

# The Impact of Alcohol and Substance Use on the Prevention and Treatment of HIV/AIDS

Worcester Intercity HIV Lecture Series  
June 19, 2013

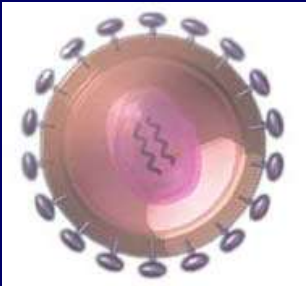
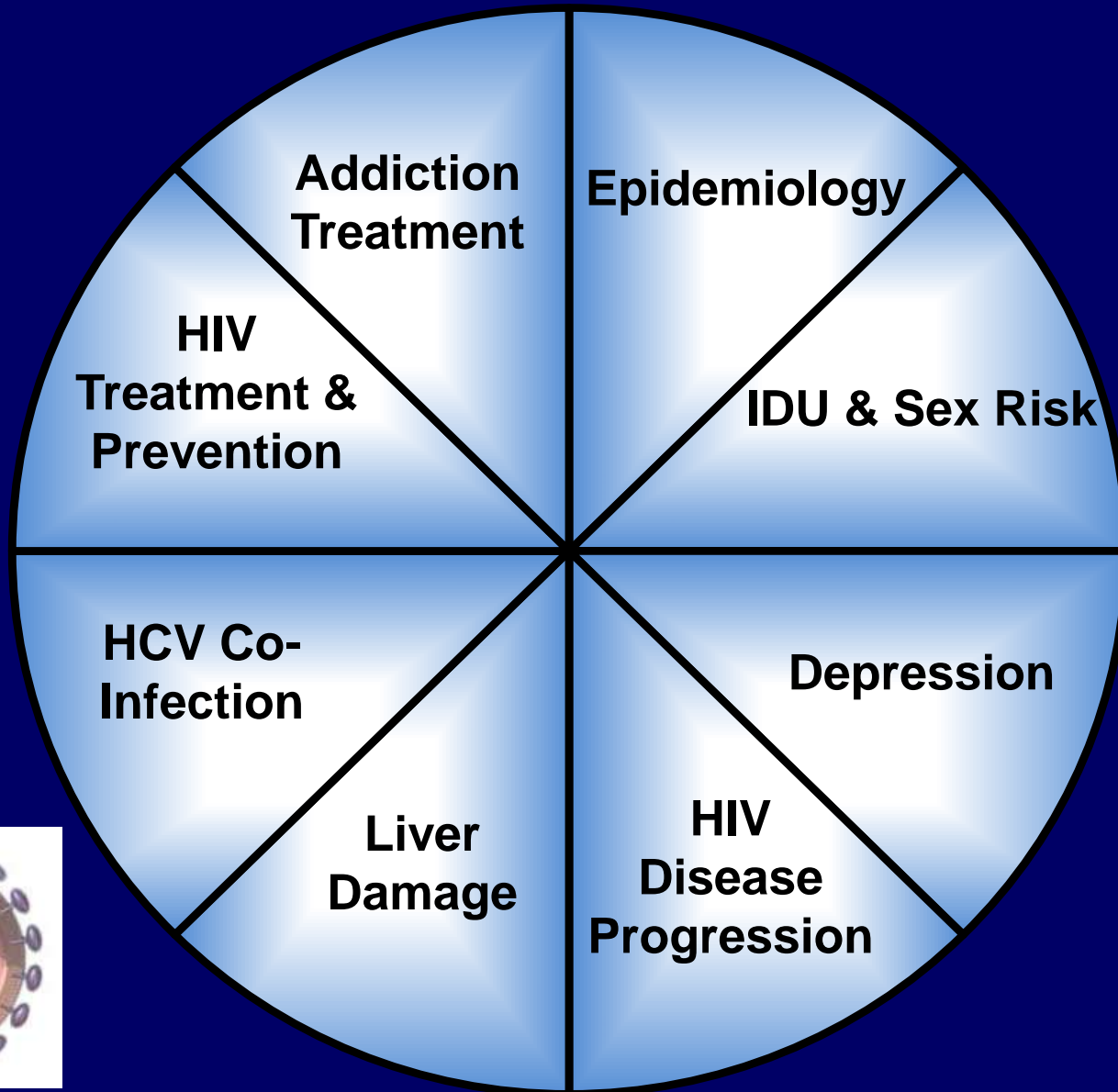
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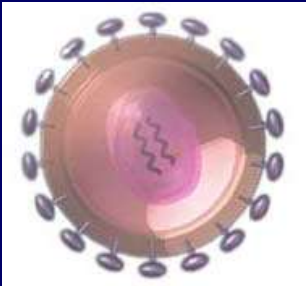
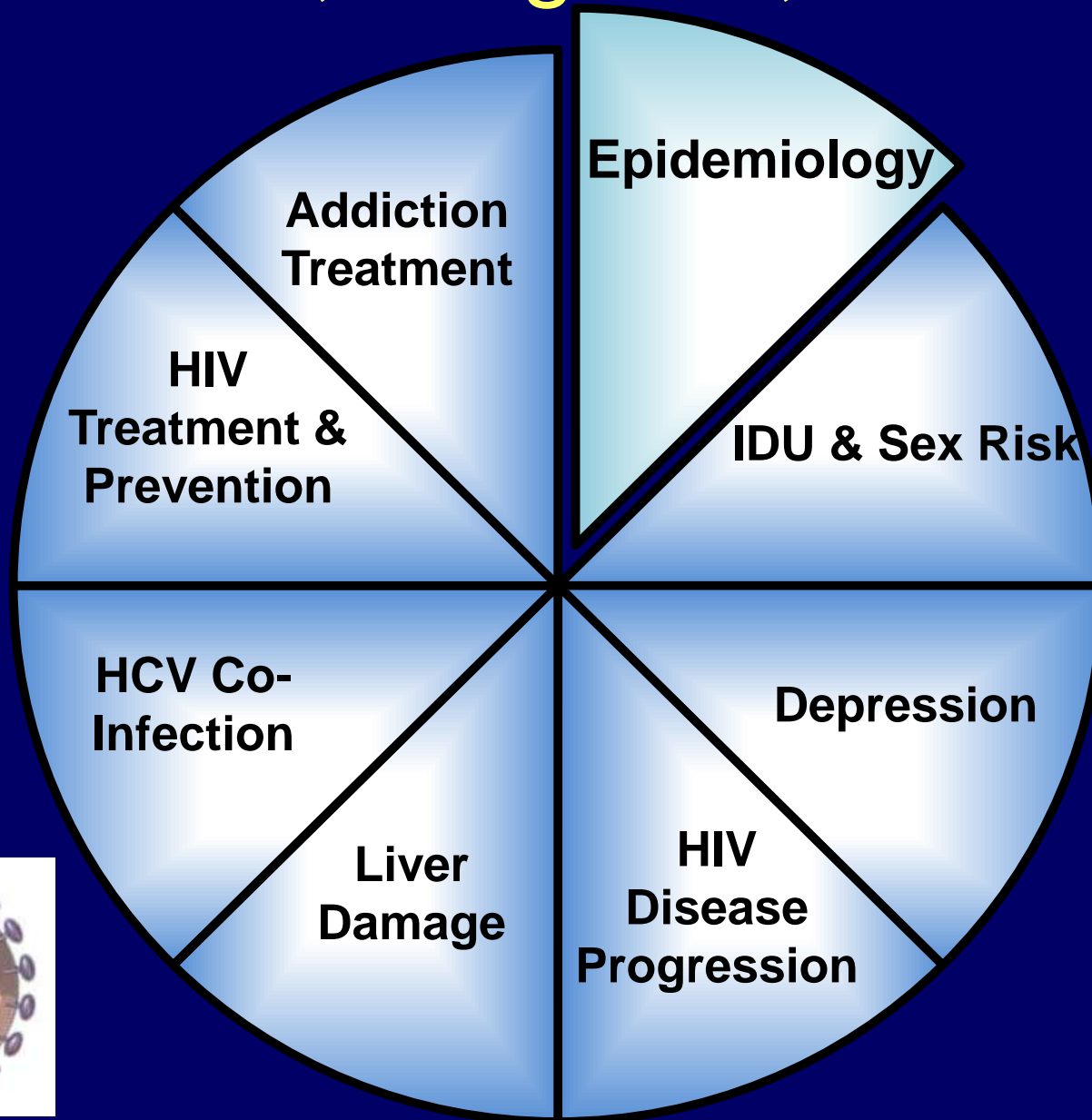
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Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health



# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV



# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV



# Alcohol Problems among HIV-Infected Persons in USA

- HIV Cost and Services Utilization Study (n=2864)<sup>\*</sup>
  - 8% current hazardous drinkers
- HIV Research Network (14 sites, n=951)<sup>†</sup>
  - 11% current hazardous drinkers
- Women's Interagency HIV Study (WIHS, 6 sites, n=2,770)<sup>‡</sup>
  - 14-24% past-year hazardous drinkers (11-year period)
- Veterans Aging Cohort Study (VACS, n=881)<sup>1\*\*</sup>
  - 36% past-year hazardous drinkers (AUDIT ≥ 8)

<sup>1</sup> >7000 HIV-infected veterans and non-infected controls, 8 sites, 98% men

<sup>\*</sup> Galvan, Bing, Fleishman, et al. *J Stud Alcohol*. 2002;63:179-186.

<sup>†</sup> Chander, Josephs, Fleishman, et al. *HIV Med*. 2008;9:196-202.

<sup>‡</sup> Cook, Zhu, Belnap, et al. *Am J Epidemiol*. 2009;169:1025-1032.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Conigliaro, Gordon, McGinnis, Rabeneck, Justice. *J AIDS*. 2003;33:521-525.

# HIV Research Cohorts

- **HIV - Longitudinal Interrelationships of Viruses and Ethanol (HIV-LIVE)**
  - 400 HIV-infected adults in Boston with current or past alcohol problems, 50% infected with hepatitis C (HCV), 25% female
  - 2000-2005
- **Veteran's Aging Cohort Study (VACS)**
  - Approx. 3,700 HIV-infected veterans (as of 2012)
  - 1:1 matched to HIV-uninfected veterans
  - 1997-present



# Alcohol Problems among HIV-Infected Persons Globally

- Cape Town, South Africa – outpatients at HIV clinic (n=465)\*
  - 27% past-year hazardous drinkers (AUDIT  $\geq 8$ )
- St. Petersburg, Russia – hospitalized patients (n=201)<sup>†</sup>
  - 47% alcohol abuse or dependence

\* Myer, Smit, Roux, Parker, Stein, Seedat. *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*. 2008;22:147-158.

<sup>†</sup> Krupitsky, Horton, Williams, et al. *Drug Alcohol Depend*. 2005;79:251-256.

# Blood Tests to Assess Alcohol Consumption

- Carbohydrate-deficient transferrin (%CDT)
  - Typically elevated after 60g ethanol/day\*
  - In HIV-infected, only 36% sensitivity for “heavy” drinking†
- Phosphatidylethanol (PEth)
  - Significantly correlated with ethanol use in last 7 days‡
  - Does not produce false positives
  - Processed in specialized laboratories only

\* Golka, Wiese. *J Toxicol Environ Health*. 2004;7:319-337.

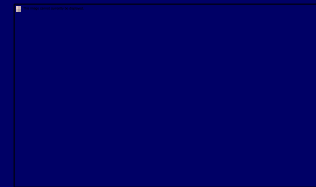
† Ireland, Cheng, Samet, Bridden, Quinn, Saitz. *AIDS Care*. 2011;23:1483-1491.

‡ Wurst, Thon, Aradottir, et al. *Addict Biol*. 2010;15:88-95.



# IDU and HIV in USA

- In USA, IDU accounted for\*
  - 8% of new HIV infections (2010)
  - 17% of people living with HIV (2010)
- In Massachusetts, IDU accounted for†
  - 24% of adult HIV/AIDS cases (2011)



\* CDC. *HIV Surveillance – Epidemiology of HIV Infection (through 2010)*. Published March 2012.  
[http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/slides/general/index.htm?utm\\_source=At-a-Glance&utm\\_medium=e-mail&utm\\_campaign=Epidemiology%2Bof%2BHIV%2BInfection](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/slides/general/index.htm?utm_source=At-a-Glance&utm_medium=e-mail&utm_campaign=Epidemiology%2Bof%2BHIV%2BInfection). Accessed 06/11/13.

