Table S2. Data extracted from studies conducted in the Injected Drug Users population

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Asia	Buavirat A, Page-Shafer K, van Griensven GJ, Mandel JS, Evans J, Chuaratanaphong J, Chiamwongpat S, Sacks R, Moss A. Risk of prevalent HIV infection associated with incarceration among injecting drug users in Bangkok, Thailand: case-control study. BMJ. 2003 Feb 8;326(7384):308.	Case-control	347 (175 cases and 172 controls)	IDU who had been incarcerated for at least six months during the previous five years. Case: HIV positive injecting drug user with a medical record documenting a negative HIV test within the five years before the most recent incarceration and HIV positive serostatus since the most recent release. Control: HIV negative injecting drug users 1 at least 8 years old.	Median: 29 (IQR: 25-36) years.	From August 2000 to January 2001	Thailand	Median: for cases it was 9.2 (IQR: 7 - 13) and for controls: 8 (IQR: 6 - 13)
Asia	Go VF, Frangakis C, Nam LV, Sripaipan T, Bergenstrom A, Li F, Latkin C, Celentano DD, Quan VM. Characteristics of High-Risk HIV-Positive IDUs in Vietnam: Implications for Future Interventions. Subst Use Misuse. 2010 Aug 24	Cross-sectional	299		Median: 27 (IQR: 23–32)	Between August and September 2003	Vietnam	Median: 3 (IQR 2–6)
Asia	Kermode M, Singh LB, Raju RK, et al. Injections for health-related reasons amongst injecting drug users in New Delhi and Imphal, India. Public Health. 2006 Jul;120(7):634-40.	Cross-sectional	200 (100 in Impal and 100 in New Dheli)		Mean: overall it was 29 (SD: 7.5) for Impal IDU was 30.2 and for New Dheli, 28.9.	2004	India	Mean: overall it was 6, for the IDU in Impal, 10 and for the ones in New Dheli, 1.9. Median: for overall it was 3.5 (range: 0.04–24, SD: 6.1).

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Asia	Lee KC, Lim WW, Lee SS. High prevalence of HCV in a cohort of injectors on methadone substitution treatment. J Clin Virol. 2008 Apr;41(4):297-300. Epub 2008 Jan 10.	Cross-sectional	567	IDUs attending Methadone clinics (MCs) that were attended by at least 200 drug users per day or 40 per hour. Inclusion criteria were 1. ever injected illicit drug, 2. agreed to be interviewed and 3. to undergo venesection to produce a blood sample.	Median: 49	2006	China	Median: 17
Asia	Wright NH, Vanichseni S, Akarasewi P, et al. Was the 1988 HIV epidemic among Bangkok's injecting drug users a common source outbreak? AIDS. 1994 Apr;8(4):529-32.	Cross-sectional	1901			1988	Thailand	9.8% injected for 1 year or less
Asia	Azim T, Chowdhury EI, Reza M, et al. Prevalence of infections, HIV risk behaviors and factors associated with HIV infection among male injecting drug users attending a needle/ syringe exchange program in Dhaka, Bangladesh.Subst Use Misuse. 2008 Dec;43(14):2124-44.	Cohort	561	Inclusion criteria were 1. being 15 years and older, 2. having a history of injecting drugs at least once in the last 2 months, 3. being a member of the NSEP of CARE Bangladesh and 4. not having changed the area or neighborhood, where they lived in the last 6 months	Median: 35 (IQR: 29.5–40)	2002	Bangladesh	Median: 14 (IQR: 10–20)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Asia	Bautista CT, Todd CS, Abed AM, et al.Effects of duration of injection drug use and age at first injection on HCV among IDU in Kabul, Afghanistan.J Public Health (Oxf). 2010 Sep;32(3):336-41.	Cross-sectional	459	IDUs who reported injection drug use in the last 6 months and were at least 18 years old.	Mean: 30.4 (SD: 7.7)	June 2005 to June 2006	Afghanistan	Mean: 4.2 (SD: 3.6)
Asia	Beyrer C, Patel Z, Stachowiak JA, et al. Characterization of the emerging HIV type 1 and HCV epidemics among injecting drug users in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses. 2009 Sep;25(9):853-60		491	Eligible study participants 1. were 17 years of age and over, 2. had injected within the previous month, 3. were Russian and/or Tajik speaking, and 4. were able to provide informed consent.	Median: 31 (IQR: 26–39)	From May to November 2004	Tajikistan	Median: 5 (IQR: 2–9)
Asia	Niccolai LM, Verevochkin SV, Toussova OV, et al. Estimates of HIV incidence among drug users in St. Petersburg, Russia: continued growth of a rapidly expanding epidemic. Eur J Public Health. 2010 Aug 26.	Cross-sectional	691	Eligibility for inclusion in the present analysis included reporting a history of ever injecting drugs.	Median: 29 (range 18–53)	From November 2005 to December 2008	Russia	Median: 8 (range: 1–36)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Asia	Mahanta J, Medhi GK, Paranjape RS, et al. Injecting and sexual risk behaviours, sexually transmitted infections and HIV prevalence in injecting drug users in three states in India. AIDS. 2008 Dec;22 Suppl 5:S59-68.	Cross-sectional	2075 (419 in Churachandpu r, 420 in Bishnupur, 440 in Phek, 420 in Wokha, 376 in Mumbai/ Thane.	Inclusion criteria: 1. be a man, 2. 18 years or older, and 3. who injected addictive substances/drugs for non-medical purposes at least once in the past 6 months.		Not mentione d	India	% that injected for 1 year or less: 4.5 in Churachandpu, 27.3 in Bishnupur, 42.1 in Phek, 11.1 in Wokha, 21.3 in Mumbai/Thane.
Asia	Quan VM, Go VF, Nam le V, et al. Risks for HIV, HBV, and HCV infections among male injection drug users in northern Vietnam: a case-control study.AIDS Care. 2009 Jan;21(1):7-16.	Case-control	309	IDUs who were 18 to 45 years old and who reported having injected drugs in the prior six months were eligible for study enrollment.	Median: 27 (range: 18-45)	2003	Vietnam	Median: 3 (range: 1-18)
Asia	Lee KC, Lim WW, Lee SS. High prevalence of HCV in a cohort of injectors on methadone substitution treatment. J Clin Virol. 2008 Apr;41(4):297-300.	Cross-sectional	567	IDU attending methadone clinics that were attended by at least 200 drug users per day or 40 per hour.	Median: 49	2006	China	Median: 17

