CHECK HEP C PATIENT NAVIGATION PROGRAM

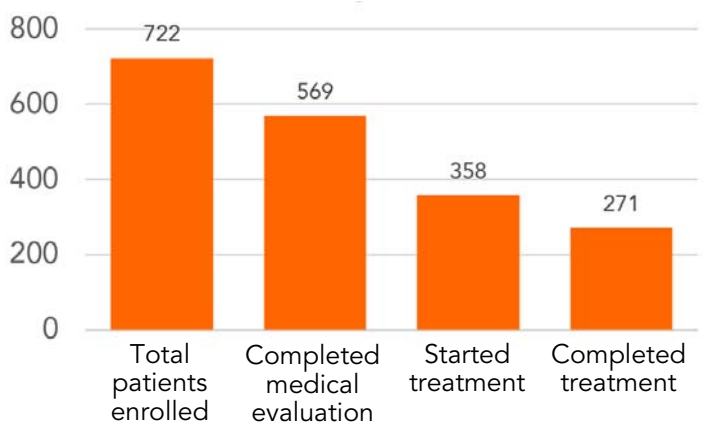
2016 FINAL REPORT

Background

- 146,500 people are infected with hepatitis C (Hep C) in New York City.
- Forty percent are unaware of their infection and only 18% have been cured.
- Treating and curing Hep C reduces the risk of liver disease, cancer and premature death, and prevents transmission of the virus.
- People with Hep C face strong barriers to accessing Hep C care and treatment. Barriers include drug use, homelessness, psychiatric conditions and insurance restrictions on medication coverage.
- Patient navigation can help people with Hep C overcome barriers to accessing and completing Hep C care and treatment.

Program Outcomes

From January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, Check Hep C served 722 patients living with Hep C. In this time, **358 patients started treatment and 271 completed treatment.**



Program Description

The goals of the Check Hep C Patient Navigation Program are to: (1) link people living with Hep C to medical care; (2) support complete Hep C medical evaluation and successful Hep C treatment; (3) prevent reinfection; and (4) help patients maintain liver health after treatment. The program is administered by the New York City Health Department.

In Fiscal Year 2016 (FY2016), New York City Council allocated $430,502 to fund one to two full-time patient navigators at five sites to provide linkage to care and clinical care coordination services. Services included:

- Hep C health promotion
- Referrals to supportive services
- Linkage to Hep C medical care
- Accompaniment to or reminders for medical appointments
- Alcohol and drug counseling
- Case conferencing with medical care team
- Treatment readiness and adherence support
- Medication access support

Patient Characteristics

56% were Medicaid beneficiaries.

34% were homeless or unstably housed.

32% had a mental health diagnosis.

30% reported injection drug use in the past year.

"My [Check Hep C] patient navigator was my patient navigator but he was a little more than that. He went steps further than that and, by the grace of God, I went through the whole process [of Hep C care and treatment]. I got clean at the same time. I stopped using totally because I had somebody in my life that was [there] for me...He got me through the methadone program, [through] Hep C treatment, [and into] the shelter. I got my life back."

