

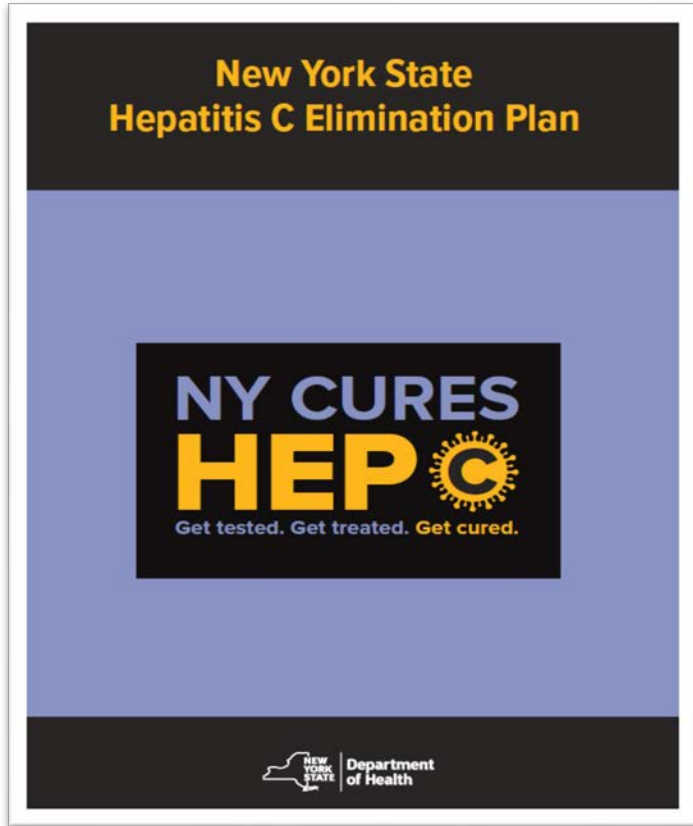


**Department
of Health**

NYS Hepatitis C Elimination Progress Report 2023

NYS Program and Policy Update

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Plan Focus Areas



Surveillance,
data & metrics

6
RECOMMENDATIONS



Hepatitis C
Prevention

9
RECOMMENDATIONS



Hepatitis C
Testing and
Linkage to
Care

12
RECOMMENDATIONS



Hepatitis C
Care and
Treatment
Access

6
RECOMMENDATIONS

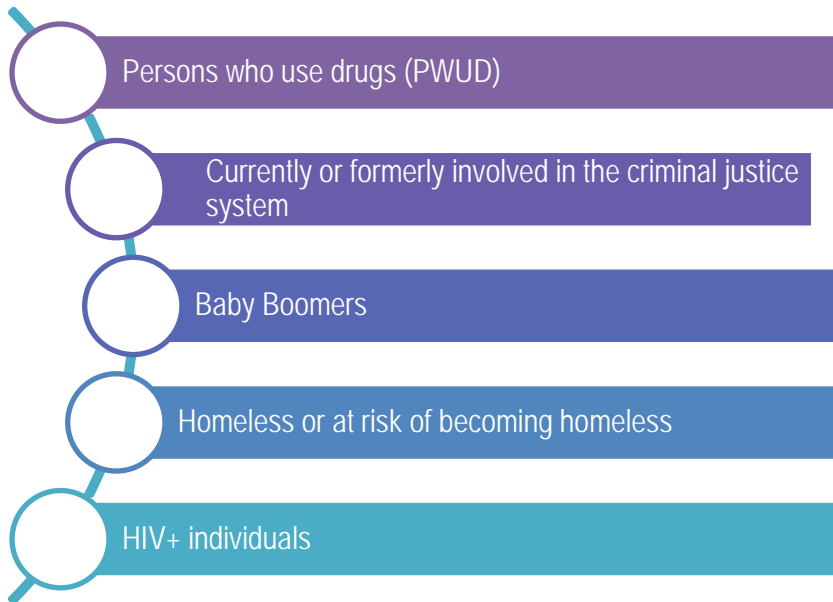


Social
Determinants
of Health

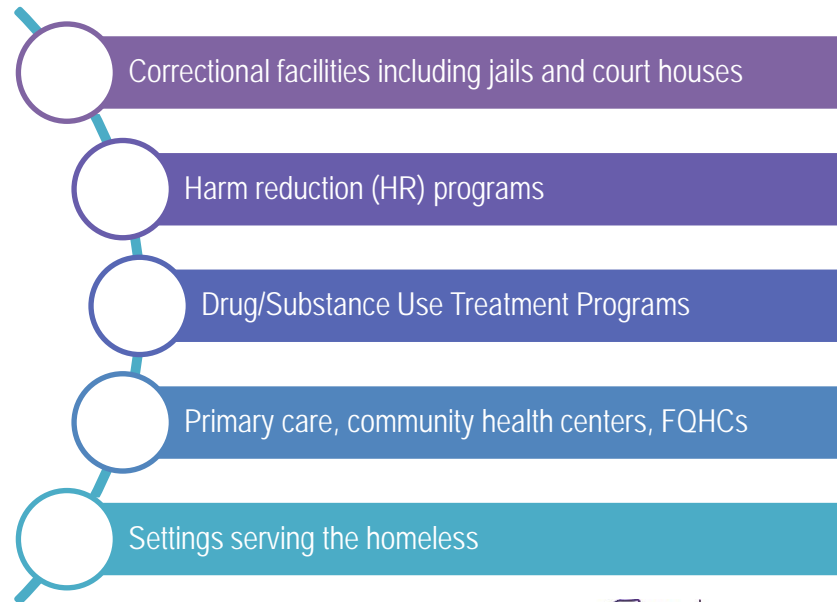
14
RECOMMENDATIONS

Priority Populations and Settings

Priority Populations



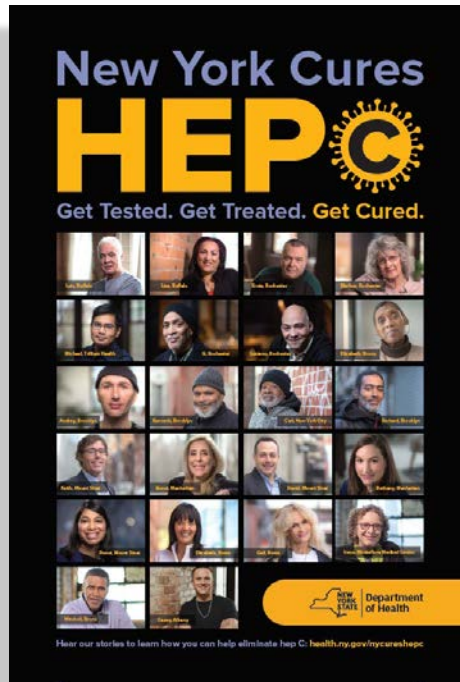
Priority Settings



Tracking Progress

- Established online system for collecting activities and outcomes
 - Elimination Plan Focus area
 - Elimination Plan Recommendation
 - Activity title
 - Brief description of activity
 - Progress during last 12 months, including outcomes.
- Internal DOH activities only
- Between 2020-2021
 - 97 activities in process relating to 42 of 47 recommendations
