PWID + COVID-19 DATA COLLABORATIVE

Background, Overview & Next Steps

Monday, February 13, 2023 12:00 PM EST

This work was supported by the CDC National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention Epidemiologic and Economic Modeling Agreement (NEEMA) (5U38PS004650).







Today's Moderator & Speakers



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Funding acknowledgement: The Coalition for Applied Modeling for Prevention (CAMP) is funded by CDC/NCHHSTP. U38PS004650 "Modeling HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STI, and TB to Improve Public Health





PWID + COVID-19 Data Collaborative leadership

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COVID-19 and scientific collaboration

The New York Times

COVID-19 Change How the World Does Science, Together

Never before, scientists say, have so many of the world's researchers focused so urgently on a single topic. Nearly all other research has ground to a halt.

SCIENCE BUSINESS®

COVID-19 Triggered Unprecedented Collaboration in Research

The pandemic has both spurred on and demonstrated the value of open science, but has also exposed gaps in science policy. Now is a good time for reform, says OECD

COLUMBIA NEWS

LESSONS LEARNED

How the Pandemic Ignited a New Wave of Scientific Collaboration



Potential Adverse Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic on PWID Health

- COVID-19 infection and outcomes
- Social determinants of health: poverty, unemployment, homelessness
- New or worsening mental health conditions
- Disruptions to social and substance using networks

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Drug supply/supplier disruptions

Less access to:

- Harm reduction services
- Prevention and treatment services for infectious diseases
- Substance use treatment services (e.g., MAT)
- Overdose prevention services





Potential Positive Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic on PWID Health

Service delivery level:

- Shifts to mobile delivery modalities for harm reduction services
- Shifts away from 1:1 syringe distribution
- Recognition of SSP staff as essential workers in some places
- Reductions in barriers to treatment: fewer in-person requirements, availability of telehealth services

Individual level:

- Increased health awareness, vaccination
- Reductions in substance use
- Increased resilience





Background

CDC and CAMP collaborator interest in understanding impact of COVID-19 on HIV and HCV transmission among people who inject drugs (PWID)

Data for parameterizing a model to answer this question are currently sparse but (some) are currently being collected

- On-going research studies that added COVID-specific data elements
- Surveillance
- Service delivery data

Opportunity to expand beyond purely modeling interests and build data consortium focused on PWID+COVID-19 issues for a variety of purposes

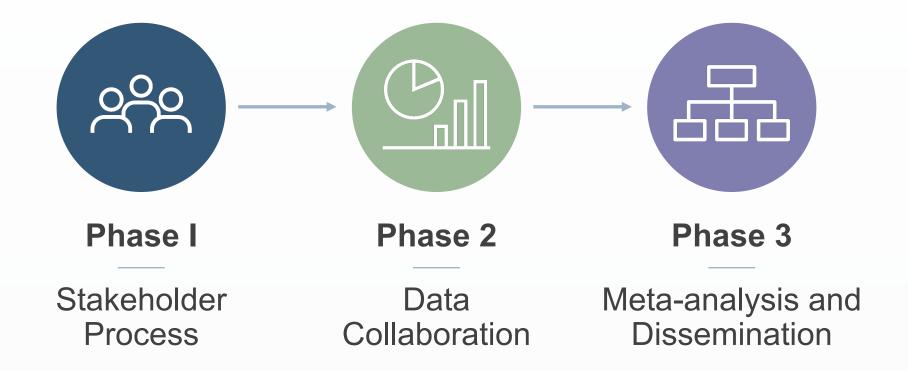
- Increase timeliness of data availability for the field collectively
- Increase collaboration and data sharing in a relatively small field
- Uses for modeling, evaluation of new program delivery modalities, understanding behavioral shifts







Overview







PWID+ COVID-19

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Phase 1: Stakeholder Process



We invited 105 stakeholders to participate in a series of meetings to determine COVID-19 related changes in PWID

50+ academic, service delivery, and public health department stakeholders identified indicators of change in HIV, HCV, and overdose risk pre- and-post COVID-19 pandemic

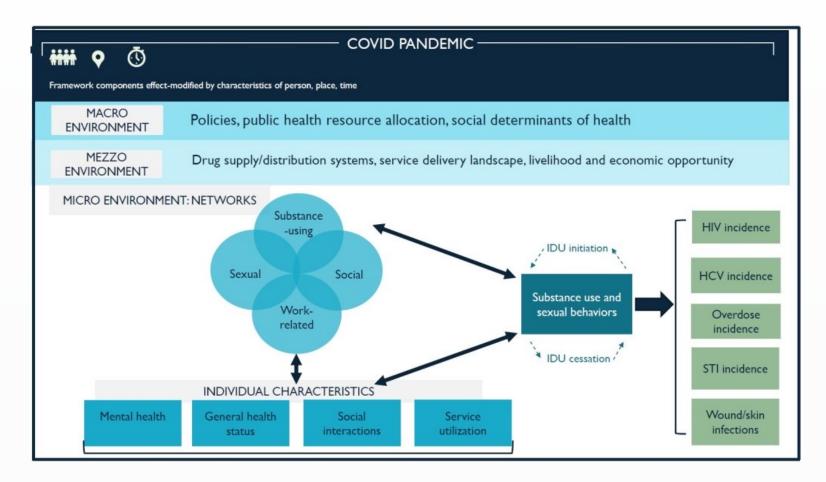
Steering committee of top experts in the field of PWID health was convened to summarize findings from meetings in a "measurement framework" manuscript