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Asia	Todd CS, Abed AM, Scott PT, et al. Correlates of receptive and distributive needle sharing among injection drug users in Kabul, Afghanistan. Am J Drug Alcohol Abuse. 2008;34(1):91-100.	Cross-sectional	464	Eligible participants reported injecting drugs within the past six months (confirmed through injection stigmata), were 18 years or greater, and were able to provide informed consent.	Mean: 30.6	Between June 2005 and June 2006	Afghanistan	Mean: 4.4 years (IQR: 2–6)
Asia	Altaf A, Shah SA, Zaidi NA, et al. High risk behaviors of injection drug users registered with harm reduction programme in Karachi, Pakistan. Harm Reduct J. 2007;10;4:7	Cross-sectional	161	Registered IDUs of a needle exchange and harm reduction programme.	Mean: 35.9 (range: 18–63)	2003	Pakistan.	Tmean: 4.4
Asia	Azim T, Chowdhury EI, Reza M, et al. Vulnerability to HIV infection among sex worker and non-sex worker female injecting drug users in Dhaka, Bangladesh: evidence from the baseline survey of a cohort study. Harm Reduct J. 2006 Nov 17;3:33	Cohort	130, 82 FSW and 48 non-FSW	All women 15 years and older with a history of injecting drugs at least once in the last six months were eligible for enrolment.	Median: for IDU sex workers was 27 (IQR: 23–33.3) and for non-sex workers 30 (IQR: 24–39.5)	Between December 2004 and May 2005	Bangladesh	Median: 2 for both groups

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Asia	Zhao M, Du J, Lu GH, Wang QY, Xu H, Zhu M, McCoy CB. HIV sexual risk behaviors among injection drug users in Shanghai. . Drug Alcohol Depend. 2006 Apr;82 Suppl 1:S43-7.	Cross-sectional	141	IDU admitted to the Shanghai Drug Abuse Treatment Center who were at least 18 years old, sexually active in the previous 3 months and met the DSM-IV diagnostic criteria for opiate dependence.	Mean: 30.1 (SD:8.1)	Between October 2004 and March 2005	China	The participants reported having injected heroin on a daily basis for a mean of 2.4 years (SD = 2.3).

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Europe	Calleja T, Casanueva Gutiérrez M, González C. Perfil de los usuarios de drogas ingresados en un hospital. An Med Interna (Madrid) 2003; 20: 504-509	Descriptive-retrospective	111	Patients admitted to the Hospital de Cabueñ aged 15 to 65 years old whose medical report showed that they were UDI.	Mean: 33.6 (range: 19-49) years.	From January 1st 1999 to December 31st 1999	Spain	Mean: from 9.7 to 13.7 years depending on the pathology presented
Europe	Cassin S, Geoghegan T, Cox G. Young injectors: a comparative analysis of risk behaviour. Ir J Med Sci. 1998;167(4):234-7.	Cross-sectional	770 (485 young injectors - less than 25 years old- and 285 old injectors - 25 years old or more)	Total population of new clients attending the Health Promotion Unit		Between May 1st 1997 and February 28th 1998	Ireland	Mean: for young 65.71 weeks (SD:87.71) and for old, 269.08 weeks (SD: 333.64)
Europe	Copeland L, Budd J, Robertson JR, Elton RA. Changing patterns in causes of death in a cohort of injecting drug users, 1980-2001. Arch Intern Med. 2004 Jun 14;164(11):1214-20.	Cohort	153	Patients known to have ever injected drugs were recruited		1980 - 2001	Scotland	Mean time from first injection until death was 13.9 years

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
Europe	Dolan KA, Donoghoe MC, Stimson GV. Reductions in HIV risk behaviour and stable HIV prevalence in syringe-exchange clients and other injectors in England. Drug Alcohol Rev. 1993;12(2):133-42.	Cohort	207	IDUs from four syringe-exchange schemes and IDUs not attending SES	Mean: for attendees it was 30.2 and non attendees 28.8	1989	England	Mean: for attenders it was 10.6 and for non-attenders, 9. Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the age at first injection
Europe	Lidman C, Norden L, Kåberg M, et al. Hepatitis C infection among injection drug users in Stockholm Sweden: prevalence and gender. Scand J Infect Dis. 2009;41(9):679-84.	Cross-sectional	310	IDU from 6 units that care for drug users. The inclusion criteria were 1. age 18 y or older, 2. history of ever injecting drugs. Exclusion criteria were known HIV infection and previous participation in this study.	Mean: 35.6 (range: 18-67)	From March 2004 to June 2006	Sweden	Mean:12.1 (range: 0-41)
Europe	Muga R, Roca J, Egea JM, Tor J, Sirera G, Rey-Joly C, Muñoz A. Mortality of HIV-positive and HIV-negative heroin abusers as a function of duration of injecting drug use. J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2000 Apr 1;23(4):332-8.	Cohort	376	Injecting heroin users referred from outpatient clinics of metropolitan Barcelona.	Mean age at entry was 26 (range 16–46)	Between February of 1987 and January of 1991	Spain	Mean: 6.1 (range: 0.1–15)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
Europe	Rhodes T, Donoghoe M, Hunter G, et al. Sexual behaviour of drug injectors in London: implications for HIV transmission and HIV prevention. Addiction. 1994;89(9):1085-96.	Cross-sectional	516 (270 in treatment, 104 previously in treatment and 138 never in treatment)		Mean: for never in treatment it was 28, for currently in treatment, 32 and for the ones with previous experience in treatment, 30.	1991	England	Mean: for never in treatment it was 9, for currently in treatment it was 12 and for those with previous experience in treatment, 12. 60.7% injected for less than 1 year
Europe	Smyth BP, Keenan E, O'Connor JJ. Evaluation of the impact of Dublin's expanded harm reduction programme on prevalence of hepatitis C among short-term injecting drug users. J Epidemiol Community Health. 1999;53(7):434-5.	Cross-sectional	353	New attenders, resident in Dublin, with a reported injecting history less than 25 months, tested for anti-HCV between July 1993 and December 1996 were included.		Between July 1993 and December 1996	Ireland	

