Louisiana’s Hepatitis C Elimination Plan

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Public Health Crisis Caused by Hepatitis C

• 40,263 persons reported with a HCV diagnosis from 2007 to 2017.¹
• Louisiana has high rates of liver and bile duct cancers driven by both HBV and HCV.²
  • 5ᵗʰ highest rate (10.1 per 100,000 population) of liver and bile duct cancers
  • 3ʳᵈ for rate (8.4 per 100,000 population) of death from liver and bile duct cancers
• Estimated 112,424 Louisianans³ at very high risk for acquiring HCV through injection drug use.⁴
• Costly per-patient treatment price severely limits access.

References:
1 Louisiana HCV Surveillance Data, 2017
3 2017 U.S Census Bureau
4 Tempalski et al., 2013; Oster et al., 2015; Lansky et al., 2014
Chronic Hepatitis C Diagnosis Trends – Louisiana, 2008-2017

Diagnosis Rate (per 100,000)

No. Reported Cases


HCV Diagnoses
HCV Rates

No. Reported Cases

0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 5,000 6,000 7,000 8,000 9,000
New Hepatitis C Diagnosis Age Distribution – Louisiana

- 2005
- 2009
- 2013
- 2017

Diagnoses: PWID, Baby Boomers
Big Bet: Louisiana will eliminate Hepatitis C as a public health problem
Louisiana HCV Elimination Goals

2019  Establish Hepatitis C subscription model

2020  Treat 10,000 Louisianans in Medicaid and Corrections

2021  Expand access to all Louisianans with private payers

2022  Reduce prevalence to 33% of 2018 level
1. **Implement Hepatitis C Treatment Subscription Model for Medicaid and Corrections Populations** – 5 year contract with Gilead’s Asegua Therapeutics for unlimited access to Epclusa, starting July 2019

2. **Expand Provider Capacity to Treat Hepatitis C** - Train primary care providers to diagnose and treat hepatitis C and refer for advanced liver disease, cancer, and substance use disorders;

3. **Educate Public on Availability of Cure and Need for Screening** - Mobilize high-risk populations for screening and treatment through media campaign;
The Hepatitis C Elimination Program Continued...

4. **Strengthen HCV Surveillance to Link Persons Previously Diagnosed to Treatment** - Upgrade LDH’s hepatitis C surveillance system to support timely identification of infected individuals;

5. **Expand HCV Screening and Expedited Linkage to Care** - Partner with health care providers across the State to screen high-risk populations and ensure individuals with hepatitis C are linked to treating providers;

6. **Implement Harm Reduction and Complementary Prevention Strategies** - Prevent new or reinfections through syringe service programs and treatment for opioid use disorder;
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