† <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/aids/2012-profiles/idu.pdf>. Accessed 06/11/13.

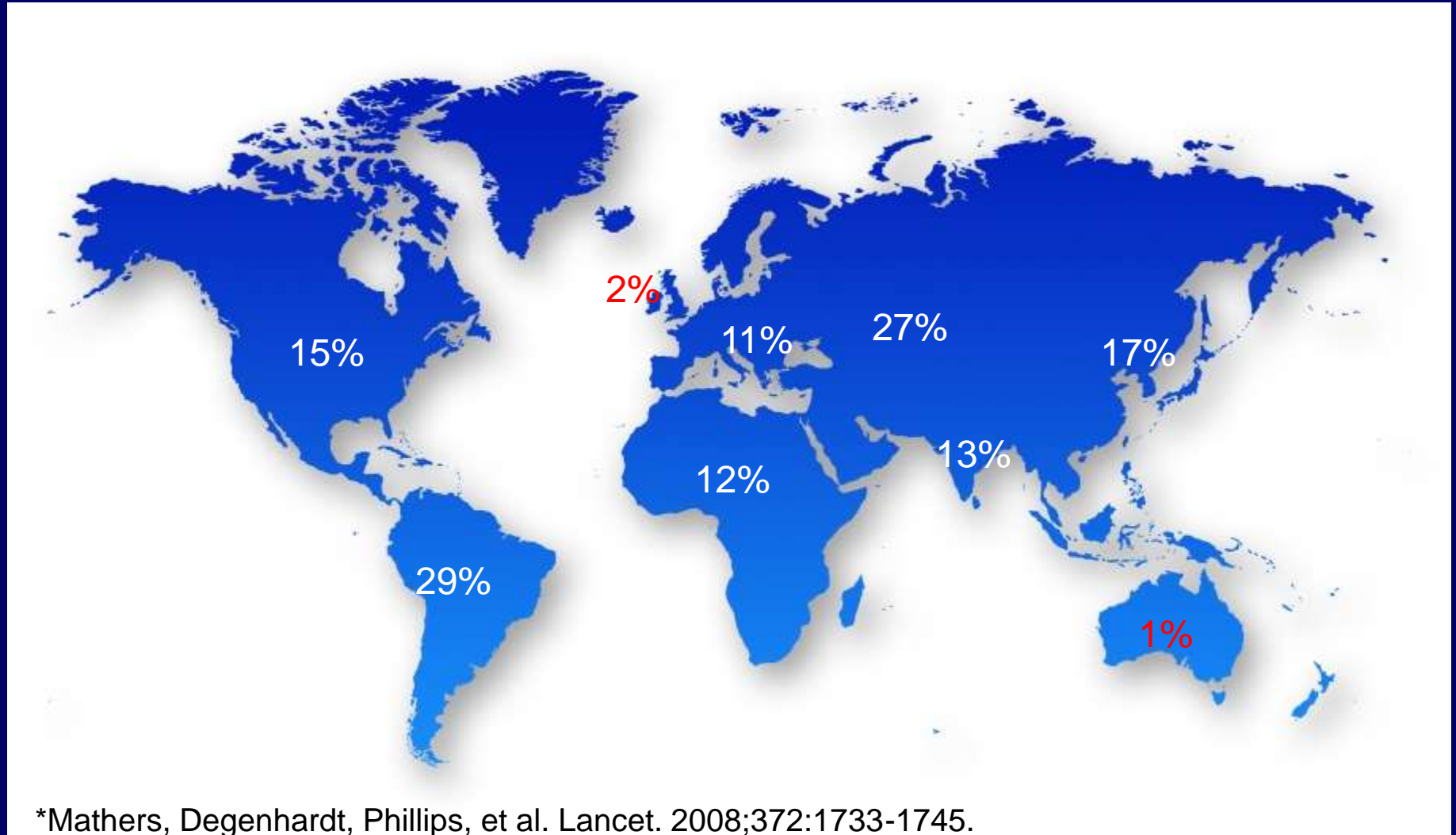
# Drug Use as a Risk Factor for HIV

- IDU
  - Typically heroin
    - Other drugs (e.g. cocaine, amphetamines)
  - Estimated 3 million HIV-infected via IDU worldwide\*
- HIV prevalence elevated among non-injecting drug users
  - IDU (past 6-month) vs. never injecting, heroin/cocaine users†
    - 13% (CI 12-15%) vs. 12% (CI 9-16%)
      - Addiction treatment center (n=2,121)
    - 15% (CI 11-19%) vs. 17% (CI 12-21%)
      - Respondent-driven store-front sampling (n=448)

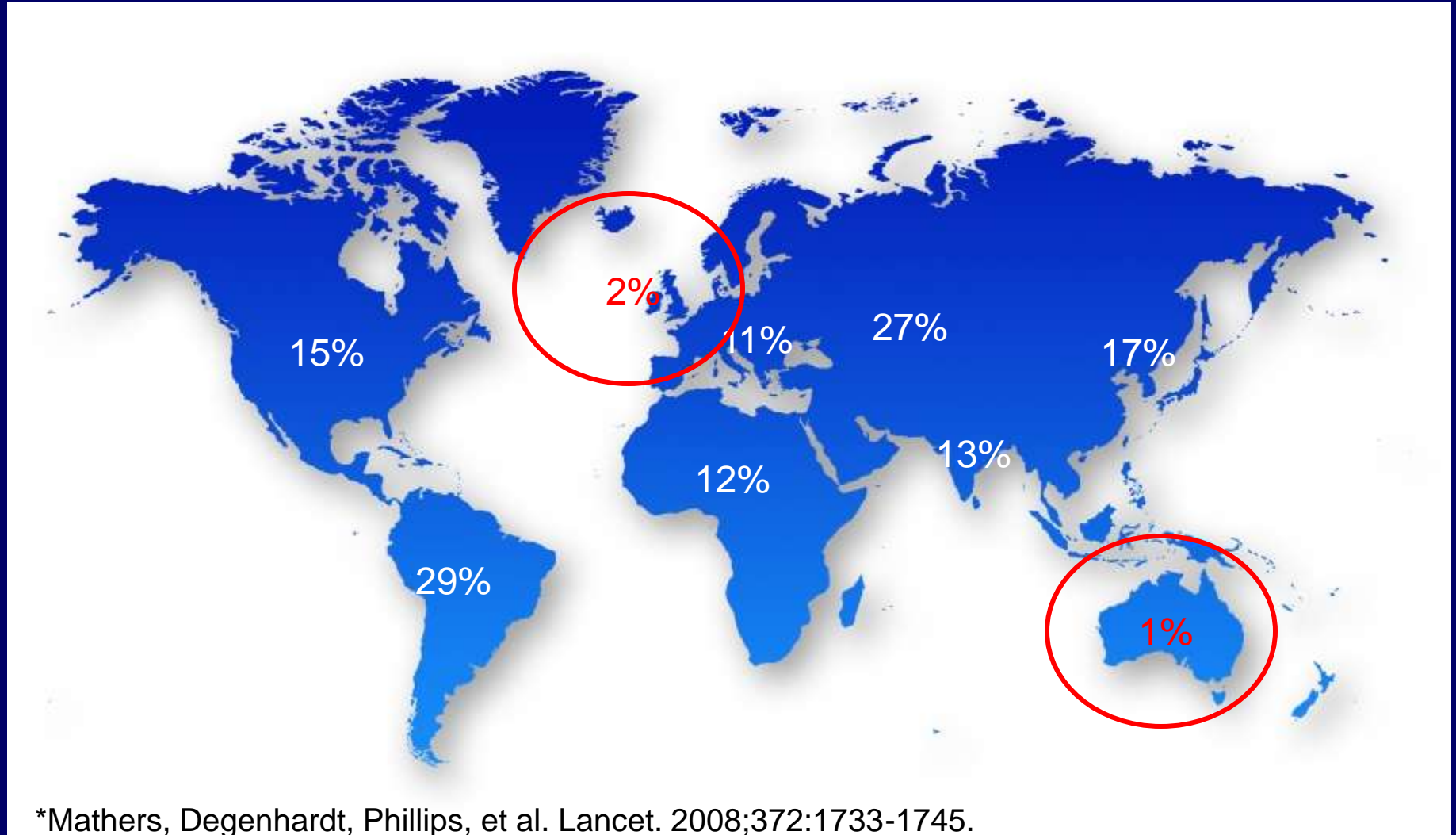
\* Mathers, Degenhardt, Phillips, et al. *Lancet*. 2008;372:1733-1745.

† Des Jarlais, Arasteh, Perlis, et al. *AIDS*. 2007;21:231-235.

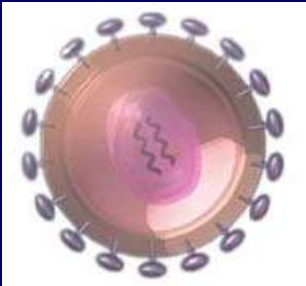
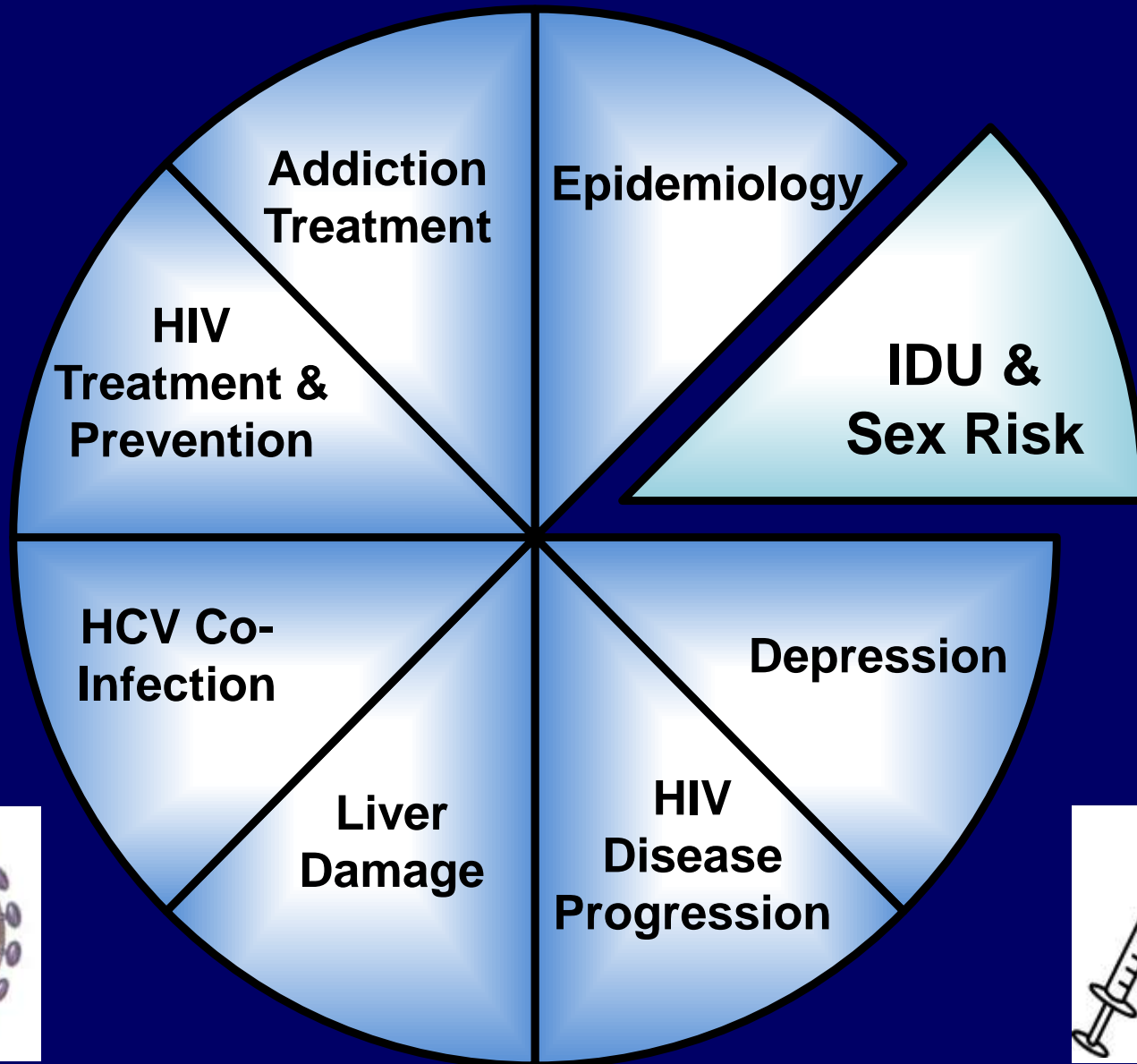
# Global HIV Prevalence Among IDUs