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
Europe	Steffen T, Blättler R, Gutzwiller F, et al. HIV and hepatitis virus infections among injecting drug users in a medically controlled heroin prescription programme. Eur J Public Health. 2001;11(4):425-30.	Cohort	1035	Individuals in the heroin-assisted treatment programme with at least 20 years old, at least two years of opiate dependence and at least two unsuccessful treatment attempts, with documented deficiencies in a medical and/or social area.	Mean: 30.8 (SD: 5.7)	1994 to 1996	Switzerland	Mean: 10.5 (SD: 5.5).
Europe	Karapetyan AF, Sokolovsky YV, Araviyskaya ER, et al. Syphilis among intravenous drug-using population: epidemiological situation in St. Petersburg, Russia. Int J STD & AIDS 2002; 13:618–623.	Cross-sectional	105	Syphilis-positive IDU participating in the Vozvrastcheniye programme		1998	Russia	8% injected for less than a year
Europe	Gyarmathy VA, Neaigus A, Li N, Ujhelyi E, et al. Infection disclosure in the injecting dyads of Hungarian and Lithuanian injecting drug users who self-reported being infected with hepatitis C virus or human immunodeficiency virus. Scand J Infect Dis. 2010 Sep 15.	Cross-sectional	515 (215 in Hungary and 300 in Lithuania)	Street based and attendees of NEP who self-report drug injecting in the past 30 days and were at least 18 years old.	Mean: in Hungary it was 27.9 (SD: 6.5) and in Lithuania 29.8 (SD: 7.6)	In Budapest between October 2005 and December 2006. In Vilnius between March 2008 and May 2009.	Hungary and Lithuania	Mean: in Hungary 7.4 (SD: 5.3) and in Lithuania 10.1 (SD: 6.7)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Europe	Kolarić B, Stajduhar D, Gajnik D, et al. Seroprevalence of blood-borne infections and population sizes estimates in a population of injecting drug users in Croatia. Cent Eur J Public Health. 2010 Jun;18(2):104-9.	Cross-sectional	401 (121 in Split, 130 in Zagreb, 150 in Rijeka)	The inclusion criteria were: 1. had injected at least once in the last 12 months, and 2. no participation in previous survey.	Median in Zagreb it was 30 (IQR: 26-33), Rijeka 26 (IQR: 24-30) and in Split, 29 (IQR: 26-35)	2007	Croatia	Median: Zagreb 5 (IQR: 1–10), Rijeka 7 (IQR: 4–10), Split 10 (IQR: 5–15)
Europe	Vlahov D, Safaien M, Lai S, Strathdee SA, et al. Sexual and drug risk-related behaviours after initiating highly active antiretroviral therapy among injection drug users. AIDS. 2001 Nov 23;15(17):2311-6.	Cross-sectional	288	Heroin IDUs from Greece participating in a drug-treatment programme at the Eginitio Psychiatric Hospital.	Mean: 29.3 (SD: 6.2, range: 17-58)	Not mentioned	Greece	Mean: 8.2 (SD: 5.9)
Europe	Hickman M, Hope V, Brady T, et al. Hepatitis C virus (HCV) prevalence, and injecting risk behaviour in multiple sites in England in 2004. . J Viral Hepat. 2007 Sep;14(9):645-52.	Cross-sectional	1058		Mean: 31	2005	England	Mean: 10.5

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Europe	Folch C, Meroño M, Casabona J. Factors associated with sharing syringes among street-recruited injecting drug users. . Med Clin (Barc). 2006 Oct 14;127(14):526-32.	Cross-sectional	300	Criteria for inclusion: 1. had injected drugs in the last 2 months, and 2. had not received treatment in the last 3 months.	Mean: 30.2 (SD: 5.1)	2004	Spain	Mean: 11,6 (6,4)
Europe	Kivelä P, Krol A, Simola S, Vaattovaara M, Tuomola P, Brummer-Korvenkontio H, Ristola M. HIV outbreak among injecting drug users in the Helsinki region: social and geographical pockets. . Eur J Public Health. 2007 Aug;17(4):381-6. Epub 2006 Nov 27.	Cohort	176 (98 early HIV cases and 47 recent HIV cases)	IDU who were HIV positive.	Mean: 33 (range: 16–63)	From 1998 until 2003	Finland	Mean: for recent cases it was 14.3 and for earlier cases, 10.7 years.
Europe	Booth RE, Kwiatkowski CF, Brewster JT, Sinitsyna L, Dvoryak S.AIDS. 2006 Nov 14;20(17):2217-23. Predictors of HIV sero-status among drug injectors at three Ukraine sites.	Cross-sectional	891	Self-reported drug injection in the previous 30 days, at least 18 years of age and not too intoxicated or otherwise incapacitated to comprehend and provide informed consent.	Mean: 28.9 (SD: 7.3)	From June 2004 to August 2005	Ukraine	Mean: 10.2 (SD: 6.8)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Europe	Stormer A, Tun W, Guli L, Harxhi A, Bodanovskaia Z, Yakovleva A, Rusakova M, Levina O, Bani R, Rjepaj K, Bino S. An analysis of respondent driven sampling with Injection Drug Users (IDU) in Albania and the Russian Federation. J Urban Health. 2006 Nov;83(6 Suppl):i73-82.	Cross-sectional	410. 210 in Tirana and 200 in St. Petersbourg	Participants had to be at least 15 years old and report having injected drugs recreationally in the past 6 months.		Between July and August 2005	Albania and Russia	% injecting for less than a year: 21 (IC95%: 11, 24) in Albania and 6 (IC95%: 3, 9) in Russia
Europe	Muga R, Sanvisens A, Bolao F, Tor J, Santesmases J, Pujol R, Tural C, Langohr K, Rey-Joly C, Muñoz A.Significant reductions of HIV prevalence but not of hepatitis C virus infections in injection drug users from metropolitan Barcelona: 1987-2001. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2006 Apr;82 Suppl 1:S29-33.	Cross-sectional	2219(divided by period of admission.1987-1989:452. 1990-1992: 560.1993-1995:525. 1996-1998: 395.1999: 2001: 287)	All IDU admitted between February 1987 and December 2001 to the detoxification units of two major hospitals (Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol and Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge) in metropolitan Barcelona.		Between February 1987 and December 2001	Spain	Mean (SD): 1987-1989: 6.3 (3.1), 1990-1992: 7.1 (3.6), 1993-1995:7.4 (5.0), 1996-1998: 8.0 (5.6), 1999-2001: 10.2 (6.6).