Phase 1: Stakeholder Process





A stakeholder-driven framework for measuring potential change in the health risks of people who inject drugs (PWID) during the COVID-19 pandemic







- PWID + COVID-19 Data Collaborative launched in 2022 by steering committee
- Developed a set of indicators for measurement of potential effects on health at multiple levels
- Public website developed to support collaboration efforts, including interface for data submission and instructional materials
- Requesting submissions of summary measures from research studies, surveys, or routinely collected service data from 2019 to present
 - 12-month estimates
 - Stratified by gender, age group, race/ethnicity where possible
- NOT requesting line-listed patient, client, or participant data, only summary estimates of indicators measured (e.g. % of PWID accessing harm reduction services in the 30 days preceding an interview conducted during this timeframe)





Submitting Data: Overview

Instructional Guide

- Web-based
- Table of contents
 - Click to navigate to any section
 - Button on lower right of each page to return to ToC
 - Buttons throughout submission survey to open the guide
- Information about the project and data submission process
- Worksheets to assist with data preparation before submission





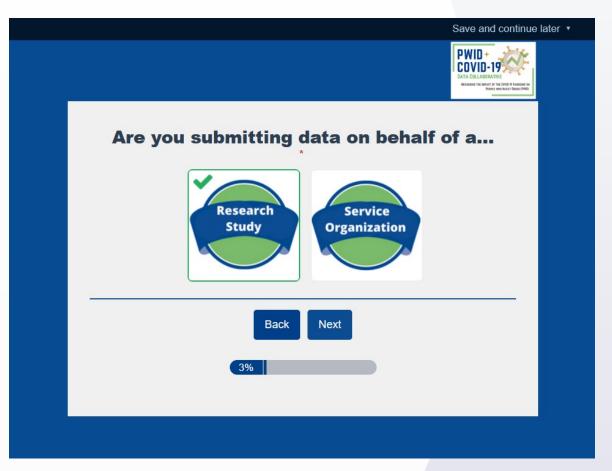




Submitting Data: Overview

Submission Survey

- Web-based
- Data entry tool for use after data have been prepared using a worksheet
- Dynamic content based on study information and indicator selection
- Save and continue feature
- Summary document









Current Contributors

Research Studies	
La Frontera Study UC San Diego PI: Dr. Steffanie Strathdee	At-Risk Youth Study Simon Fraser University/BC Centre on Substance Use PI: Dr. Kora DeBeck
MASH Cohort and Miami COVID-19 cohort Florida International University PI: Dr. Marianna Baum	Accessible Care Project CUNY-School of Public Health Pl(s): Dr. Pedro Mateu-Gelabert, Dr. Kristen Marks
Vancouver Injection Drug Users Study Simon Fraser University/BC Centre on Substance Use PI: Dr. Kanna Hayashi	Heart Study University of Maryland, Baltimore PI: Dr. Shenghan Lai

Organizations

Tennessee Harm Reduction

Daniel Patrick Garrett







Importance of Collaboration



Multisector collaborations are needed to rapidly

measure, identify, and intervene on pandemic-related PWID health risks

Steering committee collaboration efforts toward this goal

- Measurement framework paper
- Prioritization of PWID health indicators
- Creating and promotion of PWID + COVID-19 Data Collaborative

Pandemic-related efforts promote longer term

- Relationships and new collaborations across stakeholders in PWID health
- Timely data sharing
- Researcher and practitioner-initiated agenda setting for improving PWID health









Data Contribution Experience: Research study

- Data submission process is straight forward
- Data preparation = seamless experience
 - Instructional Guide is a helpful & necessary resource
 - Including details of research study and survey questions is important
- Who is preparing/submitting data?
- Have numerical values handy!
- Transferring the data

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Complete worksheets in Instructional Guide first, then submit data





Phase 3: Meta-analysis and Dissemination



- Contributions will be meta-analyzed, by demographic stratifications where possible, and shared back with data contributors, as well as published in a peer-reviewed manuscript(s) for public use
 - The meta-analysis will be conducted by Terri Pigott, PhD. Dr Pigott specializes in methods for meta-analysis
- Estimates can be used for:
 - Modeling changes in infectious disease transmission and overdose
 - Evaluating change over time in service delivery modalities
 - Advocating for retention of beneficial policies and more resources to support PWID health







Collaborate with Us!

Benefits of being a Data Contributor

Publishing credit (contributors will be recontacted proposing the use of any submitted data for public dissemination).

The PWID + COVID-19 Data
Collaborative will provide Letters of
Support for data contributors submitting
grant proposals.

Visit us:

pwidcovid.org
 or contact us at
pwidcovid@emory.edu





Thank You!

Questions or comments, please contact:

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