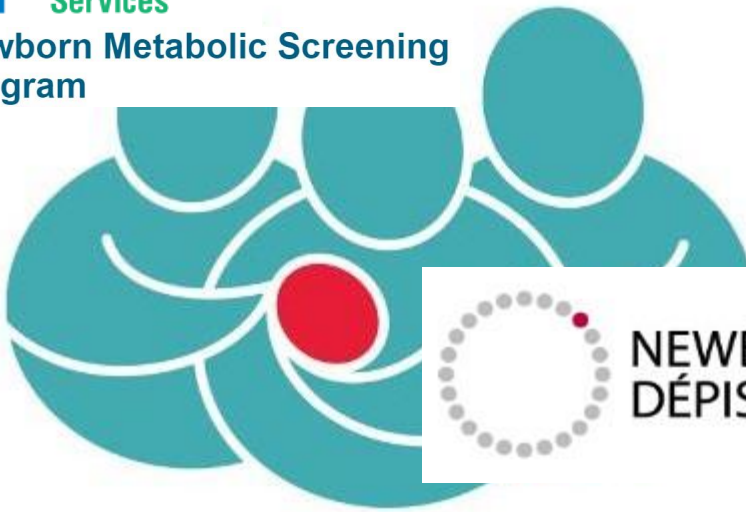




**dried blood spots – seeking ‘mino-pimatisiwin’
through community-led decentralized testing**



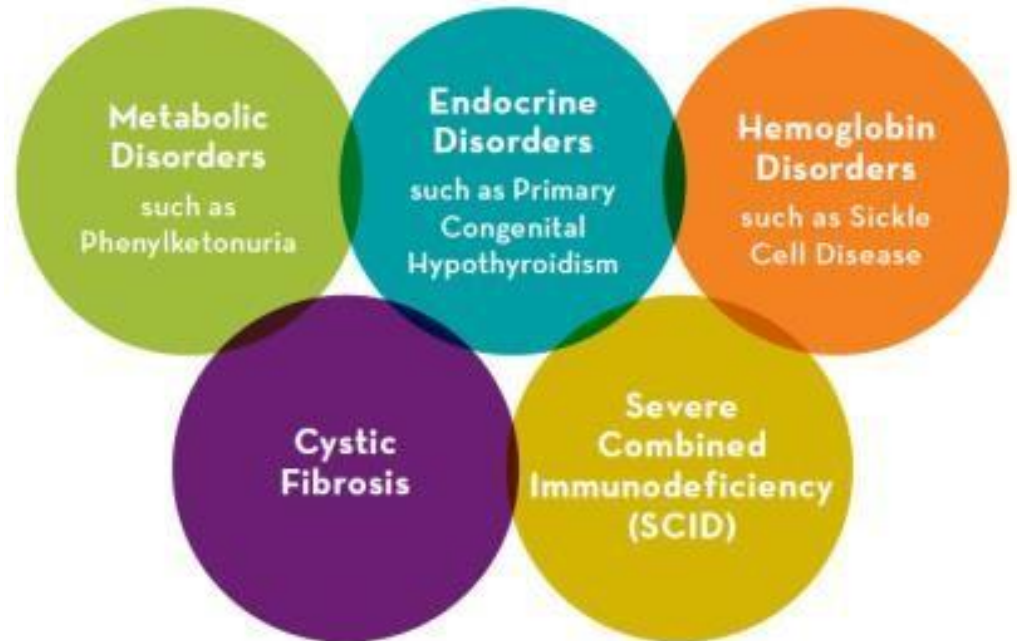
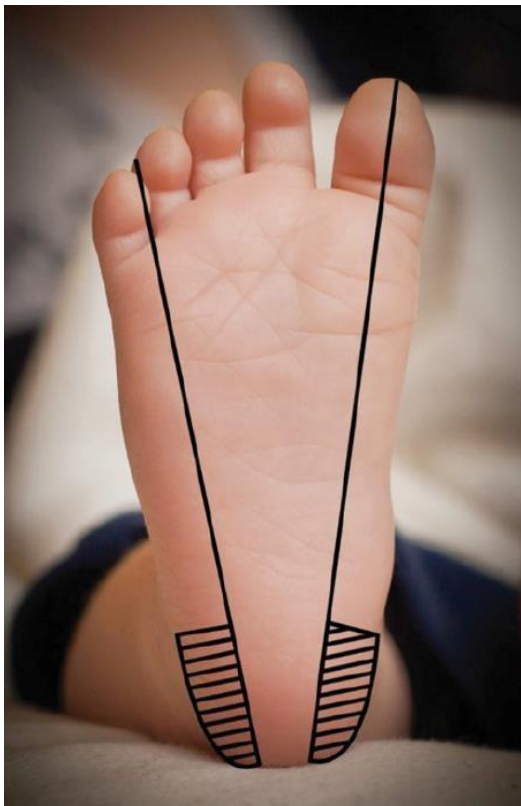
MARITIME
Newborn Screening
PROGRAM