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Europe	Backmund M, Meyer K, Schuetz C, Reimer J. Factors associated with exposure to hepatitis B virus in injection drug users. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2006 Sep 15;84(2):154-9. Epub 2006 Feb 14.		1018	Patients were included in the study, in case both criteria 1. opioid dependency, and 2. confirmed needle-sharing at least once were met	Mean: 28.3 (SD: 6.1)	From April 1991 until April 1997	Germany	Mean: 7.7 (SD: 5.6). Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the mean age at first injection
Europe	Platt L, Rhodes T, Lowndes CM, et al. Impact of gender and sex work on sexual and injecting risk behaviors and their association with HIV positivity among injecting drug users in an HIV epidemic in Togliatti City, Russian Federation. Sex Transm Dis. 2005;32(10):605-12.	Cross-sectional	426, 268 Male IDU, 89 FIDU non SW and 66 FSWIDU	IDU were those who injected within the last 4 weeks and sex work was defined as having exchanged anal, vaginal, or oral sex for money or goods within the last 4 weeks.	Mean: for male IDU it was 26.8 (SD: 7.1), for the female IDU non SW it was 23.8 (SD: 5.4) and for the FSWIDU it was 23.8 (SD: 4.7)	2001	Russia	Mean: for males it was 7.9, for Non FSWIDU it was 5.6 and for FSWIDU it was 6.4. Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the mean age at first injection.
Europe	Gyarmathy VA, Neaigus A. Marginalized and socially integrated groups of IDUs in Hungary: potential bridges of HIV infection. J Urban Health. 2005 Sep;82(3 Suppl 4):iv101-12.	Cross-sectional	29	Eligible participants were those who 1. self-reported injecting drugs at least once in the past 30 days, and 2. were 30 years of age or younger.	Mean: 23.6 (SD: 3.6)	Between May 2003 and January 2004	Hungary	Mean: 6.8 (SD: 2.7)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
Europe	Maliphant J, Scott J.Use of the femoral vein ('groin injecting') by a sample of needle exchange clients in Bristol, UK. . Harm Reduct J. 2005 Apr 15;2(1):6.	Cross-sectional	92	All clients who used the needle exchange services staffed by the interviewer were invited to take part in the study.		2004	England	Mean: 9.6 (SD: 7.0, range: 0.5-30)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
South America	de Azevedo RC, Botega NJ, Guimarães LA. Crack users, sexual behavior and risk of HIV infection. Rev Bras Psiquiatr. 2007 Mar;29(1):26-30.	Cross-sectional	109	Injecting cocaine users. The inclusion criteria were: 1. literate individuals, 2. > 16 years old and 3. use of injecting cocaine over the last 12 months	Mean: 27.5 (SD: 7.1)		Brazil	Mean: 9.5 (SD:6.4)
South America	Marchesini AM, Prá-Baldi ZP, Mesquita F, Bueno R, Buchalla CM.Hepatitis B and C among injecting drug users living with HIV in São Paulo, Brazil]. Rev Saude Publica. 2007 Dec;41 Suppl 2:57-63.	Cross-sectional	205	IDU living with HIV/AIDS in treatment at facilities of the Municipal STD/AIDS Health Department of São Paulo.	Mean: 39 (SD: 6.1)	2003	Brazil	Mean: 21. Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the mean age at first injection.
South America	Dourado I, Andrade T, Carpenter C, Galvao-Castro B. Risk Factors for Human T Cell Lymphotropic Virus Type I among Injecting Drug Users in Northeast Brazil: Possibly Greater Efficiency of Male to Female Transmission. Mem Inst Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro, Vol. 94(1): 13-18, Jan./Feb. 1999	Cross-sectional	216		Mean: 24.6 and 27.4 for males and females respectively at baseline.	1994 to1996	Brazil	Median: 6 for males and 8 for females.

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
South America	Lima ES, Friedman SR, Bastos FI, Telles PR, Friedmann P, Ward TP, des Jarlais DC. Risk factors for HIV-1 seroprevalence among drug injectors in the cocaine-using environment of Rio de Janeiro. Addiction. 1994 Jun;89(6):689-98.	Cross-sectional	123	Respondents were recruited both in drug treatment centers and in the streets were eligible to be interviewed and HIV antibody tested if they had injected drugs at least once in the 2 months prior to the interview.	Mean: 29.3 (SD = 5.7)	Between September 1989 and April 1992	Brazil	Average number of years injected drugs was 10.4 (SD: 6.3)
South America	Oliveira Mde L, Bastos FI, Telles PR, Hacker Mde A, Oliveira SA, Miguel JC, Yoshida CF. Epidemiological and genetic analyses of Hepatitis C virus transmission among young/short- and long-term injecting drug users from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. J Clin Virol. 2009 Mar;44(3):200-6. Epub 2009 Feb 4.	Cross-sectional	606 (299 short- and 307 long-term IDU)		Mean: 27.4 (SD: 8.8) in short term and 36.7 (SD: 8.3) in long term.	From 1999 to 2001	Brazil	Mean: 2.2 (SD: 1.9) for short term and 16.1 (SD: 7.7) for long term.

