



Hepatitis C Clinical Exchange Network March Meeting Report

March 3, 2016 4:00 – 6 p.m. - American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge

CME [available](#)

Champion Action Items

- Save the date for quarterly meetings: Jun 2nd, Oct 6th
- Apply for HepCX grant: due April 4, 2016, 5pm EST
- Refer providers to [ELF tele-mentoring](#)
- Gather and share patient narratives with [VOCAL-NY](#) and [DOHMH](#)
- Contact [Eric Rude](#) for more information on the Check Hep B & C City Council-funded Initiative
- Check out [NYC Council C advocacy 1-pager](#) and [viral hepatitis rates by council member districts](#)

Agenda

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Fabienne Laraque, MD, MPH - Medical Director Viral Hepatitis Program, NYC DOHMH

- 7,691 people with chronic HCV newly reported in 2014
 - 91.5 per 100,000 people
 - 11% increase from 2013
 - Largest increase among baby boomers
 - [2014 DOHMH Hep B & C Annual Report](#)
- HepCX Grant
 - Fund HCV care systems improvement projects
 - Q&A session: Wed, March 16th 4pm, [RSVP here](#)
 - Submission deadline: Mon, April 4th, 5pm EST

ADVOCACY & FUNDING

Robert Cordero Executive Director, Grand Street Settlement

- [CLICK HERE](#) for presentation
- A clinical champion at each hospital can focus attention on HCV care and create opportunities to engage in partnerships
- Clinicians are uniquely positioned as leaders to legitimize the urgency and the messaging of the benefits (impact) of better and greater HCV care
- Get to know “[who represents](#)” you at home and at work

Jeremy Saunders Co-Executive Director, VOCAL-NY

- Discourse on the high cost of HCV treatment is creating momentum for advocacy from coast to coast
- Clinician and patient narratives can be crafted for public education and used to put pressure on elected officials
- Providers can write narratives, sign letters, make public statements on the state of epidemic:
 - Highlight the human and financial toll
 - Emphasize patient rights to life-saving medication
 - Show many people are being denied access

Eric Rude Policy & Development Director, Viral Hepatitis DOHMH

- [CLICK HERE](#) for presentation
- Join the Check Hep B & C City Council-funded Initiative to provide patient navigation services for your patients
- “[Find My Council Member](#)”

HCV CARE AT BELLEVUE HOSPITAL

Ellie Carmody, MD, MPH *Infectious Disease, Bellevue Hospital*

- [CLICK HERE](#) for presentation
- ID Fellows spearheaded efforts to improve HCV care
- EHR prompts most instrumental to get providers and staff to screen
- Feb. 1, 2015, all HCV Ab positive tests are reflexed to RNA
- Bellevue study show lack of referral was identified as major gap in linkage to care
- Improvement to HCV care project requires interdisciplinary collaboration

Main Points of Discussion

ADVOCACY & HEPICX FUNDING

- Can switching to different drug drive competition and lower medication cost?
- VOCAL-NY can work with clinicians tell their stories and those of their patients in truly potent advocacy
- DOHMH and advocacy partners will reach out to champions on opportunities for advocacy
- Policy and advocacy alerts are posted on the [HepCX website](#)
- Hearings at both the city and the state are occurring throughout the month to negotiate the respective budgets, both of which have hepatitis items associated with to them. The State Legislature has to pass their final budget by March 31. The City Council has until June 5 to pass the City budget.

IMPROVING HCV CARE

- Should we focus on increasing screening when hospitals have many patients who are not on treatment?
- Reason for ongoing advocacy presentations and trainings are to encourage and show mechanism for hospitals to advocate for city, state, federal funding for expanding and increasing HCV care
- Refer patients wanting to share stories of treatment denials to [DOHMH](#) and [VOCAL-NY](#)
- Mount Sinai is documenting every incident of patients being denied treatment and the reasons why for their own advocacy work and publication

DOHMH SURVEILLANCE REPORTING

- DOHMH working on quarterly progress report and dashboard by hospital using surveillance data to track screening and linkage to care
- Please provide us with names and addresses of clinics associated with your hospital
- Review upcoming email which includes 1 year report on antibody positive testing and RNA confirmation rates at your hospital
- Work on using surveillance data to support effort to implement reflex testing

RESOURCES

PDFs for dissemination

- [Commissioner Letter – HCV Screening & EMR alert](#)
- [EHR Alert & Data Use Guide](#)
- [NYS DOH HCV RNA Reflex Letter & Implementation Guide](#)

Advocacy & funding

- National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable ([NVHR.org](#))

Provider education & tele-mentoring

- Free, Online CME [Hepatology Course for PCPs](#)
- Refer providers to [tele-mentoring](#)
- Ask [Fabienne Laraque](#) to give grand rounds to clinics, residents, fellows

HCV Treatment Access

- NYS Hep C Patient Assistance Program – [HepCAP](#)
- Hospital EHR changes and patient care coordination/navigation – [Gilead FOCUS Program](#)
- NYC Council – Hospitals may be able to join the Check Hep C program by requesting and receiving funding from their City Council members. DOHMH can provide TA. Contact [Eric Rude](#)

Other

- [VA provider resources](#)

Champions

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