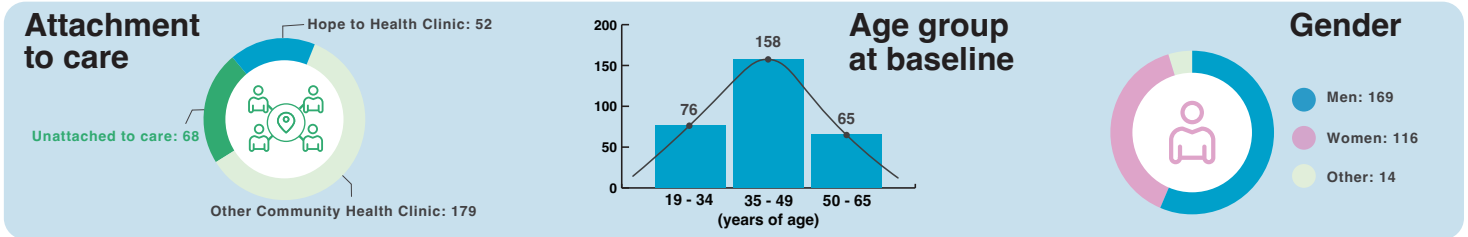


We acknowledge that the land on which we work, learn and organize is the traditional, ancestral and unceded homelands of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

OVERVIEW OF THE HEALTH CONNECT STUDY

The Health Connect Project, launched in January 2024, aims to characterize access to primary and community healthcare among a cohort of under-served clients of the Hope to Health (H2H) supervised-consumption-site (SCS). The project also evaluates a patient-centered linkage-to-care intervention for clients who engaged in dried-blood-spot testing for HCV, HIV and syphilis through the H2H SCS.

COHORT OVERVIEW



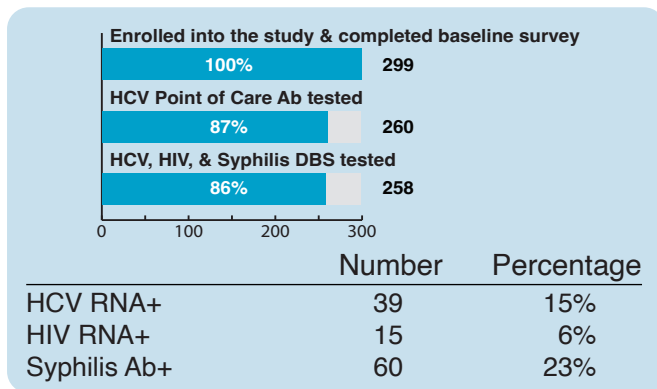
STUDY PROGRESS

Wave 1 has now wrapped up!

Wave 1 of the Health Connect study operated from January 2024 until November 2024. The research team completed 300 interviews with clients accessing services at the H2H SCS.

The Wave 1 baseline survey was approximately 30-minutes in length and was facilitated by research team members. The survey tool included questions about socio-demographics, substance use behaviors, engagement in harm reduction services, and STBBI testing engagement, history and knowledge.

Participants enrolled in Wave 1 were offered point-of-care and DBS testing as a standard-of-care at the H2H SCS.



Wave 2 is now open!

Wave 2 of the Health Connect study launched in September 2025 (open cohort design, with a particular focus on retaining folks from wave 1) and will focus solely on the Health Connect interviewer administered survey.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION (KT) DEVELOPMENT

As part of the study's commitment to KT, the Health Connect research team and KT coordinator are working to obtain grant funding to further translate lessons learned back into the community and to other relevant stakeholders. We hope to collaborate with a wide range of partners in order to mobilize this knowledge that contributes to a growing body of research on the role and impact of DBS testing and how it may be used to engage people who might not otherwise be tested or engaged in care. We are committed to identifying opportunities to scale up DBS testing both internally and externally in order to appropriately target advocacy efforts for DBS implementation.

REB Number: H21-01534