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using
South America	Caiaffa WT, Bastos FI, Freitas LL, Mingoti SA, Proietti FA, Carneiro-Proietti AB,Gandolfi D, Doneda D; Projeto AjUDE-Brasil I; Projeto AjUDE-Brasil II.The contribution of two Brazilian multi-center studies to the assessment of HIV and HCV infection and prevention strategies among injecting drug users: the AjUDE-Brasil I and II Projects. Cad Saude Publica. 2006 Apr;22(4):771-82. Epub 2006 Apr 5.	Cross-sectional	1144 (287 were recruited during the AjUDE-Brasil I Project and 857 during the AjUDE-Brasil II Project.	Non-institutionalized IDUs.	Mean: for the AjUDE-Brasil I it was 29.2 (SD: 7.9) and for the AjUDE-Brasil II, 28.5 (SD: 8.2).	Ajude I: 1998. Ajude II: 2000 to 2001	Brazil	Mean: for AjUDE-Brasil I it was 11.6 (SD: 7.6) and for . AjUDE-Brasil II: 9.8 (SD: 7.7)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
Africa	McCurdy SA, Ross MW, Williams ML, Kilonzo GP, Leshabari MT. Flashblood: blood sharing among female injecting drug users in Tanzania. Addiction. 2010 Jun;105(6):1062-70. Epub 2010 Mar 12.	Cross-sectional	169	Participants should be at least aged 18 years, have injected heroin during the 48 hours before our screening and have engaged in sex at least once during the 30 days before screening.	Mean: 25.6 (SD: 5.5)	Between May 2005 and September 2006.	Tanzania	Mean: 2.8. Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the mean age at first injection.
Africa	Ross M, McCurdy S, Kilonzo G, Williams M, Leshabari M. Drug Use Careers and Blood-borne Pathogen Risk Behavior in Male and Female Tanzanian Heroin Injectors. Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg., 79(3), 2008, pp. 338–343.	Cross-sectional	534	Eligibility criteria required that participants 1. were at least 18 years of age, 2. had injected an illicit drug in the past 48 hours before being screened, and 3. had had sex at least once in the 30 days before screening.	From 18 to 59 years (mean age: 27.9 years, median 27 years)	From May 2005 through September 2006	Tanzania	Mean: 3.7. Median: 3. 18% started injecting in less than a year.

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
Oceania	Darke S, Kelly E, Ross J. Drug driving among injecting drug users in Sydney, Australia: prevalence, risk factors and risk perceptions. Addiction. 2004 Feb;99(2):175-85.	Cross-sectional	300	IDU aged 18 or over and to have injected a drug in the previous 6 months	Mean: 31.8	From April to November 2002	Australia	Mean: 12.4. Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the age at first injection.
Oceania	Day C, Conroy E, Lowe J, Page J, Dolan K. Patterns of drug use and associated harms among rural injecting drug users: comparisons with metropolitan injecting drug users. Aust J Rural Health. 2006 Jun;14(3):120-5.	Cross-sectional	260	IDU recruited through needle and syringe programs, snowballing techniques and advertisement.	Mean: 33	Not mentioned	Australia	Mean: 15. Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the age at first injection.
Oceania	Iversen J, Wand H, Gonnermann A, Maher L. Gender differences in hepatitis C antibody prevalence and risk behaviours amongst people who inject drugs in Australia 1998-2008. Int J Drug Policy. 2010 May 14.	Cross-sectional	15852	Attending selected NSP sites	Mean: 31 (SD: 8.8)	1998–2008	Australia	Mean: 11. Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the age at first injection.
Oceania	Lenton S, Kerry K, Loxley W, Tan-Quigley A, Greig R. Citizens who inject drugs: the 'Fitpack' study. Int J Drug Policy. 2000 Aug;11(4):285-97.	Cross-sectional	511	Drug injectors with little or no prior drug treatment that used Fitpack.	Mean: 26.2	1995	Australia	Mean: 7.1.

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
Oceania	Maher L, Li J, Jalaludin B, Chant KG, Kaldor JM. High hepatitis C incidence in new injecting drug users: a policy failure? Aust N Z J Public Health. 2007 Feb;31(1):30-5.	Cohort	204	Eligibility criteria for the study were that participants had injected drugs in the past six months and were unaware of their antibody HCV status or knew their serostatus to be negative.	Mean: 21.8 (SD: 4.05)	Between 1999 and 2002	Australia	19.12% started injecting in less than a year
Oceania	White JM, Dyer KR, Ali RL, Gaughwin MD, Cormack S. Injecting behaviour and risky needle use amongst methadone maintenance clients. Drug Alcohol Depend. 1994 Jan;34(2):113-9.	Cohort	111	IDU attending methadone maintenance program.	Mean: 30.1 (SD: 5.3, range: 19-45)	August of 1991	Australia	Mean: 7.0 (SD: 5.7; range: 1-21)
Oceania	Miller ER, Hellard ME, Bowden S, Bharadwaj M, Aitken CK. Markers and risk factors for HCV, HBV and HIV in a network of injecting drug users in Melbourne, Australia. J Infect. 2009 May;58(5):375-82. Epub 2009 Mar 27.	Cross-sectional	328	Street based IDU.	Median: 25.3 (range: 14.4-53)	July 2005 to May 2007	Australia	Median: 7.6 (range: 0.17-36)
Oceania	Stoové MA, Dietze PM, Aitken CK, Jolley D. Mortality among injecting drug users in Melbourne: a 16-year follow-up of the Victorian Injecting Cohort Study (VICS). Drug Alcohol Depend. 2008 Aug 1;96(3):281-5. Epub 2008 Apr 22.	Cohort	626		Mean: 28 (SD: 6.6)	Recruited between 1990 and 1995, followed until 2006	Australia	Mean: 17 (SD: 7.05, range: 3.86-29.79). The average length of injecting career at death.

