Section 2

Demographics

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Demographics

There were 16 people with hepatitis D that took part in this study, 14 completed the online questionnaire and 12 were interviewed for this study. There were 8 female participants (50.00%), participants were aged from 25 to 74 years of age, most were aged between 25 to 44 years (n=9, 56.25%).

Participants were most commonly from Victoria (n=6, 37.50%), New South Wales (n=5, 31.25%), and Queensland (n=3, 18.75%). Most participants were from major cities (n=13, 81.25%), and they mostly lived in areas with higher socioeconomic advantage, defined by Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) (www.abs.gov.au) with 2 participants (12.50%) from an area with a mid to low SEIFA score of 1 to 6 (less advantage), and 14 participants (87.50%) from an area of higher SEIFA scores of 7 to 10 (more advantaged).

There were 9 participants (56.25%) that had completed university to at least an associate degree. There were 9 participants who were in paid employment. There were 4 participants (28.57%) were carers to family members or spouses, most commonly carers to children, parents (n=2, 14.29%).

Other health conditions

The majority of participants had at least one other condition that they had to manage (n=12, 85.71%), the maximum number reported was 13 other conditions, with a median of 3.50 other conditions (IQR = 5.00) (Table 2.3, Figure 2.2). The most commonly reported health condition was depression (self or doctor diagnosed) (n=7, 50.00%), followed by anxiety (self or doctor diagnosed) (n=7, 50.00%), sleep problems or insomnia (n=6, 42.86%), and hypertension (n=5, 35.71%).

Baseline health

SF36 Physical functioning scale measures health limitations in physical activities such as walking, bending, climbing stairs, exercise, and housework. On average, physical activities were slightly limited for participants in this study.

SF36 Role functioning/physical scale measures how physical health interferes with work or other activities. On average, physical health often interfered with work or other activities for participants in this study.

SF36 Role functioning/emotional scale measures how emotional problems interfere with work or other activities. On average, emotional problems sometimes interfered with work or other activities for participants in this study.

SF36 Energy/fatigue scale measures the proportion of energy or fatigue experienced. On average, participants were sometimes fatigued.

The **SF36 Emotional well-being** scale measures how a person feels, for example happy, calm, depressed or anxious. On average, participants had good emotional well-being.

The **SF36 Social functioning** scale measures limitations on social activities due to physical or emotional problems. On average, social activities were moderately limited for participants in this study.

The **SF36 Pain** scale measures how much pain, and how pain interferes with work and other activities. On average, participants had mild pain.

The **SF36 General health** scale measures perception of health. On average, participants reported average health.

The **SF36 Health change** scale measures health compared to a year ago. On average, participants reported that their health is about the same as a year ago.

Demographics

There were 16 people with hepatitis D that took part in this study, 14 completed the online questionnaire and 12 were interviewed for this study. There were 8 female participants (50.00%), participants were aged from 25 to 74 years of age, most were aged between 25 to 44 years (n=9, 56.25%).

Participants were most commonly from Victoria (n=6, 37.50%), New South Wales (n=5, 31.25%), and Queensland (n=3, 18.75%). Most participants were from major cities (n=13, 81.25%), and they mostly lived in areas with higher socioeconomic advantage, defined by Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)

Table 2.1: Demographics

(www.abs.gov.au) with 2 participants (12.50%) from an area with a mid to low SEIFA score of 1 to 6 (less advantage), and 14 participants (87.50%) from an area of higher SEIFA scores of 7 to 10 (more advantaged).

There were 9 participants (56.25%) that had completed university to at least an associate degree. There were 9 participants who were in paid employment.

There were 4 participants (28.57%) were carers to family members or spouses, most commonly carers to children, parents (n=2, 14.29%). The demographics of participants are listed in Table 2.1.