NEWBORN SCREENING ONTARIO
DÉPISTAGE NÉONATAL ONTARIO

onatal

DES MARITIMES





tb

clinical chemistry

HbA_{1c}

syphilis

HIV

CoV-2

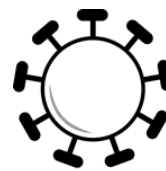
Hep C

CT/NG

Hep B

HSV-1/2

HTLV



JC WILT
INFECTIOUS DISEASES RESEARCH CENTRE 

British Columbia

Just 5 drops of blood could help fight hep C on remote B.C. reserves

CBC News · Posted: Nov 18, 2019 2:00 AM PT



Carrier Sekani wellness worker Lydia Thomas screens elders from remote B.C. communities for hepatitis

New HIV screening method leads to apparent spike in testing at Sask. First Nations

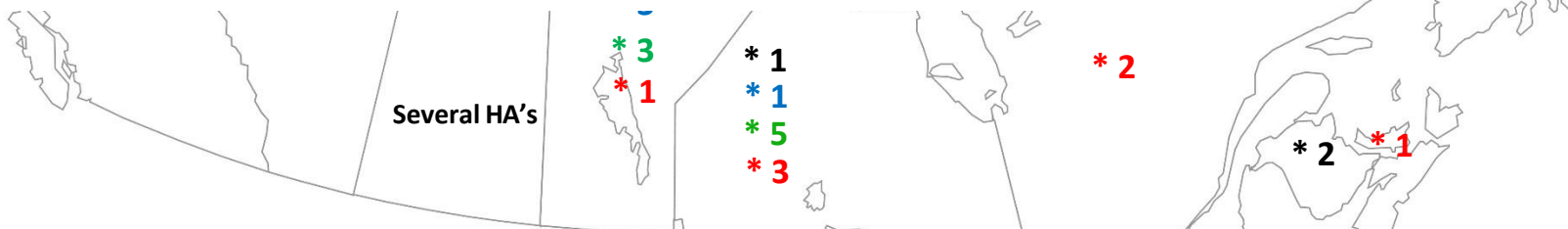
Doctor says problems with racism in healthcare system deter people from getting tested

Alicia Bridges · CBC News · Posted: Feb 16, 2018 1:56 PM CT | Last Updated: February 16



ECHO+: Improving access to hepatitis C care within Indigenous communities in Alberta, Canada

Kate PR Dunn BSN MPH¹, Kienan P Williams BSc, MPH¹, Cari E Egan BN, MSc, PhD¹,
Melissa L Potestio MSc, PhD^{1,2}, Samuel S Lee MD, FRCPC^{#3}



Indigenous –Led Culturally-Relevant DBS Screening (2018-2019)

Wish to enter into this:

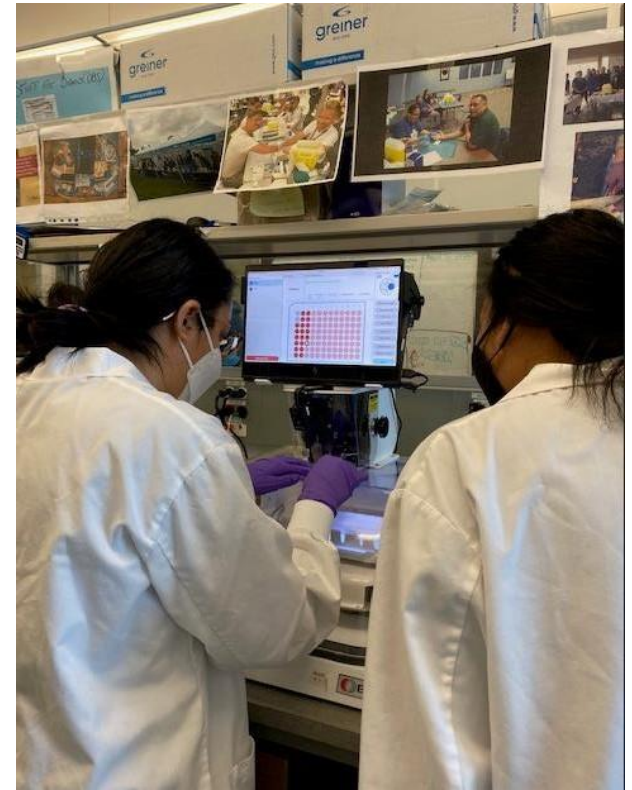


Collaborative Relationship Protocol (CRP)

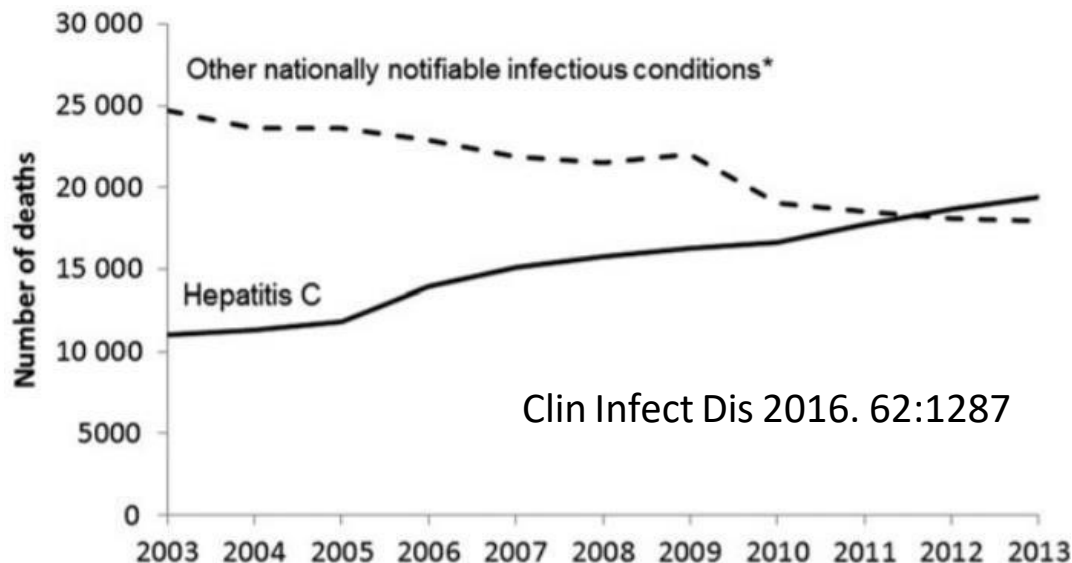


On

Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council COVID-19 Vaccine Study into Immune Response, Effectiveness and Safety (“Project”)



Hepatitis C Kills More Americans than Any Other Infectious Disease



The hepatitis C epidemic in Canada: An overview *CCDR* 2021. 47:505.


Hepatitis C continues to be a significant public health concern in Canada, with the

hepatitis C virus (HCV) responsible for more life-years lost than all other

infectious diseases in Canada. An increase in reported hepatitis C infections was



ECHO+: Improving access to hepatitis C care within Indigenous communities in Alberta, Canada

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Hepatitis C can happen to anyone !

HCV - DBS publications



Usefulness of **dried blood** spot samples for monitoring **hepatitis C** treatment outcome and reinfection among people who inject drugs in a **test-and-treat** program.

Dried Blood Spot Tests for the Diagnosis and Therapeutic Monitoring of HIV and Viral **Hepatitis B** and **C**.

Laboratory-based testing for **hepatitis C** infection using **dried blood** spot samples: A systematic review and meta-analysis of diagnostic accuracy.

370

128
HCV-pos

77

standard

51

DBS

DBS and Engagement !



