DRAFT

HCV Testing and Linkage to Care in California

Rachel McLean, MPH
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
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The Problem: Most People with Hepatitis C are Not Diagnosed, Linked to Care, Treated or Cured

Source: Holmberg et al., N Engl J Med 2013
Sources of New HCV Infection, 1995-2000

Injection Drug Use
68%

Unknown
9%

Other *
1%

Sexual
18%

Occupational
4%

Unknown
9%

Sexual
18%

Injection Drug Use
68%

Other *
1%

Occupational
4%

* In a medical setting; healthcare work, perinatal
People with Hepatitis C WhoInject Drugs Face Barriers to Care

Transportation

Stigma/Shame

Lack of ID

Health Coverage/Literacy

Homelessness

Hunger
Hepatitis C Testing and Linkage to Care Demonstration Projects

- **$2.2M/year for 3 yrs.**

- **3 Goals:**
  1) Using surveillance to improve HCV outcomes
  2) HCV testing and linkages to care
  3) HCV care coordination

- **5 Sites:**
  1) Butte County DPH (Goal 1)
  2) Access Support Network (Goal 2)
  3) San Francisco DPH (Goal 2 and Goal 3)
  4) Family Health Centers of San Diego (Goal 2 and Goal 3)
  5) St. John’s Well Child Center (LA) (Goal 3)
Goal 2: Community-Based HCV Testing and Linkages to Care

(Rural AIDS Service Organization)

(Urban Federally Qualified Health Center, syringe exchange program, HIV/HCV clinic)

(Urban multi-service center, syringe exchange program, San Francisco’s Tenderloin District)
What Does HCV Testing & Linkage to Care Mean, Really?

Living with Hep C?
New treatments have changed the game

* Media campaigns designed by people living with hepatitis C and pilot tested with people who inject drugs (PWID)

* Outreach on the streets, under bridges, along riverbanks, in shelters, drug treatment, at syringe exchange, at food pantries, etc.
What Does HCV Testing & Linkage to Care Mean, Really?

* HCV rapid testing at syringe exchanges, on mobile vans, at drug treatment programs

* Phlebotomy to do same day HCV RNA testing, including getting HCV test counselors certified as a phlebotomist; CLIA certificate of waiver
What Does HCV Testing & Linkage to Care Mean, Really?

VIP CONFIDENTIAL CONTACT FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal name:</th>
<th>Photo?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nickname or aliases used in jail or hospital:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone/voicemail and phone company:</td>
<td>Text preferred?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td>How often checked?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook:</td>
<td>OK to be friends?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where do you get mail?</td>
<td>Is it okay to knock on your door and/or drop off a letter at your place?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where do you hang out or go every day?</td>
<td>Can we drop by or drop off a letter there?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where do you sleep?</td>
<td>OK to wake you up?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Collecting extensive contact information
* Keeping track of clients when they are arrested, hospitalized, deported, in jail
* Maintaining an open door policy in case people show up later

Source: UCSF VIP Study
What Does HCV Testing & Linkage to Care Mean, Really?

Whatever your situation may be, We can get you help.

* Patient navigation, including help getting ID, benefits enrollment, reminders, transportation to—and incentives for attending—key appts.

* Patience and persistence; kindness and non-judgment
What Does HCV Testing & Linkage to Care Mean, Really?

Sharing equipment spreads Hep C
Come get sterile stuff

* Paid staff/peers: HCV-specific navigators for outreach, HCV testing, navigation, phlebotomy; project manager; data analyst!