Demographics	Definition	Number (n=16)	Percent
Gender	Female	8	50.00
	Male	8	50.00
Age	18 - 24	0	0.00
•	25 – 34	5	31.25
	35 – 44	4	25.00
	55 - 64	5	31.25
	65 - 74	2	12 50
	65 - 74	0	0.00
Location	Major Cities of Australia	13	81.25
Location	Inner Regional Australia	2	12 50
	Outer Regional or remote Australia	1	6.25
	Remote Australia	0	0.00
State	Australian Capital Torritory	0	0.00
State	New South Wales	5	0.00
	New South Wales	5	31.25
	Queeneland	0	0.00
	Queensiand	3	16.75
	South Australia	1	6.25
	Tasmania	0	0.00
	Victoria	6	37.50
	Western Australia	1	6.25
Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)	1	2	12.50
	2	0	0.00
	3	0	0.00
	4	0	0.00
	5	0	0.00
	6	0	0.00
	7	1	6.25
	8	2	12.50
	9	6	37.50
	10	5	31.25
Race/ethnicity (n=14)	Caucasian/White	8	57.14
	African	2	14.29
	Other	4	28.57
Education	Less than high school degree	1	6.25
	High school degree or equivalent	1	6.25
	Some college but no degree	3	18.75
	Trade	2	12.50
	Bachelor degree	9	56.25
Employment (n=14)	Currently receiving Centrelink support	2	14.29
	Disabled not able to work		0.00
	Employed working full time	2	14.29
	Employed working part time	7	50.00
	Eull/part time carer	,	0.00
	Full/part time study	1	7.14
	Not Employed looking for work	1	7.14
	Potirod	2	21.42
Correr status (n=14)	keureu	3	21.43
Carer status (n=14)	ram not a carer	10	/1.43
	Children	2	14.29
	Grandchildren	1	7.14
	Parents	2	14.29

Other health conditions

Participants were asked about health conditions, other than hepatitis D and liver disease that they had to manage. Participants could choose from a list of common health conditions and could specify other conditions.

The majority of participants had at least one other condition that they had to manage (n=12, 85.71%), the maximum number reported was 13 other conditions, with a median of 3.50 other conditions (IQR = 5.00) (Table 2.3, Figure 2.2). The most commonly reported

health condition was depression (self or doctor diagnosed) (n=7, 50.00%), followed by anxiety (self or doctor diagnosed) (n=7, 50.00%), sleep problems or insomnia (n=6, 42.86%), and hypertension (n=5, 35.71%).







Table 2.3: Other health conditions

Other conditions	Number (n=14)	Percent
Depression (Self or doctor diagnosed)	7	50.00
Depression (that you diagnosed yourself)	0	0.00
Depression (that a doctor diagnosed)	7	50.00
Anxiety (Self or doctor diagnosed)	7	50.00
Anxiety (that you diagnosed) yourself	1	7.14
Anxiety (that a doctor diagnosed)	6	42.86
Sleep problems or insomnia	6	42.86
Hypertension	5	35.71
Chronic pain	4	28.57
High cholesterol	4	28.57
Arthritis	4	28.57
Chronic kidney disease	3	21.43
Asthma	3	21.43
COPD (Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)	2	14.29
Stroke	2	14.29
Cancer	2	14.29
Diabetes	1	7.14
Chronic heart failure	1	7.14
Angina	1	7.14



Figure 2.2: Other health conditions (% of all participants)

Subgroup analysis

Subgroup analysis are included throughout the study and the subgroups are listed in Table 2.5.

Comparisons were made by Gender, there were 8 Male participants (50.00%), and 8 Female participants (50.00%).

Participants were grouped according to age, with comparisons made between participants aged under 44 (n=9, 56.25%), and participants aged 45 and older (n=7, 43.75%).

Comparisons were made by education status, between those with trade or high school qualifications, Trade or high school (n=7, 43.75%), and those with a university qualification, University (n=9, 56.25%).

The location of participants was evaluated by postcode using the Australian Statistical Geography Maps (ASGS) Remoteness areas accessed from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Those living in regional/rural areas, Regional or remote (n=3, 18.75%) were compared to those living in a major city, Metropolitan (n=13, 81.25%).

