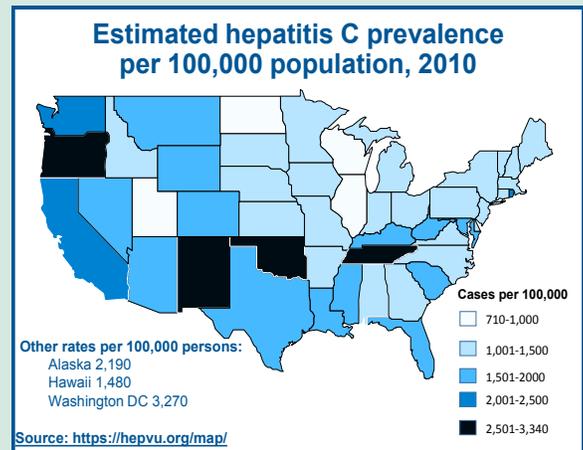


Oregon Hepatitis C Screening Initiative

Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by infection with the hepatitis C virus (HCV). It is the most commonly reported blood-borne disease in the US and in Oregon. HCV affects all Oregon counties. It is estimated that 90,500 people in Oregon have been exposed to HCV, and our state's HCV prevalence and death rates are among the highest in the nation. Since 2000, Oregon's HCV-related deaths have nearly tripled and our 2015 mortality rate was twice the US rate.

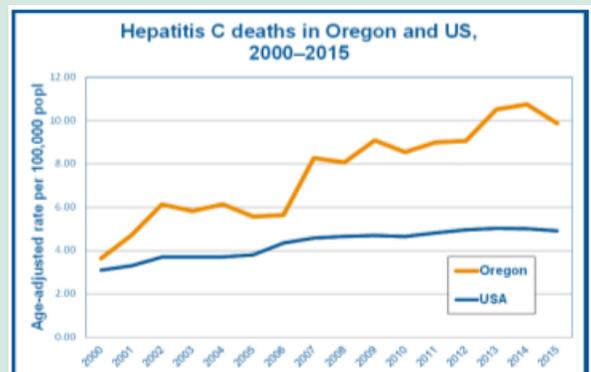
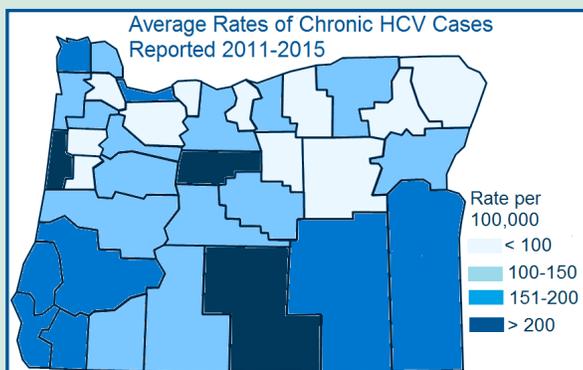
People with HCV may have few symptoms the first 10 to 15 years of infection and are unaware of their infection. However, this does not mean that HCV is not damaging the liver, and it is impossible to predict the rate of damage early in HCV infection. Over time, untreated chronic HCV infection can cause cirrhosis, end stage liver disease and liver cancer.



HCV infection can be cured. Successful HCV treatment can slow or stop liver disease progression.

HCV testing is the only way to know if a person has been infected.

For more information about hepatitis in Oregon www.healthoregon.org/adultviralhepatitis



The Oregon Hepatitis C Screening Initiative

The Oregon HCV screening initiative is a project within the Oregon Public Health Division to increase HCV testing and detection of HCV infections across different settings, including

- Community Health Centers - Primary Care - Substance Abuse and MAT Programs and - Corrections.

Participating agencies develop and implement HCV screening and linkage to care activities.

Agencies may qualify for small stipend to support start-up and implementation tasks.

Benefits

- Free information, materials and education available for agency staff and patients or clients
- Support available to integrate hepatitis C testing into agency protocols, forms, workflow and activities
- Assistance developing linkage to follow-up and care protocols and plans or clients with HCV

Requirements

- At least one staff member willing to serve as a project contact for activities
- Implementation of electronic health record report to monitor hepatitis C screening rates of eligible patients
- Willingness to share de-identified HCV screening data at three month intervals

To enroll or request additional information: email Judith.m.leahy@state.or.us or phone 971-673-1130