Case Information:

39 patients diagnosed with acute hepatitis C
2.9 cases per 100,000 people
314% increase since 2013

Maine has the 9th highest rate of acute hepatitis C in the US

Risk Factors:

51.3% Were people who injected drugs
35.9% Were incarcerated prior to infection
35.9% Were people who used non-injection drugs
7.7% Received an unlicensed tattoo prior to infection
7.7% Were people with multiple sex partners
5.1% Were born between 1945-1965

Contact Investigations:

• 97% of patients had symptoms
• 97% of patients had elevated liver enzyme lab results
• 44% of patients had jaundice

• 31% of patients were hospitalized

Demographics:

56% of patients were male
33 years old on average
85% White
5% American Indian/Alaska Native
2% Black
8% Unknown

Geography:

Prevention:

• Do not share syringes or injection kit equipment
• Get tested for hepatitis C, especially if you are a person who injects drugs, were ever incarcerated, were born between 1945-1965, or received an unlicensed tattoo
• If you have hepatitis C, seek medical care
• Get vaccinated against hepatitis B, especially if you have hepatitis C

For more information visit:
https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/index.htm

All suspected or confirmed cases of hepatitis C must be immediately reported to Maine CDC by calling 1-800-821-5821.