# Global HIV Prevalence Among IDUs



# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV



# HIV Risk Behaviors in Binge Drinkers

- 2008 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Binge Drinkers  
(41,083 binge drinkers; 240,230 non-binge drinkers)
- HIV Risk Behaviors defined as past year:
  - Injection drug use
  - Exchange of sex for money/drugs
  - Unprotected anal sex
- HIV risk behaviors higher among binge drinkers: 7.0% vs. 2.9% (OR 1.8, CI 1.58-2.00)

# Alcohol Use and Risky Sex

- Meta-analysis (27 studies, n=10,536) found unprotected sex among HIV-infected individuals significantly associated with:
  - Alcohol consumption (OR 1.6, CI 1.4-1.9)
  - Problematic drinking (OR 1.7, CI 1.5-2.0)
  - Alcohol use in sexual contexts (OR 2.0, CI 1.6-2.4)



# Alcohol Use and Vaginal HIV Detection

- HIV infected women (n=160)\*

	Recent Drinking (past 24 hrs.)		
	≤ 1 drink	≥ 2 drinks	p-value
Vaginal Detectable Virus	27%	40%	<.05

- When stratified by ART status, recent drinking effect only observed in those on ART (n=87)
- Longitudinal cohort study of HIV-infected women (n=481)<sup>†</sup>
  - High frequency vaginal detection associated with alcohol use (OR 2.20, CI 1.08-4.49)

\* Theall, Amedee, Clark, Dumestre, Kissinger. *J Stud Alcohol Drugs*. 2008;69:454-458.

<sup>†</sup> Homans, Christensen, Stiller, et al. *J AIDS*. 2012;60:e106.

# Drug Use and Sex Risk

- Crystal meth among HIV-infected MSM (n=398)\*
  - Greater sex risk - unprotected anal sex with possible serodiscordant partner - past 6 months (OR 2.6, CI 1.4-4.8)
- HIV-infected crack cocaine users, binge vs. non-binge users (n=303)<sup>†</sup>
  - Greater mean # of sex partners - past 6 months (12 vs. 4)
  - More likely never use a condom - past 30 days (OR 2.5, CI 1.1-5.5)
- Past 30 day cannabis use among sexually active HIV-infected Russian risky drinkers (n=700) associated with:<sup>‡</sup>
  - Needle sharing (AOR 2.23, CI: 1.5-3.4)
  - Number of injections (IRR 1.5, CI: 1.2-1.9)
  - Multiple sex partners (AOR 1.7, CI: 1.2-2.5)

\* Mayer, O'Cellirigh, Skeer, et al. *Sexually Transmitted Infec.* 2010;86:66-70.

<sup>†</sup> Harzke, Williams, Bowen. *AIDS Behav.* 2009;13:1106-1118.

<sup>‡</sup> Tyurina, Krupitsky, Cheng, et al. *Drug Alcohol Depend.* 2013, Feb 11 [Epub ahead of print].

# Alcohol and Drug Use and HIV Disclosure

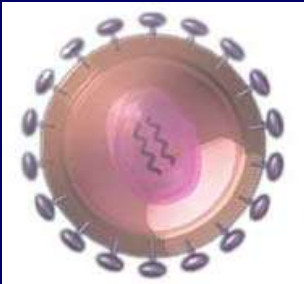
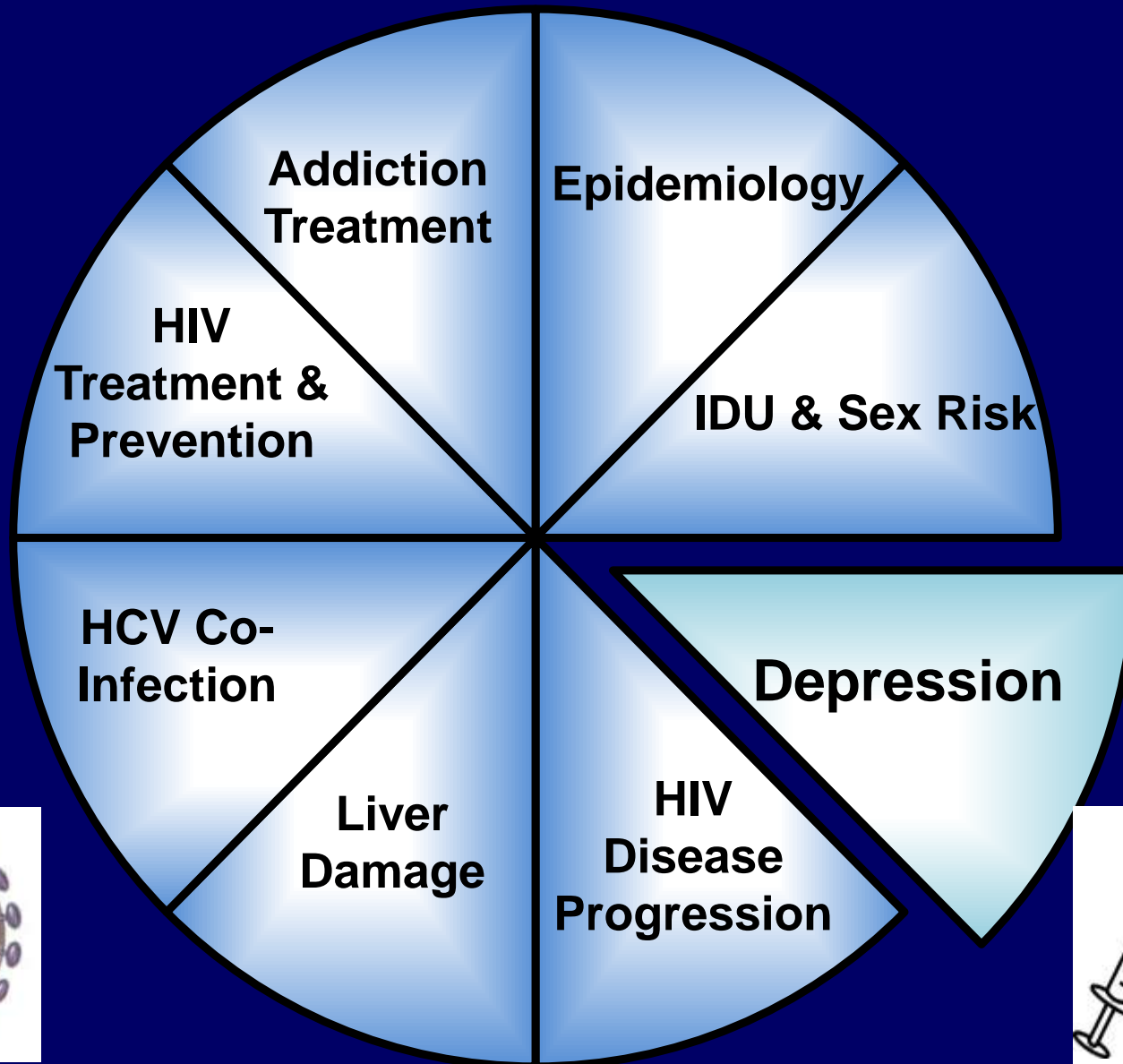
- Primary care patients at two urban hospitals (n=203)\*
  - Among 40% of subjects who did not disclosed to all sex partners, 57% used condoms less than all the time
  - No association found between history of addiction (alcohol or IDU) and disclosure
- HIV-infected Russian risky drinkers (n=605)<sup>†</sup>
  - No association between past 30 day risky alcohol use (OR 1.31, CI 0.79-2.17) or alcohol use at time of sex with recent nondisclosure (OR 0.75, CI 0.54-1.05)
- HIV-infected female sex workers (n=211) and male clients (n=205) in India<sup>‡</sup>
  - Any alcohol use in past 30 days was associated with non-disclosure among women (OR 2.8, CI 1.5–5.3)

\* Stein, Freedberg, Sullivan, et al. *Arch Intern Med.* 1998;158:253-7.

<sup>†</sup> Lunze, Cheng, Quinn, et al. *AIDS Behav.* 2013;17:390-398.

<sup>‡</sup> Saggurti, Raj, Mahapatra, et al. *AIDS Behav.* 2013;17:399-406.

# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV



# Depression

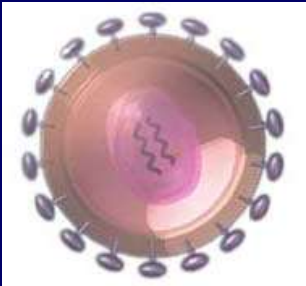
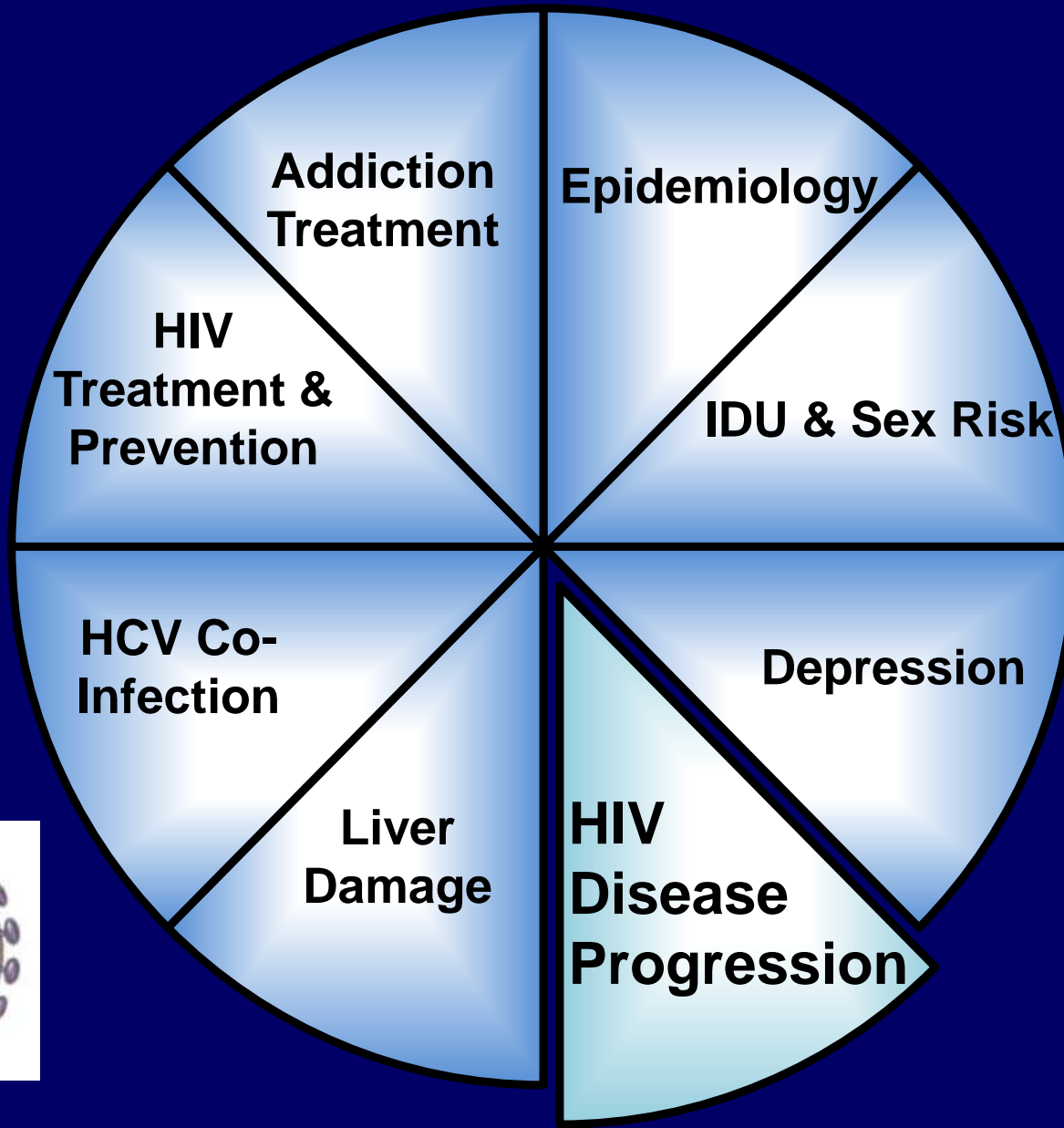
- HIV-LIVE (n=400)\*
  - Alcohol dependence associated with ↑ depressive symptoms (CES-D mean difference 3.49, CI 1.76-5.22)\*
- VACS (n=2446; 55% HIV-infected)†
  - Hazardous and binge drinking associated with depression (PHQ-9 ≥ 9) (OR 2.53, CI 1.34-4.81)†
  - HIV status did not modify alcohol's impact on depression (not an effect modifier)
- HERS (n=871)‡
  - Moderate drinking (OR 1.93, p<0.01) and heavy drinking (OR 3.94, p<0.01) associated with increased depressive symptoms (↑CES-D), regardless of ART status