Differences among hepatitis C patients seen in community and specialist outpatient care settings

Stefanie Materniak MSc¹, Samantha Bland BSc², Alyssa Margeson MSc³,
Duncan Webster MD, FRCPC^{1,2}, Daniel Smyth MD, FRCPC^{2,3}, Meaghan O'Brien MD, FRCPC^{2,4}

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS
OPIOID AGONIST THERAPY
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS
HARM REDUCTION
THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC
HEPATITIS C



March 8, 2023

To: All Alberta Medical Officers of Health

Dear Colleagues:

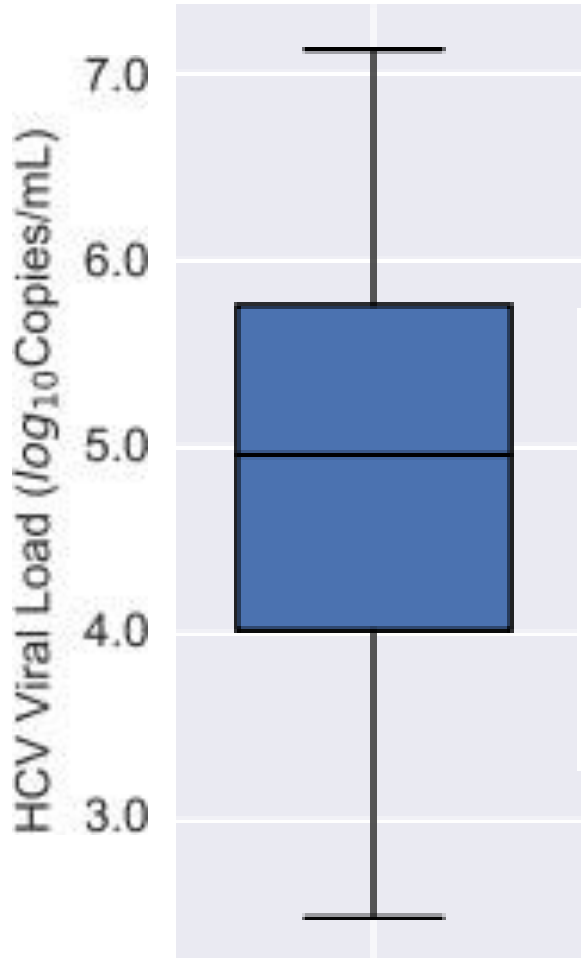
Re: Dried Blood Spot (DBS) Testing for HIV/HBV/HCV and reporting requirements

Dried Blood Spot (DBS) testing is being used in some parts of Alberta and can be a valuable tool to assist in diagnosing Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), especially in remote communities and in hard to reach populations. DBS testing performed at an accredited laboratory is considered an appropriate clinical specimen for the confirmation of HIV/HBV/HCV infection. The following DBS test results meet the confirmed case definition and reporting requirements as outlined in the [Alberta Health Public Health Disease Management Guidelines](#):

Confirmed cases

- HCV antibody positive & HCV RNA positive
- HIV antibody positive & HIV RNA positive
- HBsAg positive & HBV DNA positive

HCV viral load –DBS (2017-22)

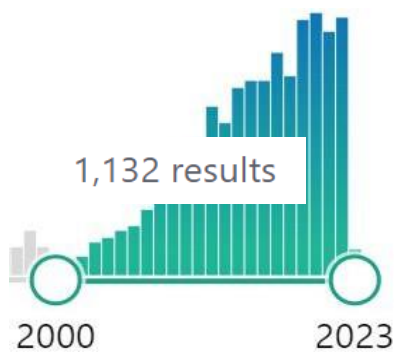
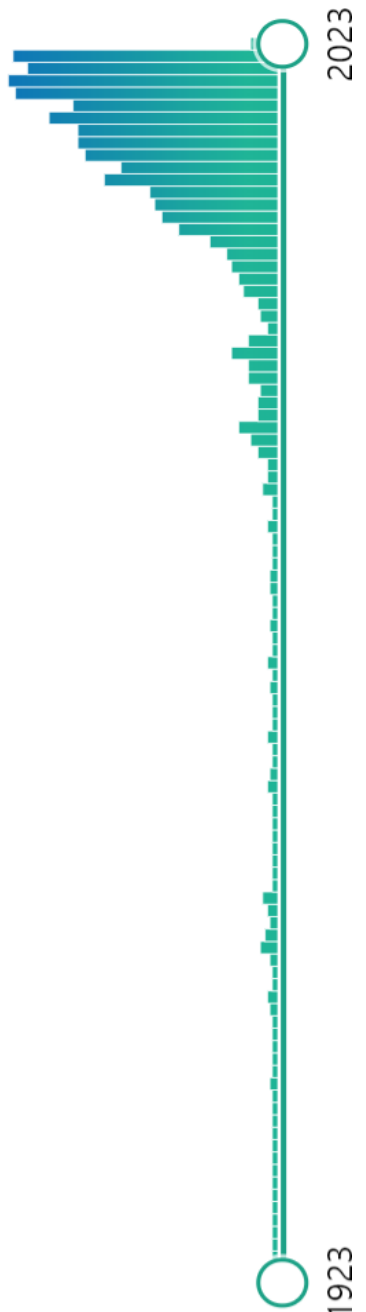


