NYC VIRAL HEPATITIS ELIMINATION PLAN: WHAT IS A MICRO-ELIMINATION APPROACH?

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Learning Objectives

By the end of this presentation, you will be able to:

- Describe why a Micro-Elimination approach can support NYS Viral Hepatitis Elimination implementation.
- Describe the components of a Micro-Elimination project.
- Recognize some potential applications of the Micro-Elimination approach in NYC.

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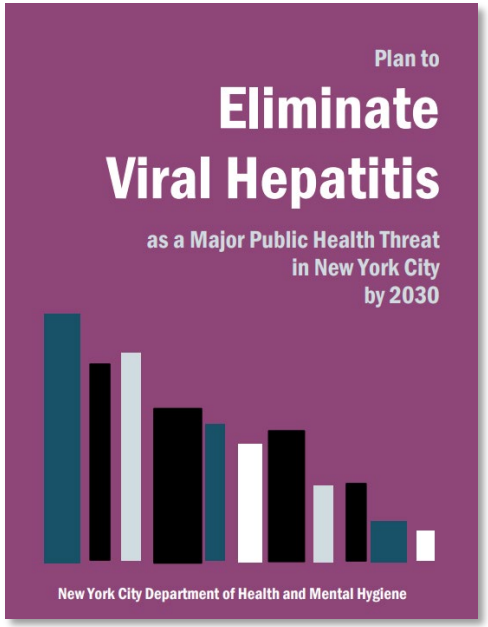
NYC Viral Hepatitis Elimination (VHE) Plan



- **NYC's VHE plan** has three central goals:
  - Reduce new chronic hepatitis C infections among people in NYC by 90% by 2030.
  - Reduce premature deaths among people with chronic hepatitis B and C in NYC by 65% by 2030; and improve the health of people with hepatitis B and C in NYC.
  - Reduce health inequities related to viral hepatitis infection among people in NYC.
- The plan also includes progress indicators and more than 70 strategies.

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Source: N.Y.C. DEP'T OF HEALTH & MENTAL HYGIENE, PLAN TO ELIMINATE VIRAL HEPATITIS AS A MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT IN N.Y.C. BY 2030 (2021), *available at* https://www.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/cd/viral-hepatitis-elimination-plan.pdf.

What is Micro-Elimination?

Micro-Elimination pursues hepatitis B and/or C elimination goals in discrete populations by creating multi-stakeholder initiatives that tailor interventions to the needs of the population.

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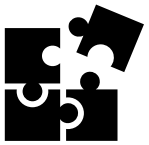
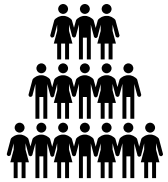
Source: Jeffrey V. Lazarus, Kelly Safreed-Harmon, Mark R. Thursz, John F. Dillon,, et al. *The Micro-Eliminaiton Approach to Eliminating Hepatitis C: Strategic and Operational Considerations. MicroElimination.org*

Benefits of Micro-Elimination



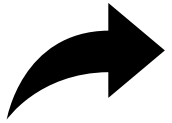
Less daunting than full-scale elimination efforts.



Encourages stakeholders most knowledgeable about specific population to engage with each other and builds community accountability.



Promotes the creation and uptake of new models of care.



Can build momentum by producing small victories that inspire more ambitious efforts.

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Source: Jeffrey V. Lazarus, Kelly Safreed-Harmon, Mark R. Thursz, John F. Dillon,, et al. *The Micro-Eliminaiton Approach to Eliminating Hepatitis C: Strategic and Operational Considerations. MicroElimination.org*

What are the components of a Micro Elimination project?

Micro-elimination projects should meet the following criteria:

- **A plan and timeframe.** There is a plan for leveraging health resources and services to overcome known barriers and achieve high levels of hep C diagnosis and treatment in one or more clearly definable populations of interest within a given timeframe.
- **Targets.** Set achievable annual targets based on annual surveillance and modeling to determine the levels of diagnosis and treatment required to progress to the plan's ultimate target.
- **Meaningful stakeholder involvement.** Use a multi-stakeholder process, including government officials, health services providers, and civil society partners.
- **Public accountability.** Progress and outcomes are monitored and publicly reported using the indicators selected at the outset of the process.

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Source: Jeffrey V. Lazarus, Kelly Safreed-Harmon, Mark R. Thursz, John F. Dillon,, et al. *The Micro-Eliminaiton Approach to Eliminating Hepatitis C: Strategic and Operational Considerations. MicroElimination.org*

Micro-Elimination in the NYC Viral Hepatitis Elimination Plan

Strategy 7.15: Use hepatitis C surveillance and other data systems to develop and implement micro-elimination projects in **people with comorbidities, such as people treated at STI clinics or dialysis centers**, using lessons learned from interventions for **people with HIV/hepatitis C co-infection**.