\* Sullivan, Saitz, Cheng, Libman, Nunes, Samet. *Addiction*. 2008;103,1461-1467.

† Sullivan, Goulet, Justice, Fiellin. *Drug Alcohol Depend*. 2011;117:158-163.

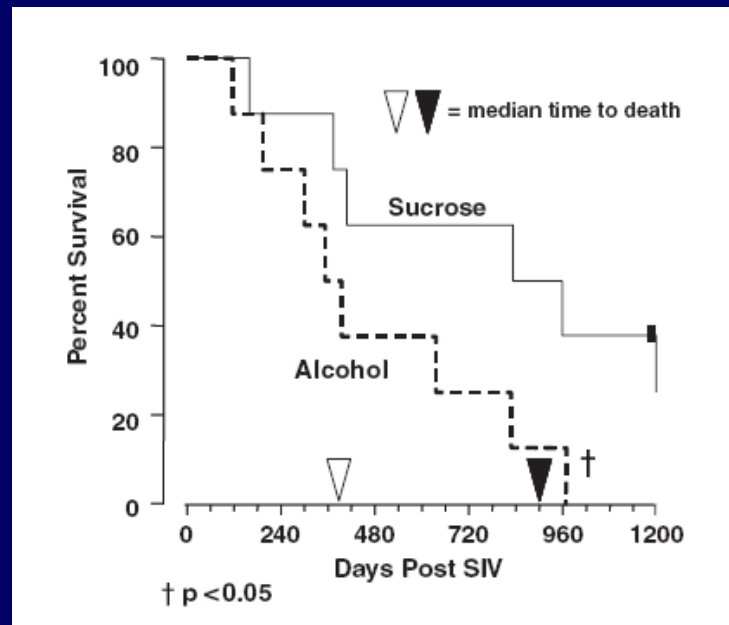
‡ Ghebremichael, Paintsil, Ickovics, et al. *AIDS Care*. 2009;21:834-841.

# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV



# Alcohol and HIV Disease Progression

- Macaques (n=16): IV alcohol vs. sucrose at time of SIV infection
  - Higher viral set point (448 vs. 362 copies/mL;  $p<0.05$ )
  - Shorter time to death (374 vs. 900 days;  $p<0.05$ )





# Alcohol and HIV Disease Progression

- Pre-HAART (MACS): no association found\*
- Post-HAART:
  - Hopkins<sup>†</sup> (n=1711): alcohol associated with
    - Worse ART adherence (AOR 0.46; CI: 0.34 – 0.63)
    - Less viral suppression (AOR 0.76; CI:0.57-0.99)
  - HIV-LIVE<sup>‡</sup> (n=240): Heavy alcohol use associated with lower CD4 cell count in patients NOT on ART
    - Adjusted mean decrease of 49 cells/μl compared with abstinence (p=0.03)
- Possible mechanism:
  - Immune activation, increased GI bacterial translocation, interaction with ART metabolism<sup>§</sup>

\* Kaslow, Blackwelder, Ostrow, et al. *JAMA*. 1989;261:3424-3429.

† Chander, Lau, Moore. *J AIDS*. 2006;43:411-417.

‡ Samet, Cheng, Libman, Nunes, Alperen, Saitz. *J AIDS*. 2007;46:194-199.

§ Hahn, Samet. *Curr HIV/AIDS Rep*. 2010;7:226-233.

# Drug Use and HIV Disease Progression

- Hopkins\* (n=1,851): Heroin and cocaine use and risk of opportunistic infections (OIs)

	OR	95% CI
<b>Nonuser</b>	<b>1.0</b>	
<b>Intermittent user, abstinent</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.0 - 1.9</b>
<b>Intermittent user, active</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.5 – 3.0</b>
<b>Persistent user</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.4 – 3.1</b>

Active drug use associated with HIV disease progression

\* Lucas, Griswold, Gebo, Keruly, Chaisson, Moore. *Am J Epidemiology*. 2006;163:412-420

# Cocaine and HIV Disease Progression

- HIV-infected non-injecting drug users (n=222)
- Crack cocaine users (n=110):
  - More likely to have a CD4  $\leq$  200 cells/ml (OR 2.14, CI 1.08-4.25)
  - Higher HVL
  - Of those on ART, less likely suppress HVL
  - Of those not on ART (n=53), increased RR of CD4 decline  $<$  200 (HR 3.9, CI 1.1-14.9)

# Tobacco and HIV Disease Progression

- HIV-LIVE cohort (n=462)
  - No significant association between CD4 or HVL and smoking status
  - True for the range of tobacco use compared to non-smokers

# Mortality and Substance Use

- HIV-LIVE (n=595), short-term mortality associated with\*:
  - Heroin or cocaine use (HR 2.4, CI 1.1-5.3)
  - Homelessness (HR 2.9, CI 1.3-6.4)
  - No association with heavy alcohol use (HR 0.6, CI 0.2-1.4)
- Johns Hopkins HIV Clinical Cohort 1997-2006, (n=1030 women)<sup>†</sup>
  - Heavy drinking associated with increased mortality (HR 1.4, CI 1.0-1.97)
- Antiretroviral Therapy Cohort Collaboration 2001-2008 (n=44,043),<sup>§</sup> mortality associated with:
  - IDU (RR 2.08, CI 1.91-2.26)

\* Walley, Cheng, Libman, et al. *AIDS*. 2008; 22:415-420.

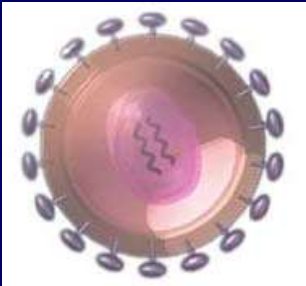
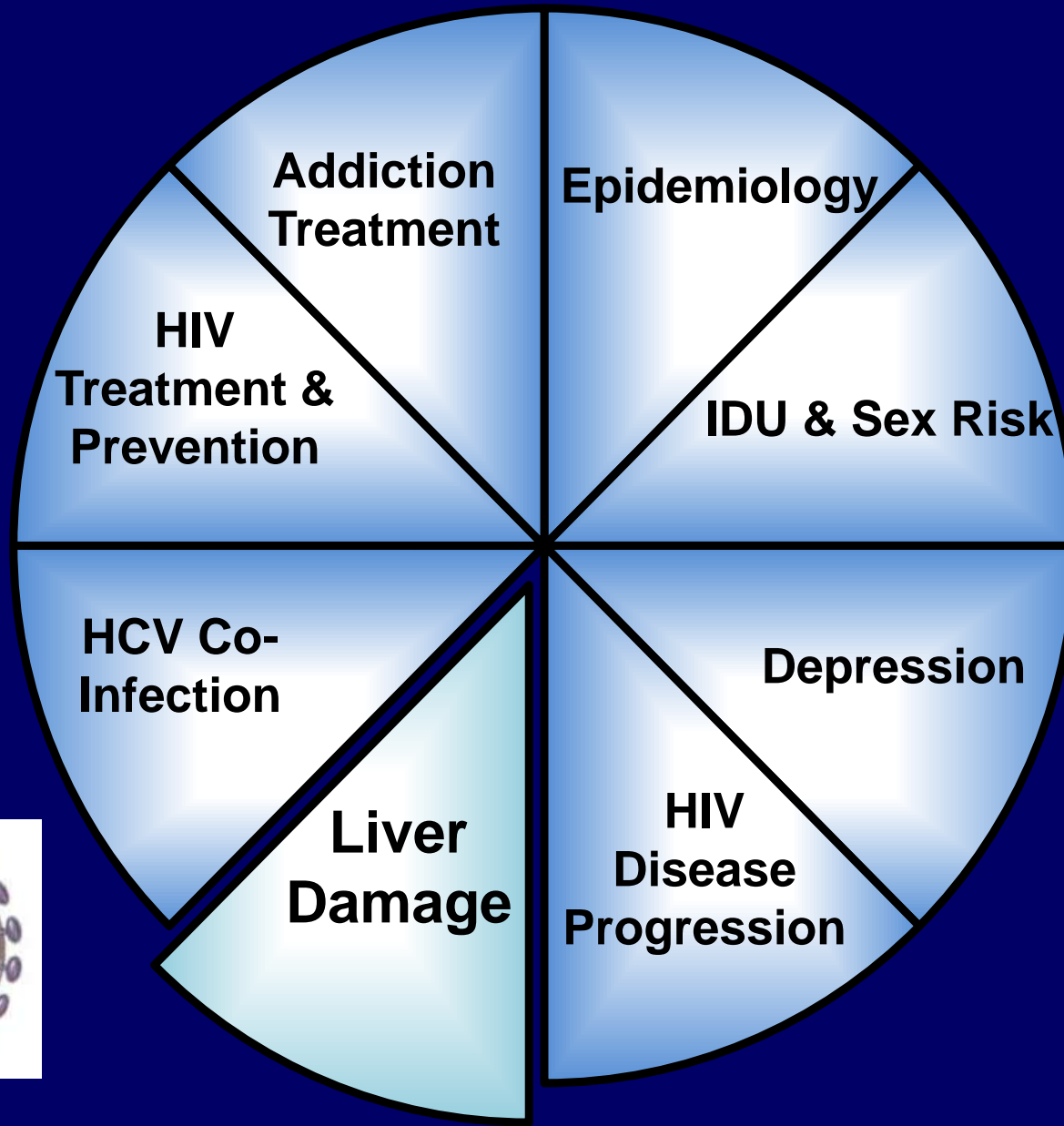
<sup>†</sup> Neblett, Hutton, Lau, McCaul, Moore, Chander. *J Women's Health*. 2011; 20:279-286.

<sup>§</sup> Murray, Hogg, Lima, et al. *HIV Med*. 2012;13:89-97.

