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STRATEGY NETWORK

Syringe Exchange: Indicators of Need & Success

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The recent outbreak of HIV in southern Indiana among injectors of Opana brings attention to the lack of a strong public health system in these communities.

Syringe exchange programs (SEPs) are part of a comprehensive public health response to HIV and Hepatitis C. Key indicators of need for SEPs include reported Hepatitis C, and injection drug use. CDC indicates that between 50-90% of people with HCV are co-infected with HIV.