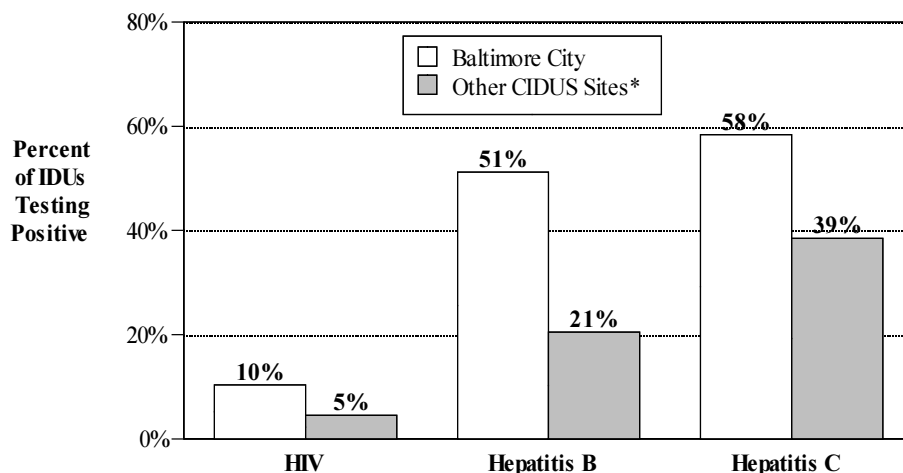


## ***Young Injection Drug Users in Baltimore City Have Twice the Rate of HIV and Hepatitis B Infection as IDUs in Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and New York City***

An ongoing study in Baltimore, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institute on Drug Abuse, reports high prevalence of HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C infection among young injection drug users (IDUs). The study included 212 IDUs aged 15 to 30 in Baltimore City who initiated their injecting career within the preceding 5 years. HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C prevalence rates in this study were considerably higher than the average prevalence rates for four other cities\* also participating in the Collaborative Injection Drug User Studies (CIDUS-II) (personal communication, Dr. Edgar Monterroso, CDC). For more information, contact Dr. Steffanie Strathdee of Johns Hopkins School of Public Health at 410-614-4255 or Dr. David Vlahov of the New York Academy of Medicine at 212-822-7383.

**Prevalence of HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C Among Young Injection Drug Users, Baltimore City vs. Other CIDUS Sites, 1999**



\*Other sites participating in the Collaborative Injection Drug User Studies (CIDUS) are Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and New York City

SOURCE: C Fuller, D Vlahov, M Safaeian, D Ompad, and SA Strathdee, *Correlates of HIV Infection among Newly Initiated Adolescent and Young Injection Drug Users*, Society for Epidemiologic Research 32nd Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, June 10-12, 1999.

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