needles, syringes, and other drug use equipment



Some sexual practices (e.g., fisting and other traumatic practices)



Sex in the presence of sores and sexually transmitted infections



Sharing tattooing equipment

Prevalence of reinfection among key groups in developed countries:

People who inject drugs

**3%-15%**

HIV+ men who have sex with men

**2%-25%**

People living with HIV/HCV coinfection

**1%-17%**



### How can I protect myself from getting reinfected?



Use clean and sterile equipment



Access addiction treatment



Practice safer sex

### Where can I get more information?

<https://bit.ly/2qcmC5y>

<https://bit.ly/2J7mdqg>

<https://bit.ly/2qUqHJO>

<https://bit.ly/2NPIoc3>



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How you want to be treated.