# **Oregon's Viral Hepatitis Collective**



# **AIMS**

- Prevent new infections
- Decrease community and population health disparities
- Improve health outcomes
- Decrease future medical care costs

**Who are we?** Community members and other stakeholders interested in addressing viral hepatitis prevention, testing & care.

**When do we meet?** The last Thursday of each month from 5-6pm via phone/web.

**Current Work Groups?** Communications, Testing to Cure and Drug User Health

How can I get more information or on the email list?

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# **ACTIONS**

- Confront stigma directed at persons and populations affected by viral hepatitis;
- Educate communities and decision-makers about urgency and need to address viral hepatitis;
- Address broader health issues faced by persons who use drugs;
- Increase hepatitis C screening and linkage efforts in affected populations;
- Improve access and reimbursement across all settings for screening, care, treatment and cure; and
- Use data to focus prevention, and evaluate interventions, and monitor viral hepatitis care.

# Addressing Viral Hepatitis in Oregon

## Aims\*

# **Primary - Actions**

# Secondary – Strategies and Activities

- Prevent new infections,
- Improve health outcomes,
- Decrease community and population health disparities, and
- Decrease future medical care costs
- \* The aims originated from the document Viral Hepatitis in Oregon and were developed with input from subject matter experts and community stakeholders as part of the Oregon Viral Hepatitis Action Plan. For more information, contact oregon.viralhepatitis@odhsoha.oregon.gov

Confront stigma directed at persons and populations affected by viral hepatitis

Educate communities and decisionmakers about urgency and need to address viral hepatitis prevention, treatment and related health disparities

### Address broader health issues faced by persons who use drugs

(critical to effectively address viral hepatitis)

Increase community-based hepatitis C screening and linkage efforts in affected populations

Improve access and reimbursement across all settings for screening, care, treatment and cure

Use data to focus prevention and evaluate interventions, and monitor viral hepatitis care continuums

# √ Multiple campaigns, audiences, including communities, providers, decision makers

- 1. Implement communication and education campaigns
  - ✓ Develop messages for prevention, vaccination, screening, care, treatment and hepatitis C cure.
  - ✓ Address stigma and its role in creating and reinforcing viral hepatitis health disparities.
  - ✓ Educate decision-makers about urgency, benefits, opportunities and policy solutions to prevent, screen and treat

#### 2. Initiate cross-sector group to address health equity and health outcomes among persons who use drugs

- ✓ Identify individual, family and community-level protective, risk and resilient factors that affect health outcomes for persons
- ✓ Develop response plan that includes policy gap analyses and proposed evidence based and promising policies and interventions

### 3. Endorse and expand evidence-based and promising interventions for populations with viral hepatitis health disparities, including

- ✓ Sterile injection equipment access and disposal of used equipment
- ✓ Community access to naloxone
- ✓ Safer consumption sites
- √ Hepatitis B and C screening in primary care screening according to national guidelines
- ✓ Urgent care and emergency department hepatitis C screening and linkage to care.
- ✓ Community based hepatitis A/B vaccinations, hepatitis C screening and linkage to care

#### 4. Expand coverage and reimbursement of HCV curative treatment across all payers and health systems

- ✓ Increase publicly funded coverage for curative hepatitis C treatment
- √ Require payers to provide coverage that is no more restrictive than publicly funded payers.
- ✓ Broaden reimbursement and coverage criteria to allow primary care clinicians to prescribe curative hepatitis C treatment.

#### 5. Increase stakeholder infrastructures and capacities

- ✓ Increase public health surveillance capacity
- ✓ Increase public health and primary care workforce capacity to screen and treat
- ✓ Support and expand community stakeholder involvement and engagement in policy work at local, state and national levels

#### 6. Utilize data and evaluation information to direct and inform actions

- ✓ Monitor morbidity and mortality; identify high risk populations, behavioral/environmental risk and protective factors.
- √ Identify policies that affect viral hepatitis prevention, transmission and treatment
- Evaluate the impact of publicly funded coverage of curative hepatitis C treatment on rates of hepatitis C treatment, morbidity and mortality

#### What is a Driver Diagram?

- · Population-level diagram that address issues which sit at the crossroads of public health, health system and health care sectors
- Assists groups to align efforts to address health issues where stakeholders need to work collaboratively to affect objectives.
- · Allows groups to identify and articulate roles, actions and how what their group is doing fits within the larger effort.

# Oregon's Hepatitis C Collaborations and Projects

- Hepatitis C Screening Initiative in primary care
- High Risk Adult HCV Screening Project
- Oregon HOPE Study (HIV, Hepatitis, Overdose
  Outreach and Engagement)
- Oregon Viral Hepatitis Collective

It always seems impossible until it's done. ~ Nelson Mandela