# IDU, HIV, and Mortality

- IDUs have the worst life expectancy among all transmission categories
- IDU life expectancy post-dx in the US (2005):
  - Male: 15.2 years (CI 14.8-15.5)
  - Female : 15.9 years (CI 15.1-16.6)
- IDU life expectancy almost half compared to those with sexual transmission risk

# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV





# Alcohol Use Associated with Significant Liver Disease in HIV-Infected Persons

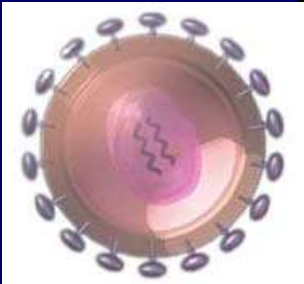
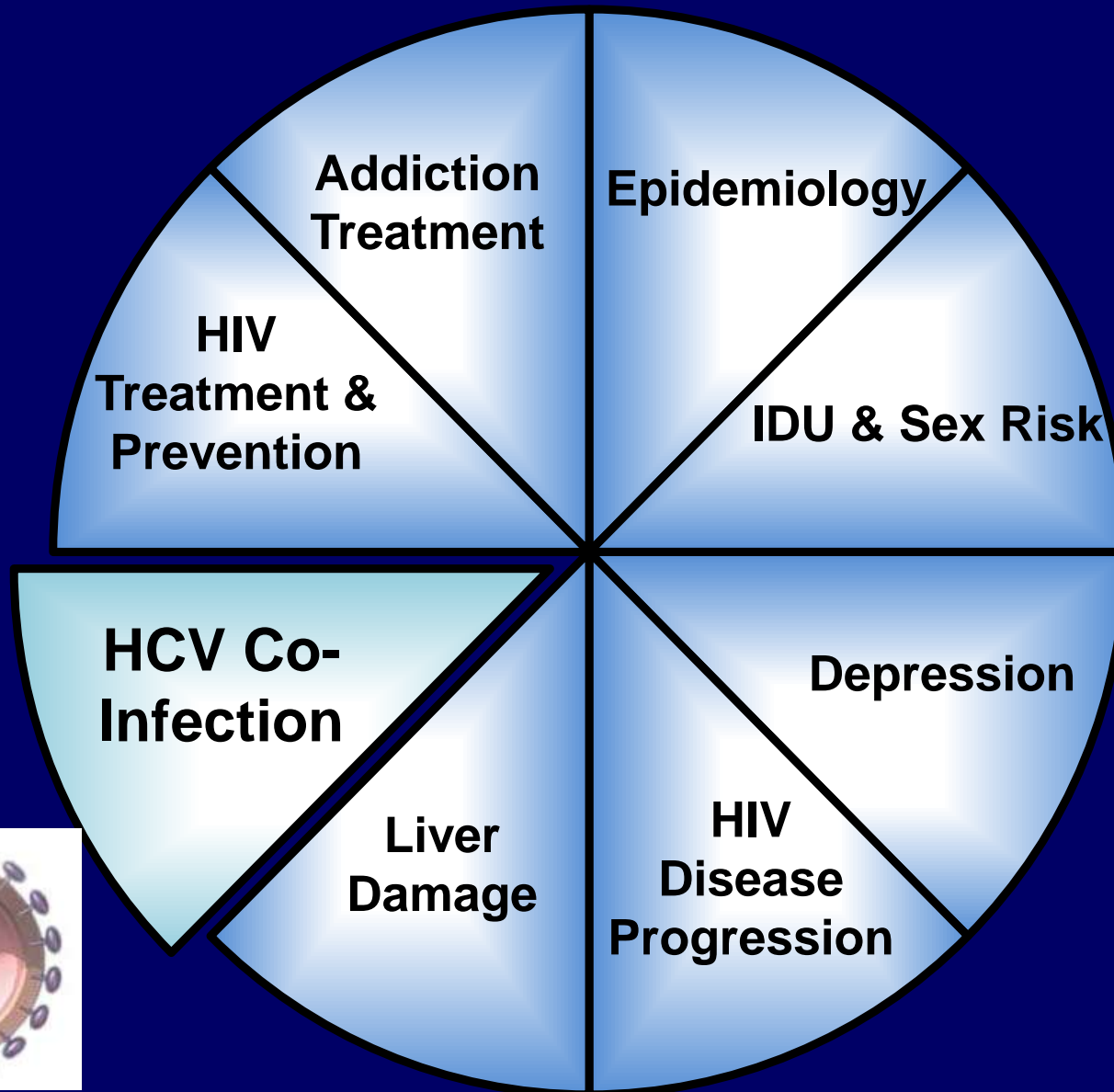
- Swiss HIV Cohort: Mono-infected patients (n=3,365)\*
  - Hazardous alcohol use (>40g/day females; >60g/day males) associated with elevated ALT levels (OR 1.83; CI 1.19-2.80)
- Johns Hopkins HIV Clinical Cohort: Mono-infected patients (n=696)<sup>†</sup>
  - Hazardous drinking (>14 drinks/wk) associated with significant liver disease – APRI<sup>1</sup> (adjusted RRR: 3.72; 95% CI: 1.40-9.87)

<sup>1</sup> APRI =  $\frac{\text{AST level} / \text{upper limit of normal}}{\text{Platelet count (10}^9\text{/L)}}$  ; APRI >1.5 identifies significant liver disease

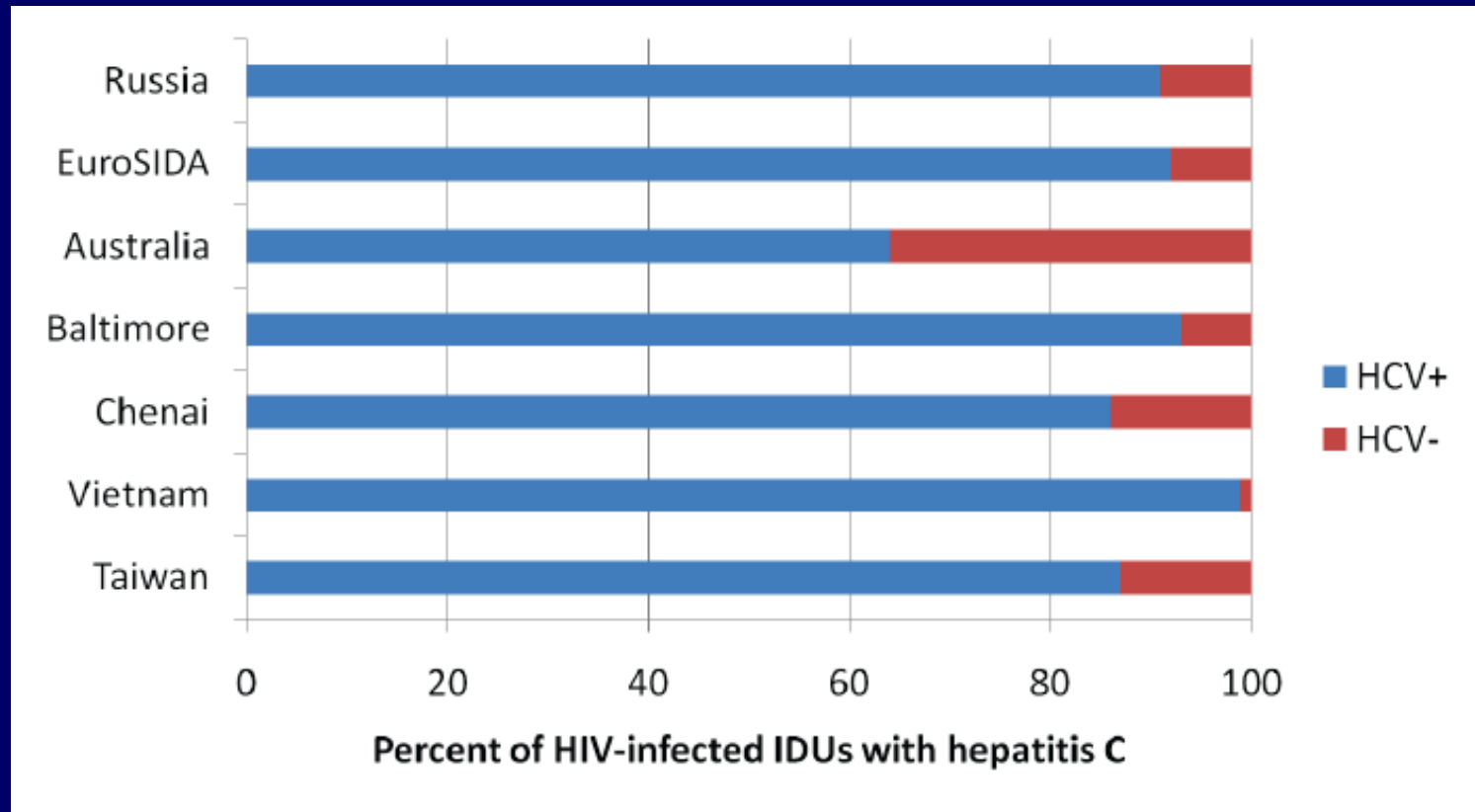
\* Kovari, Ledergerber, Battegay, et al. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2010;50:502-511.

<sup>†</sup> Chaudhry, Sulkowski, Chander, Moore. *HIV Medicine*. 2009;10:133-142.

# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV



# HCV Prevalence in HIV+ IDUs



# Alcohol Use and Liver Function in HIV/HCV-infected Persons

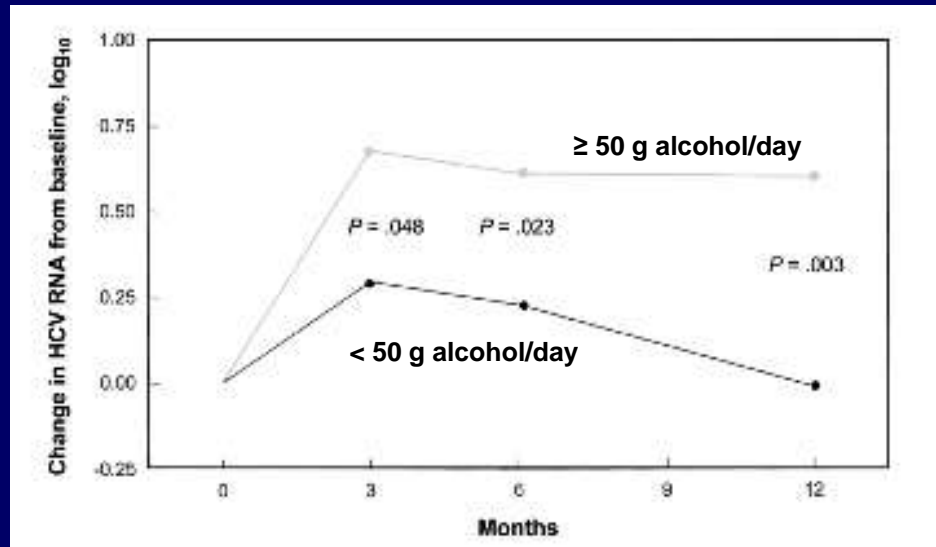
- In co-infected persons in HIV-LIVE cohort (n=200), risky drinking was associated with elevated
  - AST (62.2 vs. 51.4 U/L; adjusted ratio of means 1.2, CI [1.07, 1.37], p=0.003)
  - ALT (51.3 vs. 41.6 U/L; adjusted ratio of means 1.2, CI [1.07, 1.42], p=0.004)
- In mono-infected persons (n=197), risky drinking was not associated with elevated AST or ALT levels

# Alcohol Use among HIV/HCV-infected Persons

- HIV-LIVE (n=400)
- Those told about HCV diagnosis were more likely to report
  - Abstinence (AOR 1.60, CI 1.13 - 2.27)
  - Not drinking unhealthy amounts (AOR 1.46, CI 1.01 - 2.11)
- Awareness of HCV diagnosis associated with greater abstinence from alcohol and less unhealthy amounts of drinking

