

Needles in jail

The ACT Government's consideration of ensuring effective supervision and management of needle exchange in the ACT prison is based on a common sense and evidence-based approach to addressing the spread of blood-borne viruses (BBVs) in the broader community. Needle exchange is an important part of a comprehensive strategy to reduce the spread of BBVs both within the prison and among the general public. Most prisoners spend less than a year in jail and. It seems the CPSU's continuing opposition as expressed in Thursday's paper (Letters, March 15) is based more on prejudice and ignorance than fact.

Michael Moore, CEO, Public Health Association of Australia; David Templeman, CEO, Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia; Stuart Loveday, President, Hepatitis Australia.