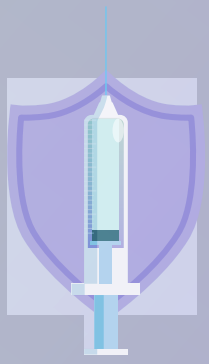
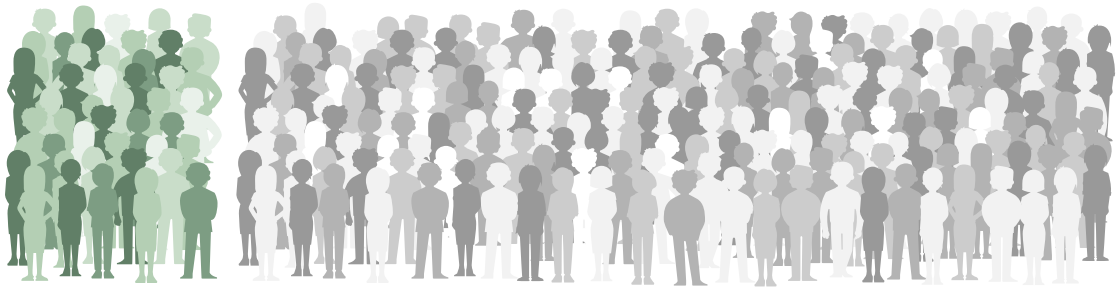
Estimating herd immunity thresholds for hepatitis A: A 16-state analysis to inform vaccination strategies among people who inject drugs (PWID)



New CAMP research led by UCSD's Dr. Natasha Martin and published in Clinical Infectious Diseases estimates vaccination coverage needed among people who inject drugs to prevent hepatitis A outbreaks.

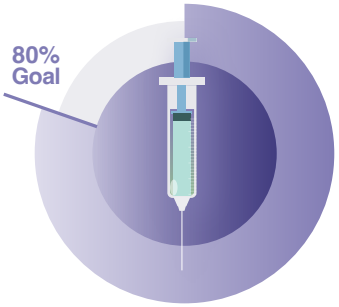


Vaccination coverage among people who inject drugs (PWID) remains low, and **with more than half of PWID estimated to be at risk for hepatitis A infection**, understanding vaccination coverage required to prevent future outbreaks among this population is critical.

Using surveillance data from 16 states with reported hepatitis A outbreaks associated with transmission among people who inject drugs, this research estimates herd immunity thresholds among PWID in these states to inform future vaccine policy and implementation.

Key Findings*

In the 16 states examined, **vaccination coverage of at least 80%** may be needed** to reliably prevent hepatitis A outbreaks among PWID.



High population immunity is necessary to prevent outbreaks among PWID, emphasizing the need for enhanced implementation of vaccination strategies in this population.

* ***Data used to inform this work come from the following states:*** *Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Mexico, New York (excluding New York City), North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, and West Virginia.*

** *While this is an estimate based on the upper bound of the model, there were states with higher values (e.g., West Virginia) that may require higher vaccination coverage.*

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