Strategy 7.16: Use hepatitis C surveillance and other data systems to develop and implement micro-elimination projects at **specific health care facilities** that serve people with hepatitis C and are willing to take on comprehensive quality improvement initiatives. This should include funding to the facilities to incentivize treatment for **PWID**.

Strategy 7.17: Expand and publicize successful micro-elimination projects to other facilities and populations.

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Where Micro-Elimination Has Been Successful









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Where would a Micro-Elimination approach be most helpful and urgent?
Which groups or populations should be prioritized?
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THANK YOU!
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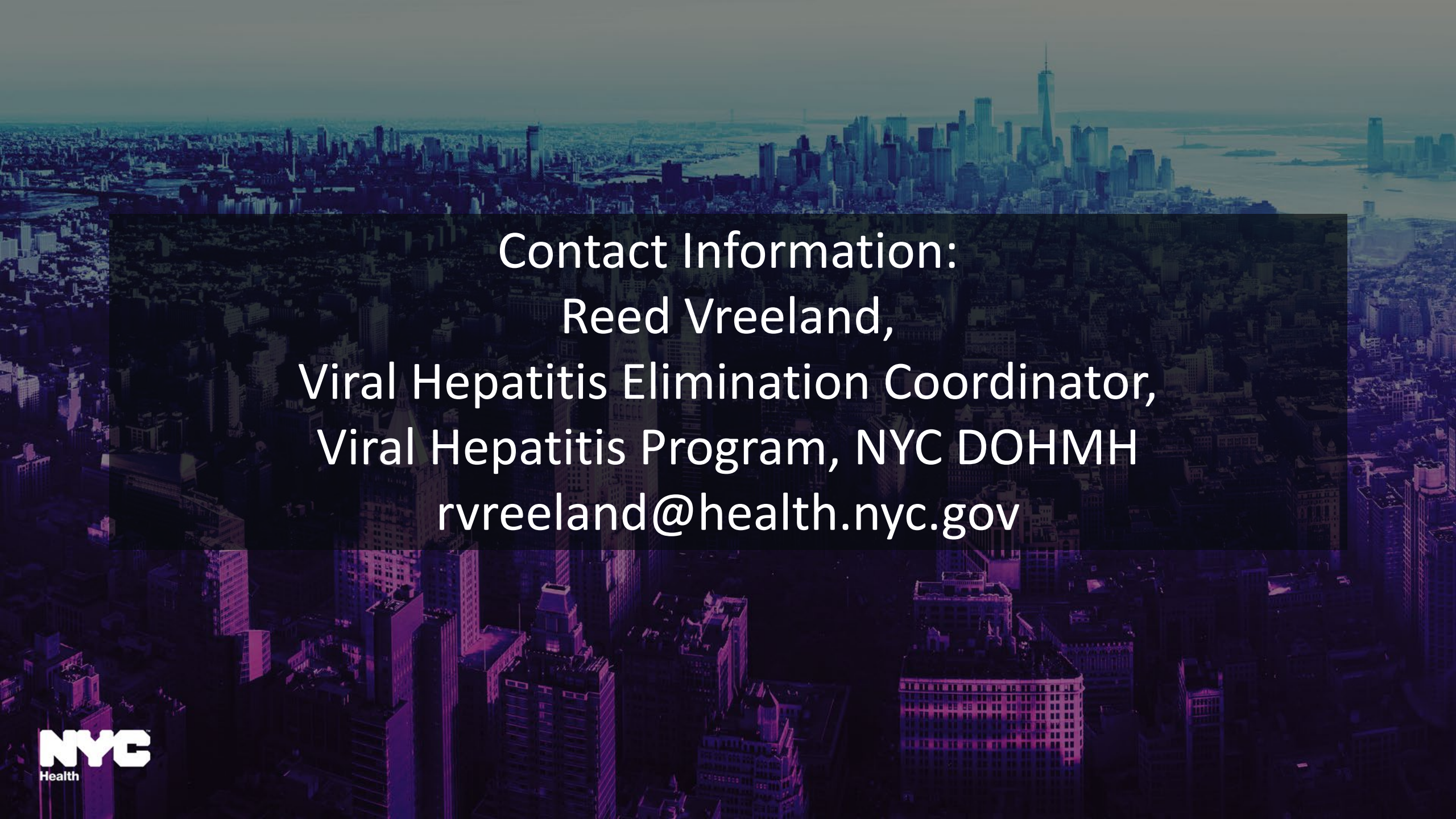

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