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CHARLES DREW UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND SCIENCE
Division of Endocrinology, Department of Internal Medicine
and the Metabolic Cluster
Minority Institute of Drug Abuse Research Program (MIDARP)
8th Annual Substance Abuse Research Symposium

**Correlates of Hepatitis C Virus among Injection Drug Users
and their Sex Partners in Ciudad Juárez, CHIH**



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Oralía Loza graduated from the University of California at San Diego and San Diego State University, Joint Doctoral Program in Public Health, Epidemiology. Her dissertation on “Factors Associated with Early Initiation Into Sex Work and STIs among Female Sex Workers in Two Mexico-U.S. Border Cities” initiated her commitment to U.S.-Mexico border health. She is currently at the University of Texas at El Paso, situated on the U.S.-Mexico border, conducting research in substance abuse and risks for Hepatitis C, HIV, and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among migrants, transgender women, and other marginalized populations. In March 2013, she launched a pilot study under the Vulnerability Issues in Drug Abuse (VIDA) Project (NIH R24) on "Social and Contextual Vulnerability on the U.S.-Mexico Border". This pilot study will investigate the contextual influences on drug using behavior, particularly methamphetamine, on the U.S.-Mexico border cities, El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez, CHIH. All her research is conducted in collaboration with community partners. She is here in Los Angeles now, participating in the Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute (IRTI) on Hispanic Drug Abuse Summer Training Program at University of Southern California (USC). The program is coordinated by the National Hispanic Science Network (NHSN) and funded by NIDA.

<http://www.cdrewu.edu/research/DrugAddictionResearch>