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
Oceania	Bryant J, Treloar C. Initiators: an examination of young injecting drug users who initiate others to injecting. . AIDS Behav. 2008 Nov;12(6):885-90. Epub 2007 Dec 21.	Cross-sectional	324 (55 IDU who have initiated others into IDU and 269 non-initiators)	Eligibility criteria included: 1. current or recent injecting drug use (within previous 6 months), 2. injecting history of 5 years or less, and 3. aged 16–25 years.	20.6 years for non initiators and 21.9 for initiators.	Between December 2000 and February 2002	Australia	2.4 for non initiators and 3.2 for initiators
Oceania	Hellard ME, Nguyen OK, Guy RJ, Jardine D, Mijch A, Higgs PG. The prevalence and risk behaviours associated with the transmission of blood-borne viruses among ethnic-Vietnamese injecting drug users. AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH. 2006 vol. 30 no. 6	Cross-sectional	127	Candidates were eligible to participate in the study if they were ethnic-Vietnamese and had injected drugs in the previous 12 months.	Median: for male participants was 26 (range: 15-51) and for female participants was 22 (range: 15-30).	2003	Australia	Median: 4.1 (range: 0.05-21.6)
Oceania	Cao W, Treloar C. Comparison of needle and syringe programme attendees and non-attendees from a high drug-using area in Sydney, New South Wales. Drug Alcohol Rev. 2006 Sep;25(5):439-44.	Cross-sectional	264 (102 who had never attended a NSP (non-NSP attendees) and 162 participants who had previous experience of NSP (NSP attendees).	Non-NSP: people who either lived, worked or visited South East Sydney, had injected drugs at least once in the 6 months prior to the study and did not use a NSP as their primary source of injecting equipment were eligible for inclusion in the study. NSP: All clients attending selected NSP	Non-NSP attendees were younger than NSP attendees (29 vs. 33 years).	2003		Mean: for non-NSP attendees it was 8 and for NSP attendees,14

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
Oceania	Roxburgh A, Degenhardt L, Breen C. Drug use and risk behaviours among injecting drug users: a comparison between sex workers and non-sex workers in Sydney, Australia. Harm Reduct J. 2005 Jun 6;2(1):7.	Cross-sectional	154 (22 IDU sex workers and 132 IDU non SW)	Eligibility criteria for entry into the study were: 1. at least monthly injection in the six months preceding the interview, 2. residence in Sydney for twelve months preceding the interview, with no significant periods of incarceration or residence in inpatient rehabilitation programs.	Mean: for IDUSW it was 32 and for the IDU non sex workers it was 33.	2003	Australia	Mean: for SW: 14.4 and for NSW, 12.7. Mean calculated by subtracting from the mean age.

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Chitwood DD, Comerford M, Kitner KR, Palacios W, Sanchez J. A comparison of HIV risk behaviors between new and long-term injection drug users. Subst Use Misuse. 2001 Jan;36(1-2):91-111.	Cohort	600	300 New IDUs (NIDU) who had initiated injection within 4 years before recruitment and who had injected at least weekly for the previous 6 months; 2) 300 Later IDUs (LIDU) who had initiated injection before January 1, 1984, and who had injected at least weekly for the previous 6 months	Mean: for New IDUs it was 32 compared with 42.8 for Later IDUs.	Recruited between July 1997 and August 1999.	USA	NIDU: mean 1.9 years. LTIDU: mean 23.9. Calculated by subtracting from the mean age, the age at first injection
North America	Corsi KF, Lehman WK, Booth RE. The effect of methadone maintenance on positive outcomes for opiate injection drug users. J Subst Abuse Treat. 2009 Sep;37(2):120-6. Epub 2009 Jan 15.	Cohort	160	People who self-reported opiate injection in the prior 30 days; were 18 years of age or older; did not self-reported substance abuse treatment during the previous 30 days	Mean: 39	From 2000 through 2004	USA	Mean: 19
North America	Debeck K, Kerr T, Bird L, et al. Injection drug use cessation and use of North America's first medically supervised safer injecting facility. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2010 Aug 26	Cohort	902	IDU in supervised injecting facility (SIF)	Median: 39 (IQR: 33-45)	Between December 2003 and June 2006	Canada	Median: 17 (IQR: 9-26)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Doherty MC, Garfein RS, Monterroso E, Brown D, Vlahov D. Correlates of HIV infection among young adult short-term injection drug users. AIDS. 2000 Apr 14;14(6):717-26.	Cohort	229	Inclusion criteria: 1. age 18 to 29 years and 2. having injected within the year preceding enrollment	Mean: 22.8 (range: 18-29)	From August 1994 through May 1996	USA	Median: 3
North America	Garfein RS, Doherty MC, Monterroso ER, Thomas DL, Nelson KE, Vlahov D. Prevalence and incidence of hepatitis C virus infection among young adult injection drug users. J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr Hum Retrovirol. 1998;18 Suppl 1:S11-9.	Randomized controlled trial	854 (431 in peer educational intervention group and 423 in video discussion intervention)	HIV and HCV antibody negative IDU, who used drugs in the last 6 months, aged 15–30 years, recruited in five United States cities.	Mean: for peer educational group it was 23.8 (SD: 3.5), for video discussion group, 23.8 (SD: 3.7)	Between May 2002 and January 2004	USA	Mean: for peer educational group it was 4.2 (SD: 3.4) and for video discussion group it was 4.4 (SD: 3.5)
North America	Hahn JA, Page-Shafer K, Lum PJ, Ochoa K, Moss AR. Hepatitis C virus infection and needle exchange use among young injection drug users in San Francisco. Hepatology. 2001 Jul;34(1):180-7.	Cross-sectional	312	Under age 30, reported injecting drugs in the prior month, and spoke English as their primary language	Median: 22 (IQR: 20-25)	Between November 1997 and February 1999	USA	Median: 5 (IQR: 2-8). 14.6% started injecting for less than a year