All Years (n=525)

Copies/mL	Log ₁₀ Copies/mL	N= (%)
[316 - 1 995]	[2.5, 3.3]	92 (17.5)
[1 995 - 10 000]	[3.3, 4.0]	41 (7.8)
[10 000 - 63 096]	[4.0, 4.8]	105 (20.0)
[63 096 - 398 107]	[4.8, 5.6]	130 (24.8)
[398 107 - 2 511 886]	[5.6, 6.4]	118 (22.5)
[2 511 811 - 12 589 254]	[6.4, 7.1]	39 (7.4)

NLHRS – F. Cholette, P.Lacap

Hepatitis C can happen to anyone !



COVID/STBBI - DBS publications

	COVID	HIV, HCV, syphilis	
2020	30	211	
2021	127	177	
2022	138	176	
	N= 295	N=564	

F. Cholette - NLHRS

- Davisse-Paturet, C et al. 2022.
- Madhi, SA et al. 2022.
- Talaei, M et al. 2021.
- Robertson, MM et al. 2022
- Galla, L., et al. 2023.
- Fadel, M et al. 2022.
- Moat, SJ et al. 2022.



>> 100,000 DBS-COVID



**COVID-19 IMMUNITY
TASK FORCE**



**Statistics
Canada**

**Statistique
Canada**

Canada Is Mailing Thousands Of At-Home Blood Tests To Canadians For A COVID-19 Survey

You need to prick your own finger and send it back.



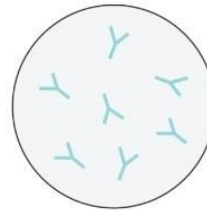
Blood from a fingerprick is placed onto a dried blood spot (DBS) card.



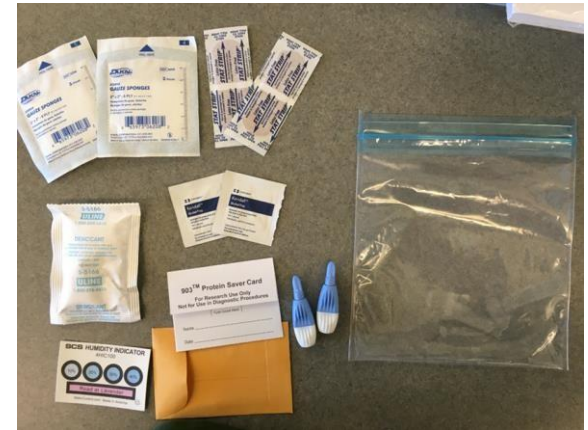
The completed DBS is sealed, packaged, labelled and shipped to a lab.



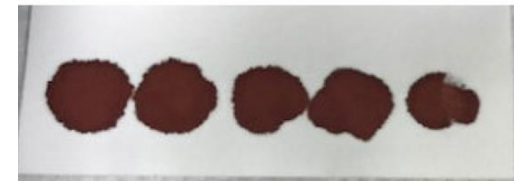
DBS samples are then analyzed for the presence of antibodies against SARS-CoV-2.



Different types and targets of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies can be detected in a positive sample.



Canadian COVID-19 Antibody and Health Survey (CCAHS)





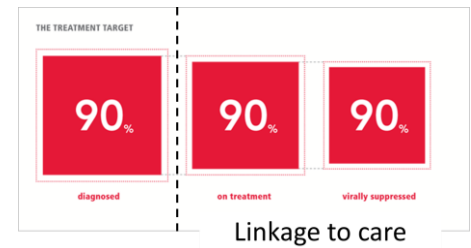
***tlecko !
woliwon !
hay-hay !
miigwetch !
maarsii !
merci !
thank you !***

Hepatitis C can happen to anyone !



Diagnostic testing and Linkage-to-Care (L2C)

(It's not just about sensitivity !)



C. Proportion of patients successfully treated (%)