# Impact of Alcohol Use on HCV VL

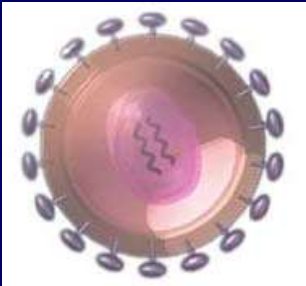
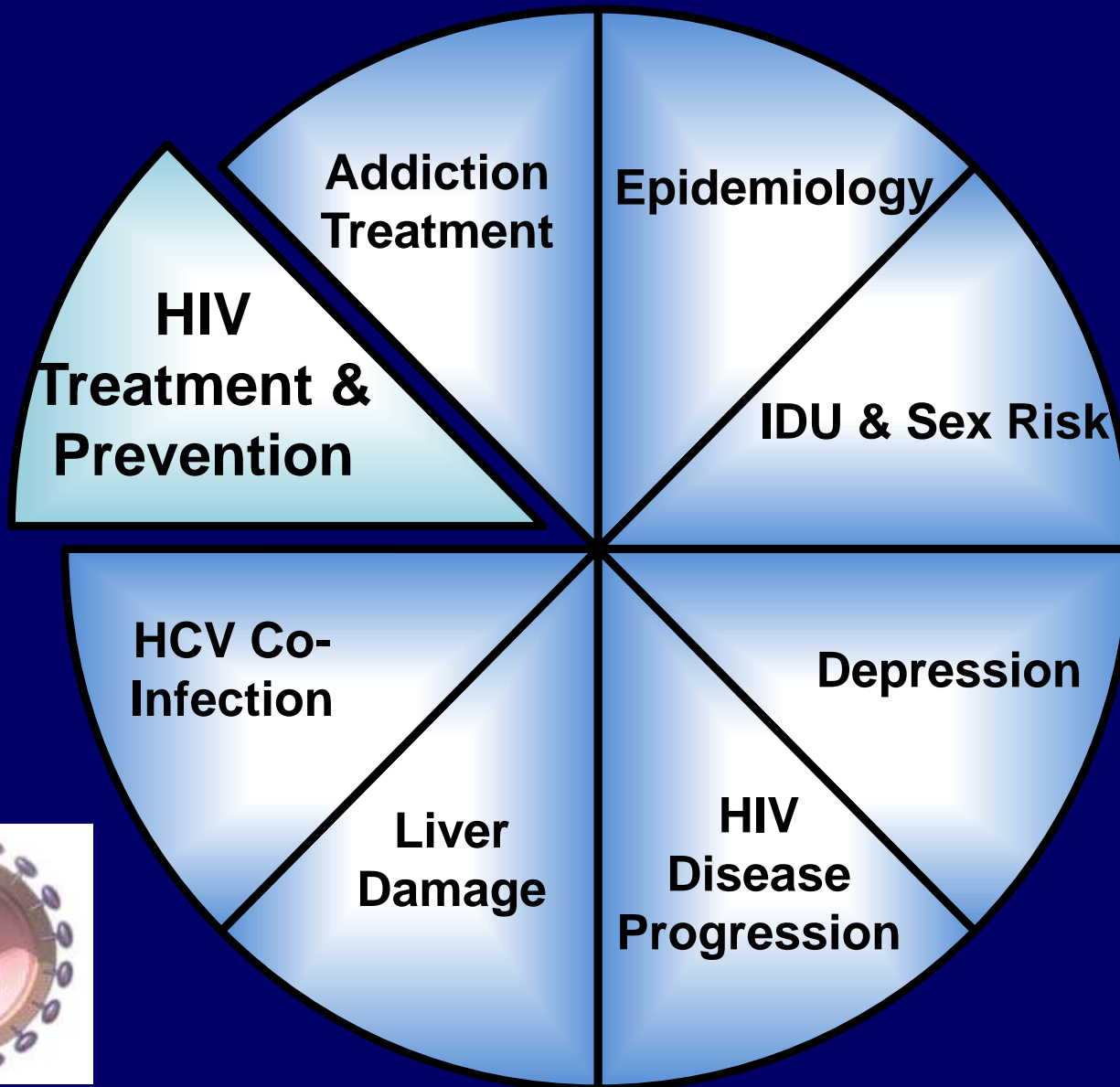
- HIV/HCV co-infected persons on ART (n=44)\*
  - Alcohol use ( $\geq 50$  g/day) associated with increases in HCV RNA ( $>0.6 \log_{10}$  IU/mL;  $p=0.04$ )



- HCV RNA not associated with HCV disease progression
- However HCV RNA is related to treatment outcomes

\*Cooper, Cameron. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2005;41(Suppl 1):S105-S109.

# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV





# Presenting to Medical Care



- Entry into care in two New England clinics, 1994-1996 (n=189)<sup>†</sup>
  - 39% delayed >1 year, 32% >2 years, and 18% >5 years
  - IDU (p<0.001) and history of alcohol problems in men (p=0.03) associated with delay
- Entry into care in 18 states, 2000-2004 (n=3,942)<sup>‡</sup>
  - 28% delayed medical care for > 3 months
  - IDU associated with delay (OR 1.4, CI 1.08-1.82)

\* Samet, Freedberg, Savetsky, Sullivan, Stein. *AIDS*. 2001;15:77-85.

† Samet, Freedberg, Stein, et al. *Arch Intern Med*. 1998;158:734-740.

‡ Reed, Hanson, McNaghten, et al. *AIDS Patient Care STDS*. 2009;23:765-773.

# IDUs and HIV Treatment Engagement

- Global review of ART coverage for IDUs
  - In the five countries\* with the largest IDU HIV epidemics, IDUs make up 67% of HIV cases, but only 25% of those receiving ART
  - Barriers to HIV Treatment Engagement of IDUs
    - Stigmatization of IDUs in health care settings
    - Separation of addiction and HIV care systems
    - Active IDU is contraindication for ART
    - No HIV treatment for prisoners

\* China, Vietnam, Russia, Ukraine, Malaysia

# IDUs and HIV Treatment Engagement

*“The doctor said that I had to deal with one thing first, and then the other. Because I had told her straight that I used drugs. So, she said that I had to quit first and then take care of the rest. But how? ... I’m actually afraid to discuss this issue of how to combine therapy and drugs. I don’t even want to ask the doctor... The doctor gave me such a look that I understood I’m kind of not entitled to ever feel good if I use drugs. So I made my conclusions. She made it clear to me that I had to deal with one thing first, then with the other.”*

*- Elena*

# Alcohol and ART adherence

- Meta-Analysis of 40 studies and over 25,000 participants\*
  - Risky or dependent drinkers were less adherent than non-problem drinkers or abstainers (OR 0.5, CI 0.4 -0.6)
- Study of African-Americans about beliefs of alcohol and ART (n=82)<sup>†</sup>
  - “Alcohol and ART do not mix.” (85%)
  - “I will not take my meds if I have been drinking.” (51%)
- Study of HIV-infected drinkers (n=178) showed that participants who endorse toxicity beliefs are:<sup>‡</sup>
  - More likely to miss medications on drinking days (OR 2.90 CI 1.09–7.68)
  - More likely to have VL>75 copies/mL (50% vs. 33%, p=0.02)

\* Hendershot, Stoner, Pantalone, Simoni. *JAIDS*. 2009. 52:180-202.

<sup>†</sup> Sankar, Wunderlich, Neufeld, Luborsky. *AIDS Behav*. 2007;11:195–203.

<sup>‡</sup> Kalichman, Grebler, Amaral, et al. *J Gen Intern Med*. 2012 [Epub ahead of print].

# Efforts to Improve ART Adherence

Two RCTs to improve ART adherence among hazardous drinkers with motivational interviewing

- ADHERE (n=151)\*
  - 4 session intervention
  - No significant differences in medication adherence, CD4 count, VL, or alcohol consumption
- Hazardous drinkers in New York City (n=143)†
  - 8 session intervention
  - Significant differences in VL, CD4 count at 3 months, but not 6 months

\* Samet, Horton, Meli, et al. *Antivir Ther.* 2005;10:83-93.

† Parsons, Golub, Rosof, Holder. *J AIDS.* 2007;46:443-450.

# IDUs and ART Adherence

- HIV-infected persons (n=578) first prescribed ART between 1996-2000\*
  - Classified as current IDU, former IDU, or non drug user
  - Current IDUs were less likely to suppress their HVL compared to non-drug users
  - Former IDUs were NOT less likely suppress HVL compared to non-drug users
- Similar findings in Swiss Cohort between 1997-2006 (n=8669)<sup>†</sup>
- Improvement in achievement of 95% adherence among Vancouver IDUs – 19% (1996) vs. 66% (2009)<sup>‡</sup>

\* Palepu, Tyndall, Yip, O'Shaughnessy, Hogg, Montaner. *JAIDS*. 2003;32:522-526.

<sup>†</sup> Weber, Huber, Rickenbach, et al. *HIV Med*. 2009;10:407-416.

<sup>‡</sup> Mann, Milloy, Kerr, et al. *HIV Med*. 2012;13:596-601.

# Changes in Sex and Drug Risk Behaviors After ART Initiation

Community-based cohort study of HIV-infected IDUs (n=362)

- ART initiation associated with reduction in likelihood of unprotected sex (OR 0.25, CI 0.19-0.32)
- Odds of any injection drug use reduced (OR 0.62, CI 0.51-0.75)
- However, needle sharing increased among persistent injectors

# Integrated Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) & Directly Observed Therapy (DOT)

- RCT compared DOT to standard of care
- 12 methadone OAT clinics in the Bronx (n=77); 24-week follow-up
- DOT group at 24 weeks
  - Better adherence (86% vs. 56%,  $p < 0.0001$ )
  - More likely to have undetectable viral load (OR 3.1, CI 1.1-5.4)



# Treatment Options

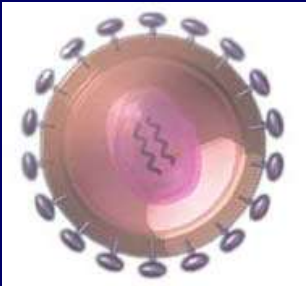
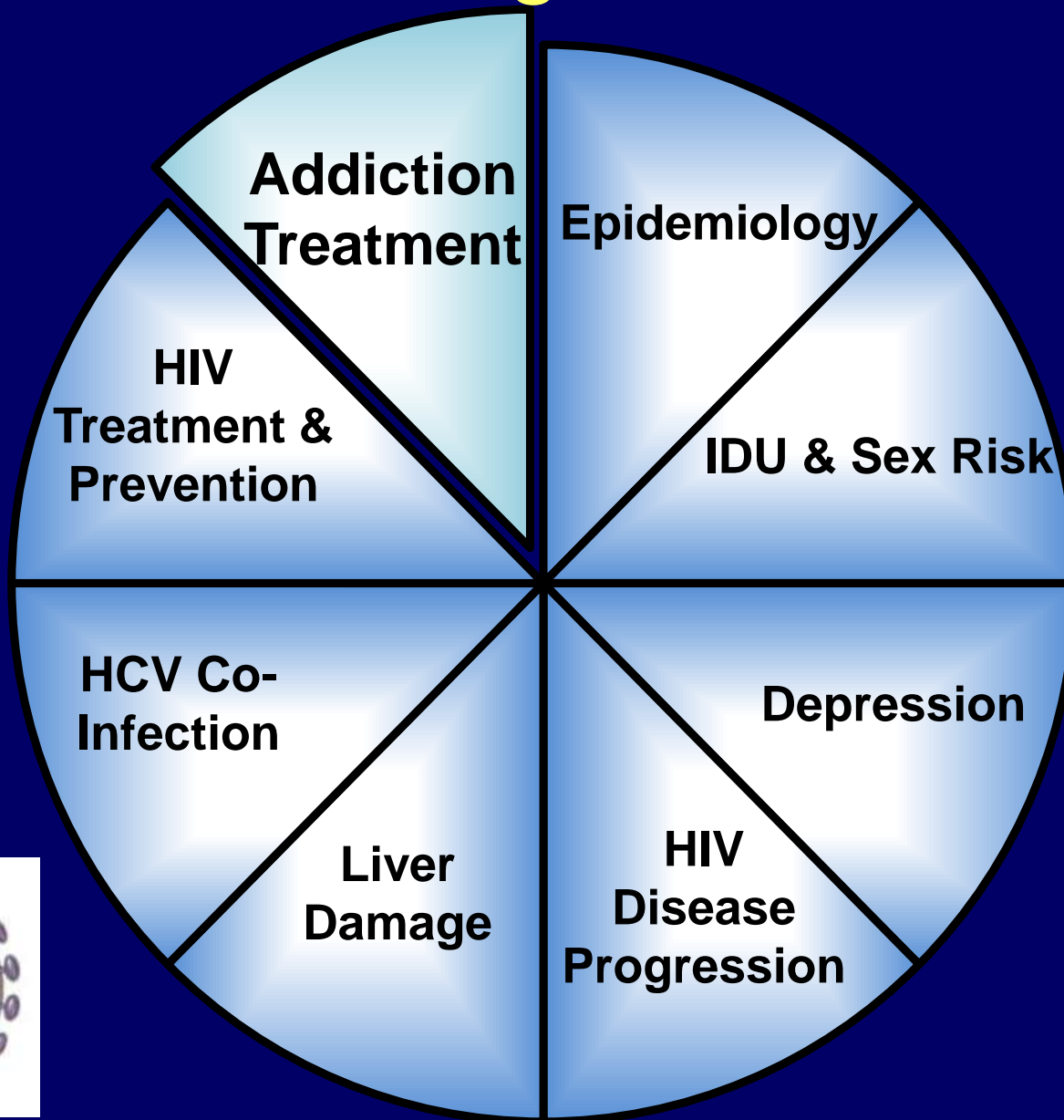
- History of prior drug use is an insufficient reason for withholding ART
- Usually, it is possible to support active drug users such that acceptable ART adherence levels are achieved
  - Requires coordination of drug treatment, medical and psychiatric care, and harm reduction services (e.g., syringe exchange)