* Cultural competence with PWID and co-location of services—bringing testing to where PWID hangout
HCV Testing Outcomes in Community-Based Settings, Goal 2 Sites, March 2016 – September 2017

Clients Screened for HCV antibody by Injection Drug Use (IDU) Status

- IDU: 56%
- Non-IDU: 44%

Total: 3,693
HCV Testing Outcomes in Community-Based Settings, Goal 2 Sites, March 2016 – September 2017

- Anti-HCV positive
- Referred to RNA testing
- Complete HCV RNA testing
- HCV RNA positive
- Received HCV RNA result
- Referred to medical care
- Attended first appointment

* Percentages shown are calculated as a proportion of the previous bar.
### HCV Testing and Linkage to Care Project Outcomes, California, Goal 2 & 3 Sites, March 2016 – September 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All Clients (Goal 2 and Goal 3)</th>
<th>Known to Have Ever Injected Drugs(^1)</th>
<th>% Among Those Served Who Reported Ever Injected Drugs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Screened for HCV</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antibody</td>
<td>28,417</td>
<td>2,895</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HCV Antibody Positive</strong></td>
<td>2,154</td>
<td>1,147</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Tested for RNA</strong></td>
<td>1,914</td>
<td>943</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RNA Positive</strong></td>
<td>1,554</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Linked to Care/Receiving</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Care Management(^2)</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Completed Treatment(^3)</strong></td>
<td>344</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Received Sustained Virologic</strong></td>
<td><strong>Response (SVR) Testing and</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieved SVR(^4)</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Known IDU: IDU status is underestimated for because two clinical sites were unable to consistently collect injection drug use status.

\(^2\) Linked to care: Defined as attending first HCV medical appointment for Goal 2 sites and as starting treatment for Goal 3 sites.

\(^3\) Completed Treatment: This number is an underestimate, as Goal 2 sites do not currently report this data to CDPH.

\(^4\) Received SVR Testing and Achieved SVR: This number is an underestimate, as Goal 2 sites do not currently report this data to CDPH and because Goal 3 sites report that clients complete medication but may not receive testing to confirm that they have achieved SVR.
What Does It Take to Support Local HCV Demo Projects?

* Dedicated funding!
  * $1.7M grants; $400K state-level personnel

* Program manager (me)

* Staff to do TA (2)

* Knowledge of HCV, drug treatment, harm reduction landscape

* Evaluator to do data collection, QA (had 1 but needed 2!)

Christine Rodriguez, MPH
Program Advisor

Susana Tat, MPH
Program Advisor

Patricia Zialcita, MPH
Program Evaluator
Awesome Grantees!

- **Family Health Centers of San Diego**
  - Elizabeth Estrada, Shannon Hansen, Christian Ramers, Sandra Real, Letty Reyes

- **Los Angeles Community Health Project**
  - Michael Marquesten, Shoshanna Scholar, Aime Zuniga

- **San Francisco Department of Public Health**
  - Katie Burk, Colleen Lynch, Aaron Smith, Paulette Walton

- **St. John’s Well Child & Family Center, Los Angeles**
  - Victor Constantino, Victor Martinez, Paola Ramirez, Jose Rodriguez, Patti Wagonhurst

- **Tarzana Treatment Centers, Los Angeles**
  - Yolanda Ceballos, Inna Lemeshko, Jim Sorg, Kimberly Ward
How Does this Relate to the Hepatitis Care Cascades Grant?

- Intervention partnerships
  - “Leveraging” existing resources
    - HCV demonstration project site subcontractor
    - HCV test kits purchased with one-time state funds
    - State MAT expansion grants require HIV/HCV testing
  - Policy intervention/ performance measure
    - Proportion of PWID screened for HCV annually
  - Provider education
    - Training HCV testing and linkage to care best practices for HCV test kit and SAMHSA MAT expansion sites

Key: MAT=medication assisted treatment
Resources

* End Hep C SF Awareness Campaign Materials
  http://www.endhepcsfl.org/campaigns/
* California Hepatitis Alliance, HCV linkage resources
  https://calhep.org
* DHCS Medication Assisted Treatment Expansion Grants
  http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/State-Targeted-Response-to-Opioid-Crisis-Grant.aspx
* DHCS Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System
* Hepatitis C Online
  http://hepatitisc.uw.edu
* DHCS HCV Treatment Policy – prioritizes PWID
  http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Pages/HepatitisC.aspx
Contact Information

Rachel McLean, MPH
Chief, Office of Viral Hepatitis Prevention
STD Control Branch
California Department of Public Health
P: (510) 620-3403
Rachel.McLean@cdph.ca.gov
https://cdph.ca.gov/ovhp