Comparisons were made by socioeconomic status, using the Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) (www.abs.gov.au), SEIFA scores range from 1 to 10, a higher score denotes a higher level of advantage. Participants with a mid to low SEIFA score of 1-6, Mid to low status (n=2, 12.50%) compared to those with a higher SEIFA score of 7-10, Higher status (n=14, 87.50%).

Table 2.4: Subgroups

Subgroup	Definition	Number (n=16)	Percent
Gender	Male	8	50
	Female	8	50
Age	18 to 34	9	56.25
	35 to 54	7	43.75
Education	Trade or high school	7	43.75
	University	9	56.25
Location	Regional or remote	3	18.75
	Metropolitan	13	81.25
Economic advantage	Mid to low advantage	2	12.5
	Higher advantage	14	87.5

Baseline health

The Short Form Health Survey 36 (SF36) measures baseline health, or the general health of an individual. The SF36 comprises nine scales: physical functioning, role functioning/physical, role functioning/emotional, energy and fatigue, emotional well-being, social function, pain, general health, and health change from one year ago. The scale ranges from 0 to 100, a higher score denotes better health or function.

Summary statistics for the entire cohort are displayed alongside the possible range of each scale in Table 2.5, for scales with a normal distribution, the mean and SD should be used as a central measure, and median and IQR for scales that do not have a normal distribution.

The overall scores for the cohort were in the second highest quintile for SF36 Physical functioning (mean=68.93, SD=29.17), SF36 Emotional well-being (mean=63.43, SD=25.00), SF36 Pain (mean=70.18, SD=24.87), indicating good physical functioning, good emotional well-being, and mild pain,

The overall scores for the cohort were in the middle quintile for SF36 Role functioning/emotional Volume 6 (2023), Issue 3: PEEK Study in Hepatitis D (mean=52.38, SD=36.31), SF36 Energy/Fatigue (mean=46.07, SD=25.21), SF36 Social functioning (mean=58.93, SD=29.59), SF36 General health (mean=52.50, SD=25.40), SF36 Health change (median=50.00, IQR=25.00), indicating moderate emotional role functioning, moderate energy, moderate social functioning, moderate general health, and health about the same as a year ago

The overall scores for the cohort were in the second lowest quintile for SF36 Role functioning/physical (median=37.50, IQR=100.00), indicating poor physical role functioning.

Comparisons of SF36 have been made based on gender, age, education, location and socioeconomic status (Tables 2.6 to 2.13, Figures 2.3 to 2.29).

SF36 Physical functioning scale measures health limitations in physical activities such as walking, bending, climbing stairs, exercise, and housework. On average, physical activities were slightly limited for participants in this study.

SF36 Role functioning/physical scale measures how physical health interferes with work or other activities. On average, physical health often interfered with work or other activities for participants in this study.

SF36 Role functioning/emotional scale measures how emotional problems interfere with work or other activities. On average, emotional problems sometimes interfered with work or other activities for participants in this study.

SF36 Energy/fatigue scale measures the proportion of energy or fatigue experienced. On average, participants were sometimes fatigued.

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The **SF36 Pain** scale measures how much pain, and how pain interferes with work and other activities. On average, participants had mild pain.

The **SF36 General health** scale measures perception of health. On average, participants reported average health.

The **SF36 Health change** scale measures health compared to a year ago. On average, participants reported that their health is about the same as a year ago.

