

33rd hepatitis C case confirmed in NH outbreak

June 6 2013, by Holly Ramer

New Hampshire health officials say the hepatitis C outbreak associated with a former hospital technician has spread beyond his patients to a person who is believed to have had sexual contact with one of them.

David Kwiatkowski is accused of stealing drugs from Exeter Hospital and infecting patients with <u>hepatitis C</u> through syringes tainted with his blood. Since his July arrest, 32 patients New Hampshire have been diagnosed with the strain of hepatitis C carried by him.

The Division of <u>Public Health Services</u> on Thursday announced the 33rd confirmed New Hampshire case. It said <u>sexual transmission</u> of hepatitis C is very uncommon.

Kwiatkowski is scheduled to face trial on 14 federal drug charges in January. He has pleaded not guilty. His lawyer did not immediately return a call Thursday seeking comment.

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