# PRe-Exposure Prophylaxis (PREP) in IDUs

- RCT of tenofovir in IDUs enrolled in methadone clinics in Thailand (n=2413)
- Participants chose either daily DOT or monthly visits and could switch at monthly visits
- Tenofovir significantly associated with reduction in HIV incidence

	Tenofovir	Placebo	% Reduction (95% CI)
Infections/person years	17/4843	33/4823	48.9 (9.6-72.2)

# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV



# Behavior Change After Testing HIV Positive

- HIV Cost and Services Utilization Study (HCSUS) sample of HIV-infected persons in medical care in 1996 (n=2,864)\*
  - 80% of substance users quit or cut down drug use since diagnosis
  - Persons with CD4 counts <50 at some point were also more likely to quit or reduce substance use
- IDUs in the Ukraine (n=1,798), after testing positive for HIV:†
  - Less unprotected sex (OR 0.6, CI 0.4-0.7)

\* Collins, Kanouse, Gifford, et al. *Health Psychol.* 2001;20:351-60.

† Booth, Lehman, Dvoryak, Brewster, Sinitsyna. *Addiction.* 2009;104:1864-1873.

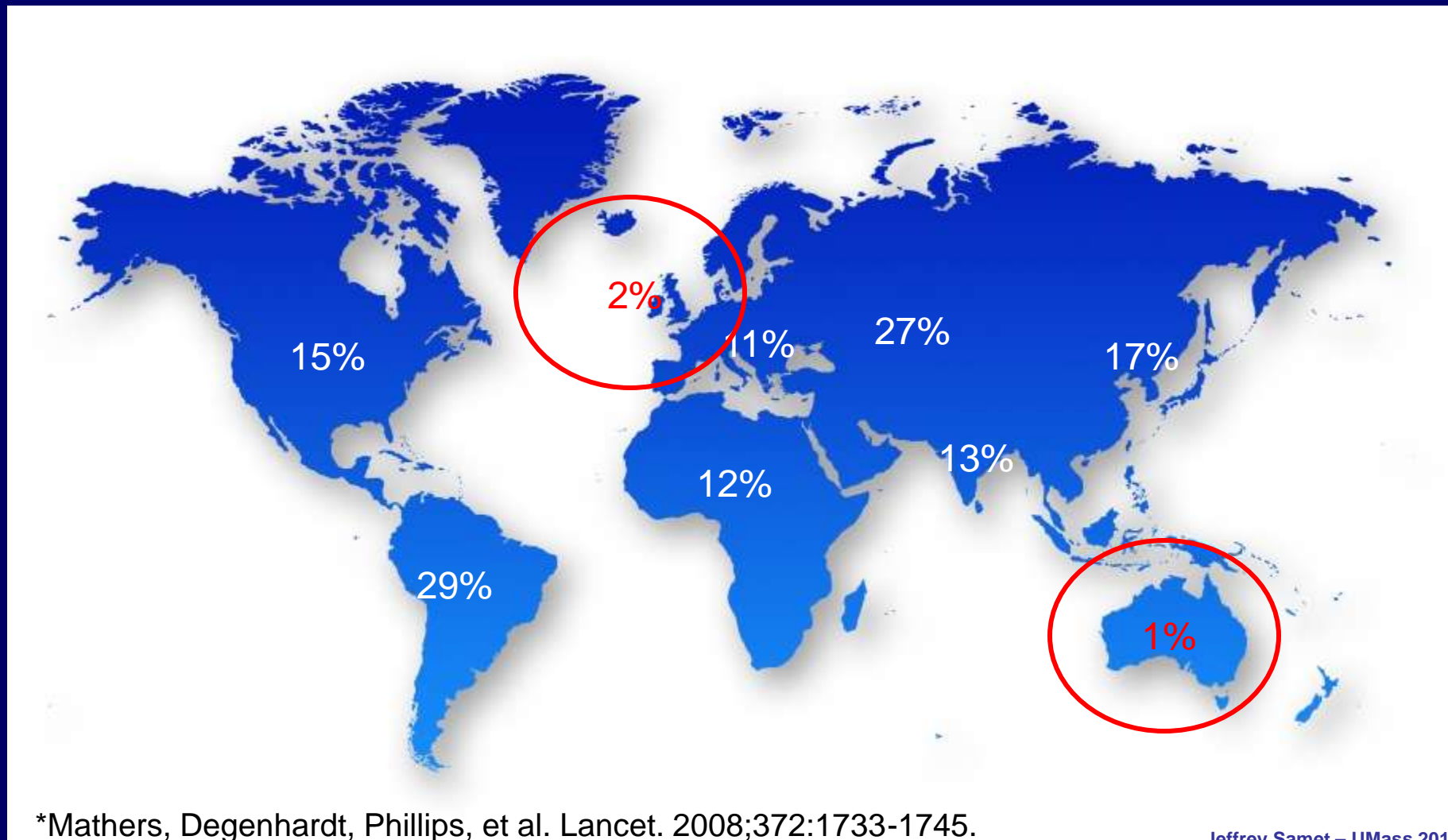
# Needle Exchange Program (NEP)

- Review of 42 studies from 1989-1999 among IDUs\*
  - Decrease in HIV risk behavior
  - Decrease in HIV seroconversion
- Review of 7 international studies from 1991-2001†
  - Cost-effective
  - Feasible to implement internationally
  - Applicable to special populations

\* Gibson, Flynn, Perales. *AIDS*. 2001;15:1329-1341.

† Wodak, Cooney. *Substance Use & Misuse*. 2006;41:777-813.

# Global HIV Prevalence Among IDUs



\*Mathers, Degenhardt, Phillips, et al. Lancet. 2008;372:1733-1745.

# Availability of Syringe Distribution and Exchange

- Great Britain and Australia have some of the lowest HIV prevalence rates among IDUs (~2%\* and ~1%†)
- Reflects early adoption of harm reduction measures (c. 1986)†
  - Needle exchange programs
  - Opioid agonist treatment

\* Mathers, Degenhardt, Phillips, et al. *Lancet*. 2008;372:1733-1745.

† Wodak, Maher. *NSW Public Health Bulletin*. 2010;21:69-73.

# Addiction Pharmacotherapy

- Heroin\*
  - Methadone
  - Buprenorphine
  - Injectable naltrexone
- Alcohol\*
  - Naltrexone
  - Acamprosate
  - Disulfiram
- Cocaine: none (only investigational<sup>†</sup>)
  - Modafinil
  - GABA-ergic compounds (e.g. vigabatrin, topiramate)
  - Disulfiram
  - Vaccine (TA-CD)
- Methamphetamine: no medications

\* Bruce, Kresina, McCance-Katz. *AIDS*. 2010; 24:331-340.

<sup>†</sup> Kampman. *Curr Psychiatry Rep*. 2010; 12:441-447.



# Addressing Addiction in HIV Care

- HIV-infected adults (n=951) receiving care at 14 sites\*
  - 71% using substances; 24% receiving substance use treatment
  - Less than half reported discussing substance use issues with HIV care provider
- Need for providers to address substance use problems
- Audio-tapes of physician-patient encounters (n=413)<sup>†</sup>
- Quality of patient-provider communication
  - Good for illicit drug users
  - Worse for those with unhealthy alcohol use (shorter visit length, fewer activating/engaging and psychosocial counseling statements)

\* Korthuis, Josephs, Fleishman, et al. *J Subst Abuse Treat.* 2008;35:294-303.

<sup>†</sup> Korthuis, Saha, Chander, et al. *AIDS Behav.* 2011;15:832-841.

# OAT & HIV Outcomes

- HIV-infected Vancouver IDUs on ART, 1996-2003 (n=278)\*
  - Methadone OAT associated with
    - Good adherence (OR 1.5; 95% CI 1.2-2.0)
    - HIV RNA suppression (OR 1.3, CI 1.0-1.8)
    - CD4 cell count rise (OR 1.6, CI 1.3-2.0)
- Prospective cohort of ART-naïve, HIV-infected IDUs in Vancouver, 1996-2008 (n=231)<sup>†</sup>
  - Methadone OAT associated with
    - Earlier ART initiation (RH 1.6, CI 1.2-2.3)

\* Palepu, Tyndall, Joy, et al. *Drug Alcohol Depend.* 2006;188-194.

<sup>†</sup> Uhlmann, Milloy, Kerr, et al. *Addiction.* 2010;105:907-913.

# OAT and HIV Transmission

- Meta-analysis of studies that assessed methadone OAT and HIV incidence in IDUs (n=9 studies)
- OAT associated with 54% reduction in risk of acquiring HIV (RR 0.46, CI 0.32-0.67)
- Methadone detoxification treatment not associated with decrease in risk (RR 1.54, CI 1.05-2.26)

# Buprenorphine OAT

- Advantage of buprenorphine OAT\*
  - Efficacy and retention comparable to methadone
  - Milder withdrawal symptoms
  - Very low risk of overdose
  - Decreased risk of abuse and diversion with *buprenorphine/naloxone (bup/nal)*
- Can be effectively delivered in primary care (e.g. a collaborative nurse care-manager model†)

\* Johnson, Chutuape, Strain, Walsh, Stitzer, Bigelow. *New Engl J Med*. 2000; 343:1290-1297.

† Alford, LaBelle, Kretsch, et al. *Arch Intern Med*. 2011; 171:425-431.