Table 2.5: SF36 summary statistics

SF36 scale (n=14)	Mean	SD	Median	IQR	Possible range	Quintile
Physical functioning*	68.93	29.17	72.50	42.50	0 to 100	4
Role functioning/physical	46.43	46.88	37.50	100.00	0 to 100	2
Role functioning/emotional*	52.38	36.31	66.67	33.33	0 to 100	3
Energy/Fatigue*	46.07	25.21	50.00	25.00	0 to 100	3
Emotional well-being*	63.43	25.00	62.00	37.00	0 to 100	4
Social functioning*	58.93	29.59	68.75	46.88	0 to 100	3
Pain*	70.18	24.87	72.50	24.38	0 to 100	4
General health*	52.50	25.40	55.00	21.25	0 to 100	3
Health change	60.71	25.41	50.00	25.00	0 to 100	3

*Normal distribution, use mean and SD as central measure. Possible range 0-100

SF36 by gender

Comparisons were made by Gender, there were 7Male participants (50.00%), and 7 Female participants (50.00%).

A two-sample t-test was used when assumptions for normality and variance were met (Table 2.6), or when assumptions for normality and variance were not met, a Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction was used (Table 2.7).

Wilcoxon rank sum tests with continuity correction indicated that the median score for the SF36 Health

change scale [W = 9.50, p = 0.046] was significantly lower for participants in the Female subgroup (Median = 50.00, IQR = 12.50) compared to participants in the Male subgroup (Median = 75.00, IQR = 50.00).

SF36 Health change scale measures health compared to a year ago. On average, participants in the male subgroup scored higher than participants in the female subgroup. This indicates that participants in the male subgroup reported that their health was a better than a year ago, and participants in the female subgroup reported that their health was about the same.

Table 2.6: SF36 by ger	der summary	statistics and	T-test
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SF36 scale	Group	Number (n=14)	Percent	Mean	SD	т	dF	p-value
Physical functioning	Female	7	50.00	72.86	32.13	0.49	12	0.6337
	Male	7	50.00	65.00	27.84			
Role functioning/	Female	7	50.00	57.14	41.79	0.48	12	0.6427
emotional	Male	7	50.00	47.62	32.53			
Social functioning	Female	7	50.00	57.14	31.34	-0.22	12	0.8316
	Male	7	50.00	60.71	30.13			
Data	Female	7	50.00	71.79	24.69	0.23	12	0.8198
Pain	Male	7	50.00	68.57	26.92			

Table 2.7: SF36 by gender summary statistics and Wilcoxon test

SF36 scale	Group	Number (n=14)	Percent	Median	IQR	W	p-value
Role	Female	7	50.00	100.00	100.00	30.50	0.4535
functioning/physical	Male	7	50.00	25.00	62.50		
Francisco (Fabilitaria	Female	7	50.00	55.00	52.50	27.00	0.7972
Energy/Fatigue	Male	7	50.00	50.00	7.50		
	Female	7	50.00	60.00	58.00	21.50	0.7464
Emotional well-being	Male	7	50.00	64.00	10.00		
• • • • •	Female	7	50.00	55.00	47.50	27.00	0.7972
General health	Male	7	50.00	55.00	12.50		
	Female	7	50.00	50.00	12.50	9.50	0.0462*
Health change	Male	7	50.00	75.00	50.00		





Figure 2.3: Boxplot of SF36 Physical functioning by gender







Figure 2.5: Boxplot of SF36 Role functioning/emotional Figure 2.6: Boxplot of SF36 Energy/fatigue by gender by gender









gender







Figure 2.11: Boxplot of SF36 Health change by gender

SF36 by age

Participants were grouped according to age, with comparisons made between participants aged under 44 (n=8, 57.14%), and participants aged 45 and older (n=6, 42.86%).

A two-sample t-test was used when assumptions for normality and variance were met (Table 2.8), or when

Table 2.8: SF36 by age summary statistics and T-test

a Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction was used (Table 2.9).

No significant differences were observed between participants by age for any of the SF36 scales.