- HCV Elimination Metrics
 - HCV Diagnoses
 - The number of persons newly diagnosed with HCV infection, per year
 - HCV treatment/clearance
 - The number of persons diagnosed with HCV with evidence of treatment for, or clearance of, HCV infection, per year
 - HCV incidence among persons who inject drugs (PWID)
 - The rate and number of new HCV infections among PWID, per year

HCV Elimination Funding



- HCV Patient Navigation Program
- Innovative Models of Care for PWID with HCV
- HCV Expansion of the Criminal Justice Initiative (CJI)
- Surveillance infrastructure
- Expansion of HCV Testing
- Multi-media awareness campaign
- HCV Research

HCV Prevention

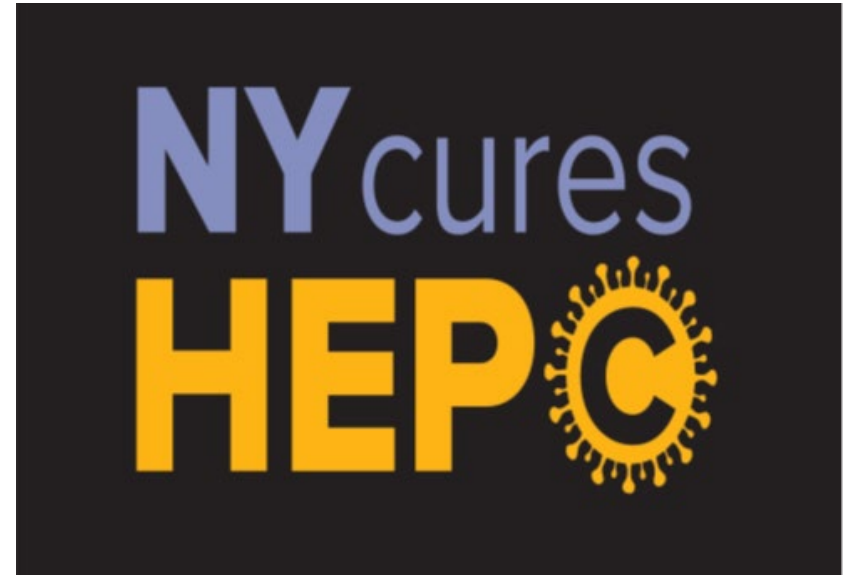
- Expanded number of Syringe Exchange Programs (SEP) sites
 - 24 statewide
 - At least 1 in each borough of NYC
- Creation of second tier syringe exchange programs (STSEP)
 - Currently, four STSEPs
- Establishment of Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) programs in state and local correctional facilities