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Huo D, Bailey SL, Ouellet LJ. Cessation of injection drug use and change in injection frequency: the Chicago Needle Exchange Evaluation Study. Addiction. 2006 Nov;101(11):1606-13.	Cohort	707 (591 who continued injection and 116 who ceased injection)	Eligible participants had to 1. have injected drugs in the past 6 months, 2. speak English or Spanish and 3. be at least 18 years old	Mean: 41 (SD: 10) among those who continued injecting and 36 (SD: 11) among the ones who had ceased injecting.	Between 1997 and 2000	USA	Mean: for those who still inject it was 15 (SD: 17) and for those who ceased it was 9.5 (SD: 18)
North America	Mehta SH, Galai N, Astemborski J, et al. HIV incidence among injection drug users in Baltimore, Maryland (1988-2004). J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2006 Nov 1;43(3):368-72.	Cohort	1983	All participants acknowledged 1. nonmedical injection drug use within the prior 11 years, 2. were 18 years of age or older, and 3. were free of AIDS at entry into the study.	Median age at enrollment it was 35 (IQR: 30–40)	Between 1988 and 1989	USA	Median: 14 (IQR: 6–20)
North America	Miller CL, Johnston C, Spittal PM, Li K, Laliberté N, Montaner JS, Schechter MT. Opportunities for prevention: hepatitis C prevalence and incidence in a cohort of young injection drug users. Hepatology. 2002 Sep;36(3):737-42.	Cohort	234 (107 HCV positive and 127 HCV negative)	IDU residing in the city of Vancouver and surrounding municipalities, having injected in the previous month, and aged 13 years and older.	Median: for the HCV positive it was 22 (IQR: 20-23) and for the HCV negative it was 20 (IQR: 18-22)	Since 1996	Canada	Median: for HCV+ it was 4 (IQR, 2-7) and for HCV -1.3 (IQR: 0.3-3). % started injecting for less than a year: HCV+: 20. HCV-: 51

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Neaigus A, Friedman SR, Jose B, et al. High-risk personal networks and syringe sharing as risk factors for HIV infection among new drug injectors. J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr Hum Retrovirol. 1996 Apr 15;11(5):499-509.	Cross-sectional	174	Street-recruited new IDUs in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn in New York City. Subjects recruited for the study had to be 1. >=18 years of age and 2. had to have injected drugs within the 12 months prior to the interview	Mean: 30	Between July 1991 and January 1993	USA	Mean: 2.6 (SD:1.7). Median: 1.0. 17% started injecting for less than a year
North America	Pouget ER, Deren S, Fuller CM, et al. Receptive syringe sharing among injection drug users in Harlem and the Bronx during the New York State Expanded Syringe Access Demonstration Program. J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr. 2005 Aug 1;39(4):471-7.	Cross-sectional	1181		Mean: 37.4 (SD: 8.60)	From January 2001 through June /2003	USA	Mean: 16.2 (SD: 10.24)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Roy E, Boudreau JF, Boivin JF. Hepatitis C virus incidence among young street-involved IDUs in relation to injection experience. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2009 Jun 1;102(1-3):158-61. Epub 2009 Feb 28.	Cohort	160	Participants were included if in the last year, they had either been without a place to sleep more than once, or regularly used the services of street youth agencies (drop-in centers, shelters or outreach vans); they were 14–23 years of age; had ever injected drugs and spoke French or English.	Mean 20 (range: 15–26) at baseline.	From July 2001 to December 2005	Canada	Median: 2.7 27.5% started injecting for less than a year
North America	Schütz CG, Rapiti E, Vlahov D, Anthony JC. Suspected determinants of enrollment into detoxification and methadone maintenance treatment among injecting drug users. Drug Alcohol Depend. 1994 Oct;36(2):129-38.	Cross-sectional	2879	Eligibility for enrollment in the study included 1. age of 18 years or older, and 2. a history of injecting illicit drugs at any time within the previous 1 I years.	Median: 34	Between 1988 and 1989	USA	Median: 12

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Steensma C, Boivin JF, Blais L, Roy E. Cessation of injecting drug use among street-based youth. J Urban Health. 2005 Dec;82(4):622-37. Epub 2005 Sep 29.	Cohort		Elegibility criteria were 1. being "street active," 2. between 14 and 25 years of age, 3. English or French speaking, 4. able to provide informed consent and 5. complete a questionnaire, reported having injected drugs at least once within the 6 months before entry into the MSYC study, or reported no injecting experience before entry into the MSYC study but subsequently reported injecting drugs at least once in at least one follow-up questionnaire	Mean: 20 (SD: 2.5; range:14.1-25.7)		Canada	Mean: 2.9 (SD: 2.5, range: 0.1-14.7)
North America	Vlahov D, Safaien M, Lai S, Strathdee SA, et al. Sexual and drug risk-related behaviours after initiating highly active antiretroviral therapy among injection drug users. AIDS. 2001 Nov 23;15(17):2311-6.	Cohort	316	IDU who were HAART eligible.		1996 to 1998	USA	Median: 13