– FY2016 Check Hep C Program patient

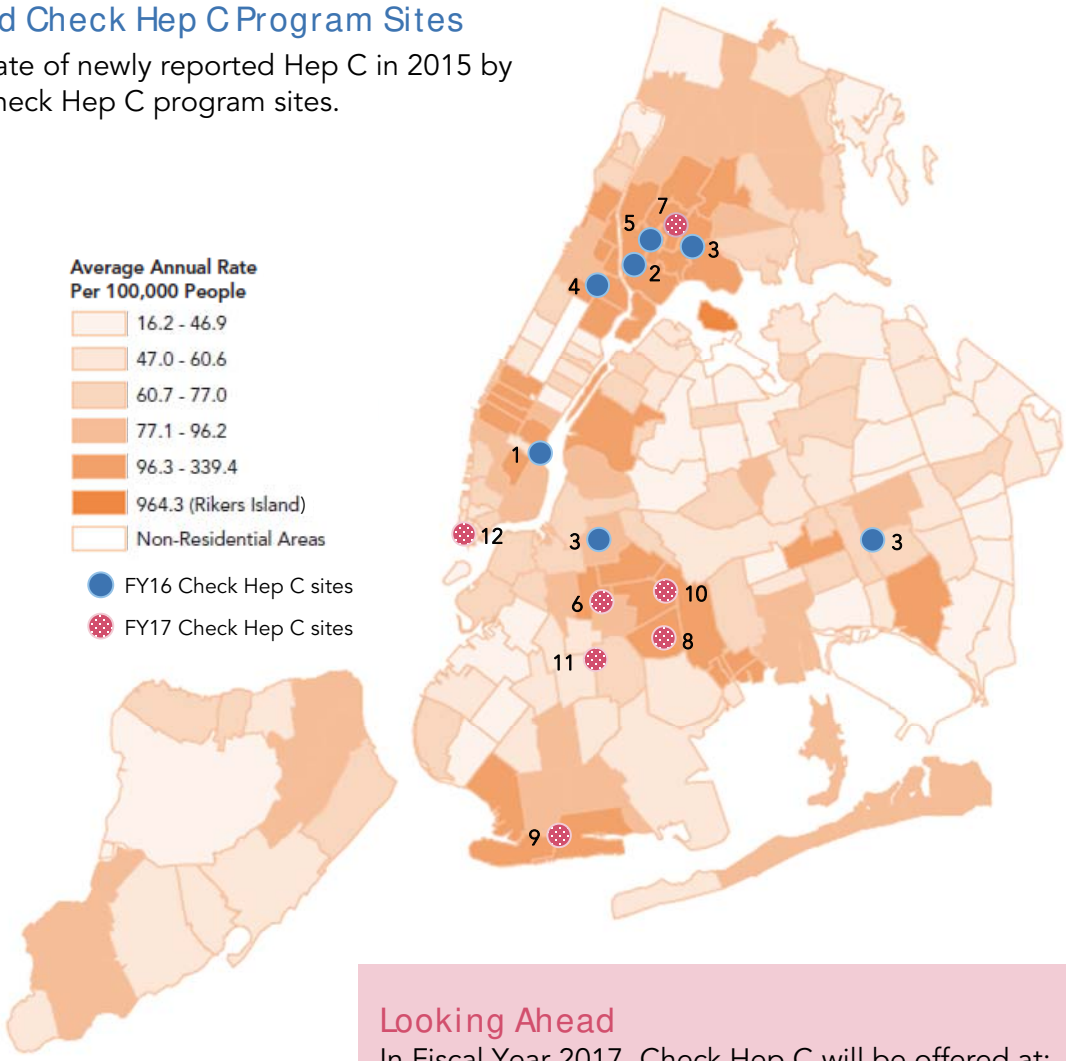
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Hep C in New York City and Check Hep C Program Sites

The following map shows the rate of newly reported Hep C in 2015 by ZIP code and the location of Check Hep C program sites.



FY2016 Program Sites

1 **Bellevue Hospital**
Public hospital

2 **BOOM!Health**
Harm reduction program co-located with a federally qualified health center (FQHC)

3 **Community Healthcare Network**
FQHC

4 **Harlem United**
Community health center

5 **Montefiore Comprehensive Health Care Center**
FQHC

"Through the Check Hep C Program, I found out about my high blood pressure...that I have glaucoma, [that] I'm prediabetic. A lot of that was a consequence of my old life. I found out a lot of things [and] they've all been taking care of it. Everything's under control right now. Blood pressure and sugars are back to normal, no Hep C."

– Check Hep C Program patient

"The Check Hep C team is on top of their game."

– Check Hep C Program patient

Looking Ahead

In Fiscal Year 2017, Check Hep C will be offered at:

6 **Bedford-Stuyvesant Family Health Center** (FQHC)

7 **Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center** (FQHC)

8 **Brownsville Multiservice Family Health Center** (FQHC)

9 **Coney Island Hospital** (Public hospital)

10 **Family Services Network of New York, Inc.** (Community-based organization)

11 **Kings County Hospital** (Public hospital)

12 **Praxis Housing Initiatives, Inc.** (Community-based organization)

To learn more about the Check Hep C Patient Navigation Program, please email hep@health.nyc.gov.