HCV Prevention

- Existence of multiple waivers programs to cover expenses of confidential MOUD services
- Hosted meetings with providers to discuss prescription hydromorphone
- Opening of *OnPoint*- the first overdose prevention center in NYS

HCV Prevention

- Launched *NY Cures Hep C* campaign, Fall 2019
- Multimedia public awareness campaign targeting
 - PWID
 - Women of childbearing age



HCV Prevention

- Targeted work for young PWID (YPWID)
 - Streetwork Project Support Group for Young People Who Use Drugs (YPWUD)
 - Substances 101 and Anti-Stigma trainings for High School Students
 - Online outreach and drug education for YPWID

HCV Testing and Linkage to Care

- Expansion of the NYS HCV Testing Law to requiring HCV screening of all adults
- New requirement for universal HCV screening of pregnant people during each pregnancy
- Improving lab compliance for HCV reflex testing
- Broadened access to *free* HCV testing (antibody and RNA) through the NYS HCV Testing Program
- Availability of dried blood spot for HCV RNA testing

HCV Testing and Linkage to Care

- HCV Patient Navigation Services
 - Drug user health hubs (DUHH), substance use disorder (SUD) treatment programs, jails
- Building capacity in SUD treatment programs for onsite HCV testing and linkage to care
 - NYS HCV learning Collaborative with Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program
- NYS HBV/HCV Outbreak Detection and Response Plan

HCV Care and Treatment Access

- Removal of prior authorization for treatment naive clients
- Innovative HCV models of care for PWID
 - Colocation of HCV treatment at SEPs, on mobile vans, outpatient drug treatment programs and via telehealth
- NYS AIDS Institute (AI) clinical guidelines on the management of HCV

HCV Care and Treatment Access

- Clinical Education Initiative (CEI) Training on HCV diagnosis management and treatment
 - Clinical preceptorships
 - HCV telehealth toolkit
 - HCV warm line
- Expansion of the CJI to include HCV in-facility work and ensure linkage to care post release
- Building capacity within opioid treatment programs to provide HCV treatment
 - HCV Billing Guide
 - Support for nurse care coordinators
 - Learning collaborative

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

- Syringes and the residue are no longer subject to criminal sanction
- Removal of 10 syringe cap through the Expanded Syringe Access Program (ESAP)
- Lifting of ban allowing ESAP providers to advertise
- Opt-out HCV testing in NYS prisons
- Guidance developed for local jails on HCV testing, treatment and linkage to care expectations

SDOH

- Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) adopts HR approach
- AI Health Equity Initiative (HEI)
- Trauma Informed Care (TIC) Learning Collaborative
- Allowance of the use of incentives within AI-funded HCV programs
- Learning collaborative to build capacity of stigma free care
- Peer Certification Program
 - HCV and Harm reduction tracks
- Assessment to determine SDOH needs available to all AI funded contractors

Surveillance, Data and Metrics

- Established data use agreements for data sharing (NYCDOHMH, Vital Records and Statewide Health Information Network (SHIN-NY))
- Established baseline prevalence of HCV in NYS
 - 116,000 - 189,000 persons
- Established elimination targets to monitor HCV elimination progress
 - HCV diagnoses
 - HCV treatment/clearance
 - HCV new infections

Surveillance, Data and Metrics

- Established the Hepatitis Elimination Epi data set (HEED) to track HCV diagnoses and treatment/clearance metrics.
- Launched study to measure HCV incidence in PWID population
 - Working to establish the size of the PWID population in NYS



Surveillance, Data and Metrics

- Launched the NYS Hepatitis Dashboard, May 2022
 - Disseminates information on progress toward elimination
 - Interactive recommendations page
 - Timeline of HCV milestones
 - HCV elimination metrics



hcvdashboardny.org



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Future activities

- Program
 - Public awareness campaign –raise awareness among pregnant people for universal HCV screening
 - Regional HCV community mobilization and coalition building
 - Nurse care coordination in OTPs
 - Navigation in high-risk settings
 - Provider education for new HCV testing requirements

Future activities

- Policy
 - Implementation of the new HCV screening legislation
 - Require the reporting of negative HCV antibody screening tests by labs
 - Removal of treatment readiness requirement for prior authorization for treatment experienced persons

Thank you

- Mehvish Bhatti
- Upasana Chalise
- CUNY
- Lisa Currin
- Martha Gohlke
- Jeff Hotaling
- Lindsey Hutchison
- Jennifer Karcher
- Joe Kerwin
- Krystle Lawler
- Shannon Mason
- Kaitlyn Miller-Fazioli
- Ken Okonkwo
- Jason Pendergast
- Deirdre Reid
- Mara San Antonio-Gaddy
- Sai Shishir Shetty
- UAlbany SPH
- Larissa Wilberschied
- Jeff Young
- Lucila Zamboni