SF36 scale	Group	Number (n=14)	Percent	Mean	SD	Т	dF	p-value
Physical functioning	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	70.63	24.70	0.24	12	0.8128
	Aged 45 and older	6	42.86	66.67	36.70			
Energy/Fatigue	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	47.50	24.05	0.24	12	0.8176
	Aged 45 and older	6	42.86	44.17	28.88			
Emotional well-being	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	53.00	23.30	-2.00	12	0.0687
· ·	Aged 45 and older	6	42.86	77.33	21.42			
Social functioning	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	53.13	26.52	-0.84	12	0.4187
· ·	Aged 45 and older	6	42.86	66.67	34.16			
	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	72.81	20.37	0.44	12	0.6656
Pain	Aged 45 and older	6	42.86	66.67	31.65			
	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	55.00	20.18	0.41	12	0.6880
General health	Aged 45 and older	6	42.86	49.17	32.93			
	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	68.75	29.12	1.42	12	0.1815
Health change	Aged 45 and older	6	12.86	50.00	15.91			



SF36 scale	Group	Number (n=14)	Percent	Median	IQR	W	p-value
Role	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	37.50	81.25	22.50	0.8905
functioning/physical	Aged 45 and older	6	42.86	50.00	100.00		
Role	Aged 18 to 44	8	57.14	33.33	41.67	10.00	0.0707
functioning/emotional	Aged 45 and older	6	42.86	83.33	33.33		



60 40 20 0 Female Male

General health

100 80

Figure 2.10: Boxplot of SF36 General health by gender







Figure 2.14: Boxplot of SF36 Role functioning/emotional by age











Figure 2.13: Boxplot of SF36 Role functioning/physical by age







Figure 2.17: Boxplot of SF36 Social functioning by age



Figure 2.19: Boxplot of SF36 General health by age





SF36 by education

Comparisons were made by education status, between those with trade or high school qualifications, Trade or high school (n=6, 42.86%), and those with a university qualification, University (n=8, 57.14%).

A two-sample t-test was used when assumptions for normality and variance were met (Table 2.10), or when

assumptions for normality and variance were not met, a Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction was used (Table 2.11).

No significant differences were observed between participants by **education** for any of the SF36 scales.

Table 2.10: SF36 by education sum	nmary statistics and T-test
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SF36 scale	Group	Number (n=14)	Percent	Mean	SD	Т	dF	p-value
Physical functioning	Trade or high school	6	42.86	76.67	22.51	0.85	12	0.4117
	University	8	57.14	63.13	33.59			
Role functioning/	Trade or high school	6	42.86	44.44	40.37	-0.69	12	0.5009
emotional	University	8	57.14	58.33	34.50			
Emotional well-being	Trade or high school	6	42.86	67.33	25.85	0.49	12	0.6322
	University	8	57.14	60.50	25.70			
Social functioning	Trade or high school	6	42.86	60.42	32.99	0.16	12	0.8781
	University	8	57.14	57.81	29.08			
Dain	Trade or high school	6	42.86	76.25	24.23	0.78	12	0.4511
Pain	University	8	57.14	65.63	25.97			
· · · ··	Trade or high school	6	42.86	54.17	30.89	0.20	12	0.8413
General nealth	University	8	57.14	51.25	22.64			

Table 2.11: SF36 by education summary statistics and Wilcoxon test

SF36 scale	Group	Number (n=14)	Percent	Median	IQR	W	p-value
Role	Trade or high school	6	42.86	37.50	93.75	22.50	0.8905
functioning/physical	University	8	57.14	37.50	100.00		
- /	Trade or high school	6	42.86	47.50	38.75	26.00	0.8456
Energy/Fatigue	University	0	E7 14	E2 E0	21.25		



Figure 2.21: Boxplot of SF36 Physical functioning by education





Figure 2.22: Boxplot of SF36 Role functioning/physical by education



Figure 2.23: Boxplot of SF36 Role functioning/emotional by education



Figure 2.25: Boxplot of SF36 Emotional well-being by education







Figure 2.29: Boxplot of SF36 Health change by education



Figure 2.24: Boxplot of SF36 Energy/fatigue by education







Figure 2.28: Boxplot of SF36 General health by education

SF36 by location

The location of participants was evaluated by postcode using the Australian Statistical Geography Maps (ASGS) Remoteness areas accessed from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Those living in regional/rural areas, Regional or remote (n=3, 24.43%) were compared to those living in a major city, Metropolitan (n=11, 78.57%).

