Acute hepatitis C

On average during 2001–2012, there were 22 acute hepatitis C cases reported annually in Oregon. In 2012, 39 cases were reported; 26 (67%) of the cases were <40 years of age, and 15 (38%) were female. Injection drug use remains the predominant risk factor reported by cases (59%). Currently there is no vaccine for hepatitis C.
Acute hepatitis C by age and sex: Oregon, 2012

Prevention

• Health care workers: use universal precautions and best practices to prevent needle stick injuries.
• Persons who inject drugs can:
  ▪ Avoid sharing needles or works with others.
  ▪ Use only clean needles and works.
  ▪ Purchase new sterile needles from pharmacies.