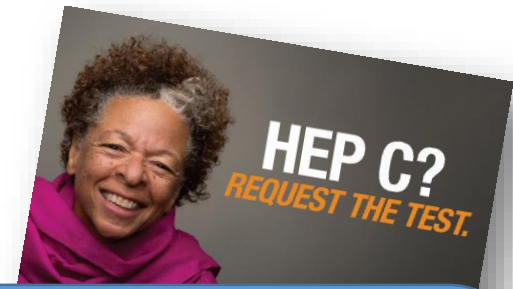


# Oregon's Viral Hepatitis Collective



## AIMS

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

## 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.

**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?**

Lorren Sandt: [lorren@caringambassadors.org](mailto:lorren@caringambassadors.org)

Jude Leahy: [Judith.m.leahy@state.or.us](mailto:Judith.m.leahy@state.or.us)

# Addressing Viral Hepatitis in Oregon

Aims*	Primary - Actions	Secondary – Strategies and Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➡ <i>Prevent new infections,</i></li> <li>➡ <i>Improve health outcomes,</i></li> <li>➡ <i>Decrease community and population health disparities, and</i></li> <li>➡ <i>Decrease future medical care costs</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Confront stigma directed at persons and populations affected by viral hepatitis</b></p>	<p><b>1. Implement communication and education campaigns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Multiple campaigns, audiences, including communities, providers, decision makers</li> <li>✓ Develop messages for prevention, vaccination, screening, care, treatment and hepatitis C cure.</li> <li>✓ Address stigma and its role in creating and reinforcing viral hepatitis health disparities</li> <li>✓ Educate decision-makers about urgency, benefits, opportunities and policy solutions to prevent, screen and treat</li> </ul>
<p>* The aims originated from the document <a href="#">Viral Hepatitis in Oregon</a> 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 <a href="mailto:judith.m.leahy@state.or.us">judith.m.leahy@state.or.us</a></p>	<p><b>Educate communities and decision-makers about urgency and need to address viral hepatitis prevention, treatment and related health disparities</b></p>	<p><b>2. Initiate cross-sector group to address health equity and health outcomes among persons who use drugs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Identify individual, family and community-level protective, risk and resilient factors that affect health outcomes for persons who use drugs</li> <li>✓ Develop response plan that includes policy gap analyses and proposed evidence based and promising policies and interventions</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Address broader health issues faced by persons who use drugs</b> (critical to effectively address viral hepatitis)</p>	<p><b>3. Endorse and expand evidence-based and promising interventions for populations with viral hepatitis health disparities, including</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Sterile injection equipment access and disposal of used equipment</li> <li>✓ Community access to naloxone</li> <li>✓ Safer consumption sites</li> <li>✓ Hepatitis B and C screening in primary care screening according to national guidelines</li> <li>✓ Urgent care and emergency department hepatitis C screening and linkage to care</li> <li>✓ Community based hepatitis A/B vaccinations, hepatitis C screening and linkage to care</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>What is a Driver Diagram?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population-level diagram that address issues which sit at the crossroads of public health, health system and health care sectors</li> <li>• Assists groups to align efforts to address health issues where stakeholders need to work collaboratively to affect objectives.</li> <li>• Allows groups to identify and articulate roles, actions and how what their group is doing fits within the larger effort.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Increase community-based hepatitis C screening and linkage efforts in affected populations</b></p>	<p><b>4. Expand coverage and reimbursement of HCV curative treatment across all payers and health systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Increase publicly funded coverage for curative hepatitis C treatment</li> <li>✓ Require payers to provide coverage that is no more restrictive than publicly funded payers</li> <li>✓ Broaden reimbursement and coverage criteria to allow primary care clinicians to prescribe curative hepatitis C treatment</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Improve access and reimbursement across all settings for screening, care, treatment and cure</b></p>	<p><b>5. Increase stakeholder infrastructures and capacities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Increase public health surveillance capacity</li> <li>✓ Increase public health and primary care workforce capacity to screen and treat</li> <li>✓ Support and expand community stakeholder involvement and engagement in policy work at local, state and national levels</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Use data to focus prevention and evaluate interventions, and monitor viral hepatitis care continuums</b></p>	<p><b>6. Utilize data and evaluation information to direct and inform actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Monitor morbidity and mortality; identify high risk populations, behavioral/environmental risk and protective factors</li> <li>✓ Identify policies that affect viral hepatitis prevention, transmission and treatment</li> <li>✓ Evaluate the impact of publicly funded coverage of curative hepatitis C treatment on rates of hepatitis C treatment, morbidity and mortality</li> </ul>

# 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

