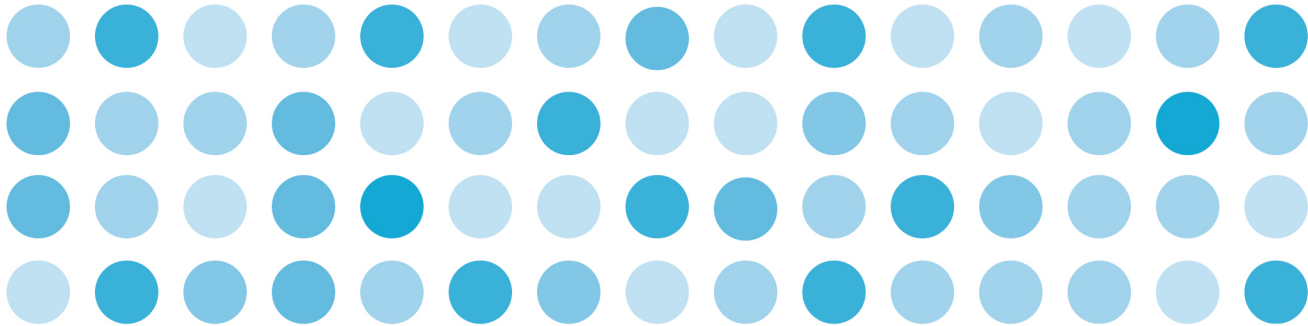


25-26 October 2010
Melbourne Cricket Ground



Anex 2010
**AUSTRALIAN
DRUGS
CONFERENCE**
Public Health and Harm Reduction

Nicole Hallahan



NSP – A Practical Experience

Presented by Nicole Hallahan

NSP/Community Education Worker

Health Works – Western Region Health Centre



NSP Service

- First Point of contact
- Confidential, respectful and responsive service
- Building relations with NSP service users



NSP Practical Training

- Not just a vending Machine – vehicle for harm reduction
- Prevention of harm if equipment used correctly
- Nothing external of the practical nature currently available for NSP staff



Training Content

- Training in response to local drug market
- Range of equipment available
- What drug/substance is equipment used for?
- Location on the body someone is going to inject?
- Where are they going to go to inject e.g. out in the street/laneway?
- Harm reduction – how we do this in a practical way



NSP Practical Training

- All HW's staff both permanent and interim are taken through this package either in a group or individually
- Package is designed in a way that future staff will be able to run with it

Some of the Equipment available





Benefits

- All staff are trained to the same level
- New inexperienced staff 'hands on' training
- Same messages to service users regardless of staffing
- Ability to provide service users with practical demonstrations of equipment as well as written information



Feedback

- “A great practical experience”
- “It’s good to have training where you get to practice before you have to do it”
- “I found the hands–on part really useful”
- “I didn’t feel pressured to know everything all at once”
- “It was beneficial to be able to learn at my own pace”



Summary

- As the injecting world and the equipment available to injectors improves and changes so does the need of NSP staff to be up to date with the latest information, both on what it is being injected and the safest way in which to do this
- At Health Works the NSP staff are viewed as experts in their field, and with this comes the need for relevant and practical training opportunities that will benefit both staff and service users alike