

Health Connect Study: What we learned

We tried out a new form of testing called dried-blood-spot (DBS) testing

The problem

People who use drugs have:

↑ High rates of:
HIV, Hep-C,
Syphilis

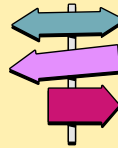
↓ Low rates
of: testing

WHY?

- Stigma & discrimination
- Mistrust in health system
- Fear of needles

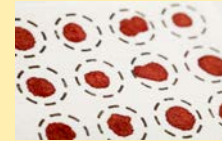
The solution

Expand testing options



DBS Testing

- New form of testing not offered in Canada
- Low barrier setting (non-medical)
- Peer-administered
- Blood collected using small finger prick
- Needle-free!



WHAT NOW?

We are working to find out how and where DBS testing could be made accessible in BC!



This project was completed on the unceded territory of the x̱w̱məθḵw̱y̱əm, Sḵw̱x̱w̱7mesh, and səliwətət Nations.

Our conclusions

- DBS is a good way to test people who use drugs
- DBS could increase testing rates and make people more comfortable



Health Connect Study

What we did:

- 20 minute survey with clients of a safe consumption site
- Offered peer-administered DBS testing (OPTIONAL)



86% chose to get tested!