There were too few participants in the regional and remote subgroup to make comparison. Summary statistics are displayed in Table 2.12.

Table 2.12: SF36 by location stage summary

SF36 scale	Group	Number (n=14)	Percent	Mean	SD	Median	IQR
Physical functioning	Rural or remote	3	21.43	80.00	34.64	100.00	30.00
	Metropolitan	11	78.57	65.91	28.62	65.00	37.50
Role	Rural or remote	3	21.43	66.67	57.74	100.00	50.00
functioning/physical	Metropolitan	11	78.57	40.91	45.10	25.00	87.50
Role functioning/emotional	Rural or remote	3	21.43	66.67	57.74	100.00	50.00
	Metropolitan	11	78.57	48.48	31.14	66.67	33.33
Energy/Fatigue	Rural or remote	3	21.43	45.00	25.98	60.00	22.50
	Metropolitan	11	78.57	46.36	26.28	50.00	17.50
Emotional well-being	Rural or remote	3	21.43	86.67	19.73	96.00	18.00
	Metropolitan	11	78.57	57.09	22.98	60.00	16.00
Social functioning	Rural or remote	3	21.43	66.67	47.32	87.50	43.75
	Metropolitan	11	78.57	56.82	25.84	62.50	37.50
Pain	Rural or remote	3	21.43	70.00	34.37	77.50	33.75
	Metropolitan	11	78.57	70.23	23.83	67.50	23.75
General health	Rural or remote	3	21.43	51.67	35.12	55.00	35.00
	Metropolitan	11	78.57	52.73	24.33	55.00	17.50
Health change	Rural or remote	3	21.43	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
	Metropolitan	11	78.57	63.64	28.20	50.00	37.50

SF36 by socioeconomic status

Comparisons were made by socioeconomic status, using the Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) (www.abs.gov.au), SEIFA scores range from 1 to 10, a higher score denotes a higher level of advantage. Participants with a mid to low SEIFA score of 1-6, Mid to low status (n=2, 14.29%) compared to those with a

higher SEIFA score of 7-10, Higher status (n=12, 85.71%).

There were too few participants in the mid to low status subgroup to make comparison. Summary statistics are displayed in Table 2.13.

 Table 2.13: SF36 by socioeconomic status summary statistics

SF36 scale	Group	Number (n=14)	Percent	Mean	SD	Median	IQR
Physical functioning	Mid to low	2	14.29	70.00	42.43	70.00	30.00
	Higher	12	85.71	68.75	29.01	72.50	37.50
Role	Mid to low	2	14.29	50.00	70.71	50.00	50.00
functioning/physical	Higher	12	85.71	45.83	46.26	37.50	100.00
Role	Mid to low	2	14.29	50.00	70.71	50.00	50.00
functioning/emotional	Higher	12	85.71	52.78	33.21	66.67	33.33
Energy/Fatigue	Mid to low	2	14.29	37.50	31.82	37.50	22.50
	Higher	12	85.71	47.50	25.36	50.00	15.00
Emotional well-being	Mid to low	2	14.29	82.00	25.46	82.00	18.00
	Higher	12	85.71	60.33	24.63	60.00	23.00
Social functioning	Mid to low	2	14.29	56.25	61.87	56.25	43.75
	Higher	12	85.71	59.38	26.18	68.75	40.63
Pain	Mid to low	2	14.29	66.25	47.73	66.25	33.75
	Higher	12	85.71	70.83	22.82	72.50	23.13
General health	Mid to low	2	14.29	35.00	28.28	35.00	20.00
	Higher	12	85.71	55.42	25.00	57.50	21.25
Health change	Mid to low	2	14.29	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
	Higher	12	85.71	62.50	27.18	50.00	31.25