# Buprenorphine OAT

- Longitudinal analysis of HIV+ patients on *bup/nal* (n=166)
  - *bup/nal* associated with significant reductions in HIV sex and drug-related risk behaviors from baseline to 12 and 24 weeks

	BL	12 wks.	24 wks.	P value
IDU in past 3 months	37%	12%	7%	< 0.001
Sex while “high”	64%	13%	15%	< 0.001

# Drug Interactions: ART and Addiction Pharmacotherapy

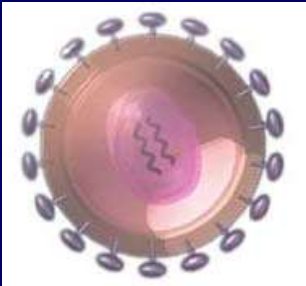
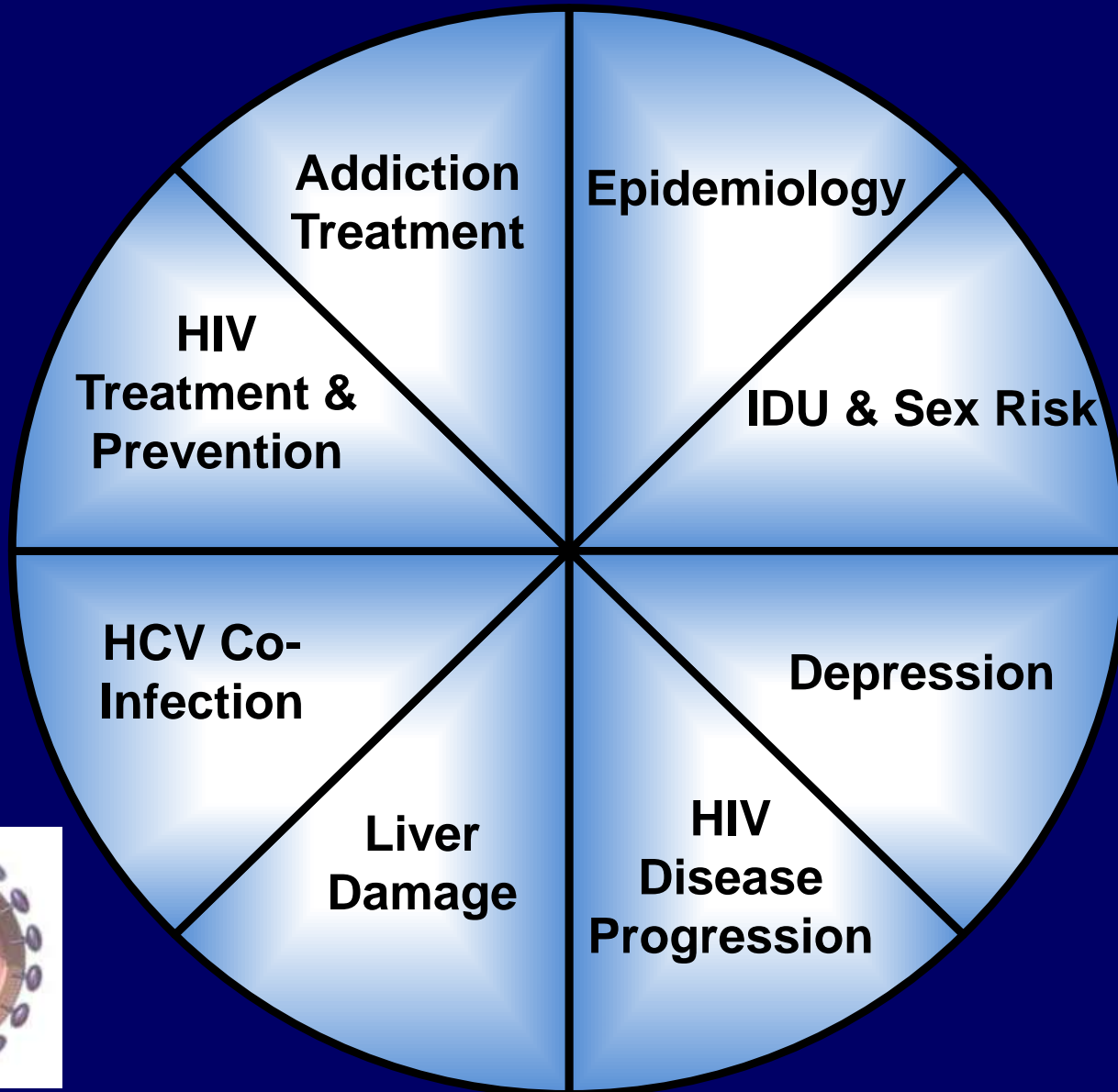
- IDUs receiving ART and OAT (n=120)\*
  - Median methadone dose increase:
    - 20 mg/d ( $p<0.001$ ) with nevirapine
    - 7.5 mg/d ( $p=0.004$ ) with efavirenz
  - No significant increase required for patients on ritonavir-boosted lopinavir
- Buprenorphine had no effect on early and newer protease inhibitors (early PIs n=30<sup>†</sup>) (newer PIs n=21<sup>‡</sup>)

\* Tossonian, Raffa, Grebely, et al. *JAIDS*. 2007;45:324-327.

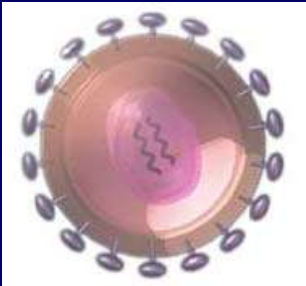
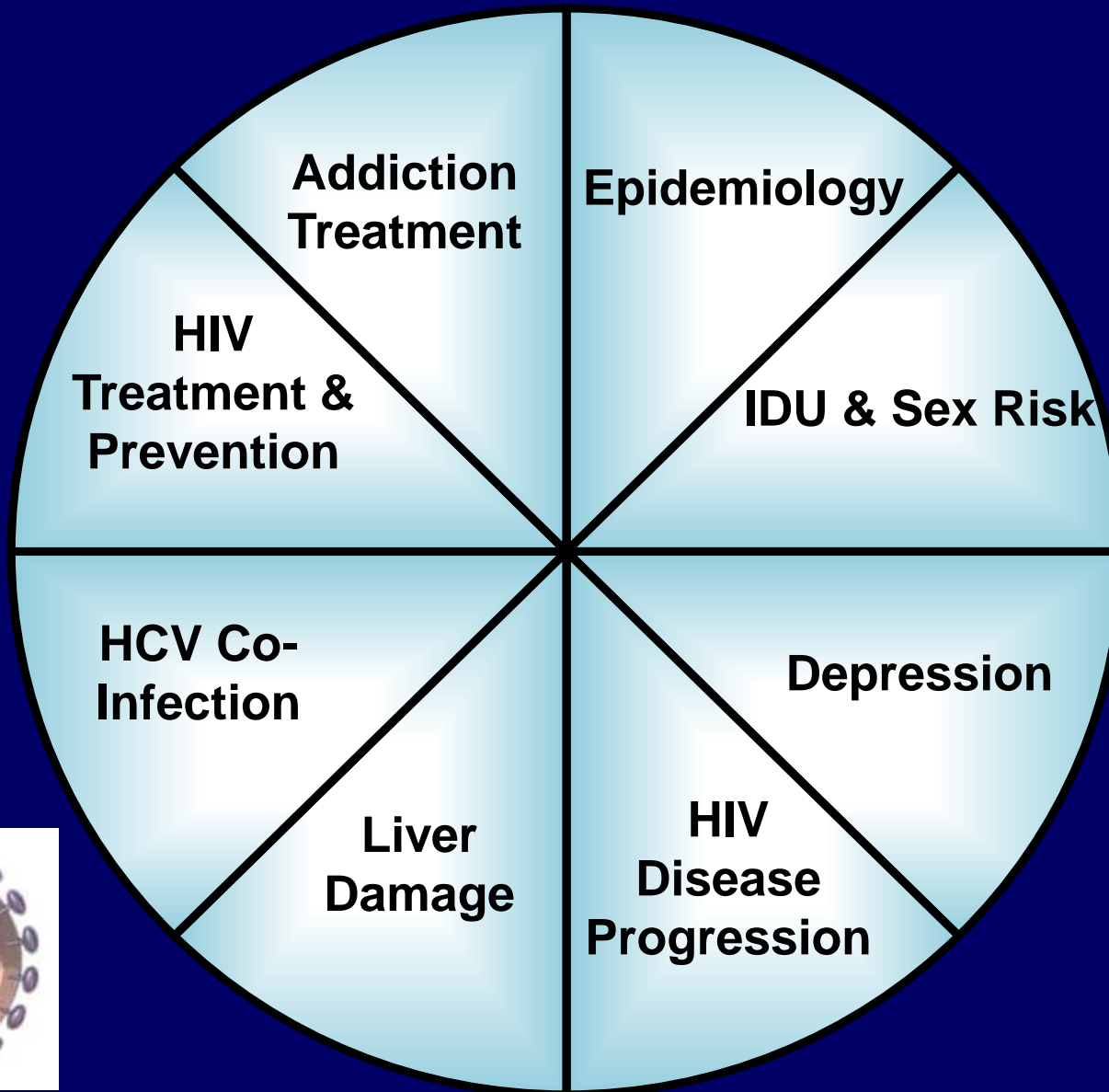
† McCance-Katz, Moody, Smith, et al. *CID*. 2006;43:S235-246.

‡ Gruber, Rainey, Moody, et al. *CID*. 2012;54:414-423.

# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV



# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV

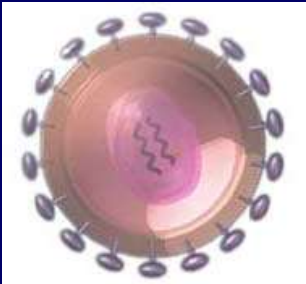




# Alcohol, Drug Use, and HIV

## Current Research Studies:

- LINC
- URBAN ARCH
- ZINC



# LINC

- Linking Infectious and Narcology Care
- R01 DA032082 (07/2011 - 04/2016)
- RCT of a behavioral and structural intervention to support and motivate HIV-infected Russian IDUs to engage in HIV medical care (n=350)
- Outcomes:
  - Initiation of HIV care
  - Retention in HIV care
  - Receipt of *quality* HIV care
  - HIV disease progression



# Uganda Russia Boston Alcohol Network for Alcohol Research Collaboration on HIV/AIDS

## URBAN ARCH Theme:

Examine the consequences of alcohol on HIV disease and  
mitigate its harmful effects.

[www.urbanarch.org](http://www.urbanarch.org)





## Uganda Russia Boston Alcohol Network for Alcohol Research Collaboration on HIV/AIDS

- **Uganda Cohort:** Does heavy alcohol consumption accelerate HIV disease progression in ART-naïve HIV-infected individuals?
  - PI: Judith Hahn (U01 AA020776)
  - Prospective Cohort (n=650)
  - Biomarkers: CD4, HIV VL, PEth (n=250 - IL-6, sCD14)
  - Status: 307 enrolled (6/13)



## Uganda Russia Boston Alcohol Network for Alcohol Research Collaboration on HIV/AIDS

- **Boston Cohort:** Is alcohol use associated with decreased bone density among HIV-infected drug users?
  - PI: Richard Saitz (U01 AA020784)
  - Prospective Cohort (n=250)
  - Biomarkers: CD4, HIV VL, PEth, vit D
  - Bone mineral densitometry
  - High resolution peripheral quantitative CTStatus: 81 enrolled (6/13)
- Concurrent double-blind placebo-controlled RCT (n=100):
  - Can high-dose buprenorphine/naloxone (32mg) reduce heavy drinking days compared to standard-dose (16mg) at 3 months?



# Uganda Russia Boston Alcohol Network for Alcohol Research Collaboration on HIV/AIDS

- **Russia Cohort:** Is heavy alcohol use associated with elevated inflammatory markers in ART-naïve HIV-infected individuals?
  - PI: Jeffrey Samet (U01 AA020780)
  - Prospective Cohort (n=250)
  - Biomarkers: sCD14, D-dimer, CD4, IL-6
  - Status: 61 enrolled (6/13)

# ZINC

- Zinc for INflammation and Chronic disease in HIV (ZINC)
- Multiple PIs: Matthew Freiberg and Jeffrey Samet
- Double-blind RCT to assess the efficacy of zinc supplementation among 250 HIV-infected Russian ART-naïve heavy drinkers
  - Improve markers of mortality (VACS index)
  - Slow HIV disease progression (CD4 cell count)
  - Improve markers of acute MI risk (Reynolds score)
  - Decrease microbial translocation and inflammation (biomarkers)
- 2012-2017
- NIAAA (U01 AA021989)

# International Research Team

## Uganda Team

- Judy Hahn, PhD, MA
- Nneka Emenyonu, MPH
- Peter Hunt, MD
- Winnie Muyindike, MBChB, MMED
- Robin Fatch, MPH
- Starley Shade, PhD

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- Evgeny Krupitsky, MD, PhD, DMSci
- Elena Blokhina, MD, PhD
- Edwin Zvartau, MD, PhD, DMSci
- Elena Verbitskaya, PhD
- Arina Tyurina, MD
- Natasha Bushara, MD

## Ukrainian Investigators

- Tetiana Kiriazova, PhD (Ukraine)

## Boston Team

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- Matt Freiberg, MD, MSc
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- Debbie Cheng, ScD
- Chris Chaisson, MPH
- Laura Wulach, MPH
- Natalia Gnatienko, MPH
- Richard Saitz, MD, MPH
- Seville Meli, MPH
- Michael Holick, PhD, MPH
- Meg Sullivan, MD
- David Fiellin, MD





# URBAN ARCH Consortium

~ April 2013 ~