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Wood E, Stoltz JA, Zhang R, Strathdee SA, Montaner JS, Kerr T. Circumstances of first crystal methamphetamine use and initiation of injection drug use among high-risk youth. Drug Alcohol Rev. 2008 May;27(3):270-6.	Cohort	201	Eligibility criteria for the study included 1. age 14 – 26 years at baseline and 2. use of illicit drugs other than marijuana in the past 30 days.		Between September 2005 and October 2006	Canada	Median: for those whose first injection experience involved crystal methamphetamine it was 4.6, for those who initiated injecting with heroin, 8.3 and for those who initiated injecting with cocaine, 7.4
North America	Evans JL, Hahn JA, Lum PJ, Stein ES, Page K. Predictors of injection drug use cessation and relapse in a prospective cohort of young injection drug users in San Francisco, CA (UFO Study). Drug Alcohol Depend. 2009 May 1;101(3):152-7. Epub 2009 Jan 31. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2009 May 1;101(3):152-7. Epub 2009 Jan 31.	Cohort	365	street based IDUs under the age of 30	Median: 22 (IQR: 20–26)	From January 2000 through February 2008	USA	Median: 3.6 (IQR: 1.3–6.5)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Lum PJ, Hahn JA, Shafer KP, et al. Hepatitis B virus infection and immunization status in a new generation of injection drug users in San Francisco. J Viral Hepat. 2008;15(3):229-36.	Cross-sectional	831	Eligible persons reported a history of injecting drug use in the last 30 days and an age of 29 years or under.	Median: 22 years (IQR: 20–25)	From January 2000 to January 2002	USA	Median: 4 (IQR: 2–7)
North America	Shaw SY, Shah L, Jolly AM, et al. Determinants of injection drug user (IDU) syringe sharing: the relationship between availability of syringes and risk network member characteristics in Winnipeg, Canada. . Addiction. 2007;102(10):1626-35.	Cross-sectional	435	Eligibility criteria included self-reported use of illicit injection drugs in the 6-month period prior to interview and age 15 years or more.	Mean: 34.9 (SD: 9.9)	December 2003 to September 2004	Canada	Mean: 13.8 (SD: 9.9)
North America	Neaigus A, Gyarmathy VA, Miller M, et al. Injecting and sexual risk correlates of HBV and HCV seroprevalence among new drug injectors. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2007;10;89(2-3):234-43. Epub 2007 Feb 7.	Cross-sectional	259	Eligible participants were between 18 and 30 years of age, had initiated drug injecting within the prior six years, and had injected drugs within the prior 30 days.	Mean: 22.8 (SD: 3.3)	Between February 1999 and February 2003,	USA	Mean: 2.9

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Hagan H, Campbell J, Thiede H, et al. Self-reported hepatitis C virus antibody status and risk behavior in young injectors. Public Health Rep. 2006 Nov-Dec;121(6):710-9.	Cross-sectional	3,004	Individuals aged 15 to 30 years old who reported injection of any illicit drug in the previous six months.	Mean: 23.8 (median: 24)	From May 2002 to January 2004	USA	Mean: 5. Median: 4.
North America	Miller CL, Kerr T, Strathdee SA, Li K, Wood E. Factors associated with premature mortality among young injection drug users in Vancouver. Harm Reduct J. 2007 Jan 4;4:1	Cohort	572	Persons were eligible if they had injected illicit drugs at least once in the previous month confirmed by track site inspection, were aged 14 years and older and resided in the greater Vancouver region and were 29 years old or younger.	Median: 23.9 (IQR: 20.9–26.3) at baseline.	Between May 1996 and December 2004	Canada	Median: 4 (IQR: 1.5–8)
North America	Wylie JL, Shah L, Jolly AM. Demographic, risk behaviour and personal network variables associated with prevalent hepatitis C, hepatitis B, and HIV infection in injection drug users in Winnipeg, Canada. BMC Public Health. 2006 Sep 13;6:229.	Cross-sectional	369	Eligibility criteria were 1. self-reported use of illicit injection drugs in the 6 month period prior to interview and 2. age 15 years or more.		Between December 2003 and September 2004	Canada	Median: 13 (IQR: 6-21)

Region	Reference	Methodology	Sample size	Sample definition	Age (years)	Year of data collection	Country	Duration of injected drug using (years)
North America	Miller CL, Strathdee SA, Spittal PM, Kerr T, Li K, Schechter MT, Wood E.Elevated rates of HIV infection among young Aboriginal injection drug users in a Canadian setting. Harm Reduct J. 2006 Mar 8;3:9.	Cohort	291, 80 (27%) were Aboriginal and 211 (73%) were non-Aboriginal.	IDU aged 24 years and younger.	Median: for the Aboriginal it was 16 (IQR: 14–18) and for the non-Aboriginal, 17 (IQR: 15–19).	Between May 1996 and May 2003	Canada	Median: for Aboriginal youth was 5 (IQR: 2–8) and for non-aboriginal, 3 (IQR: 1–5).
North America	Pugatch D, Anderson BJ, O'Connell JV, Elson LC, Stein MD. HIV and HCV testing for young drug users in Rhode Island. J Adolesc Health. 2006 Mar;38(3):302-4.	Cross-sectional	86, 42 who were not tested for HCV and 44 who were tested	Eligibility for the current analysis included: 1. age 18–25 years, 2. heroin or cocaine injection in the past 30 days, and 3. providing informed consent.	Mean:for the tested was 23.05 (SD: 1.95), and for the not tested, 22.09 (SD: 1.82).	March 2001 to February 2004	USA	Mean: for the ones who were tested, 3.8 (SD: 2.93) and for the not tested, 2.9 (SD: 2.42).
North America	Lum PJ, Sears C, Guydish J. Injection risk behavior among women syringe exchangers in San Francisco. Subst Use Misuse. 2005;40(11):1681-96	Cross-sectional	149	Eligibility criteria were 1. self-reported age greater than 17 years, 2. history of drug injection during the preceding 30 days, and 3. syringe exchange at that site on the day of recruitment.	Median: 38 (IQR: 28–45)	1997	USA	Median: 18. Calculated by subtracting from the median age, the median age at first injection.