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A National HIV Testing Week Briefing for Saving Lives Volunteers

Hepatitis-C

- Hepatitis-C is a blood-borne virus that affects the liver.
- Half of those with hepatitis-C in the UK are undiagnosed.
- There are around fifty million people worldwide infected with hepatitis-C.
- Despite being a curable infection, only 3% of people with hepatitis-C receive treatment each year.
- Almost half of hepatitis-C hospital admissions are unplanned, putting huge strain on the NHS.
- Early treatment of hepatitis-C prevents fatal liver damage - late diagnosis may not.
- Almost half of those attending hospital for hepatitis-C are from the poorest fifth of our society.

Saving Lives

- Saving Lives is a mass media campaign designed to increase mainstream coverage of blood-borne viruses.
- It is the first UK-based testing campaign to boast the support of many Premiership footballers and their clubs.
- It speaks about hepatitis and HIV in a fresh, positive and accessible way in an effort to combat stigma.
- Prejudice dissuades people from testing, and therefore damages health – that's why we're fighting it by challenging preconceptions.
- We provide free promotional material to NHS clinics and local authorities nationwide, making awareness-raising affordable.
- Hepatitis-C testing saves lives. It's that simple.