

Missouri Hepatitis Elimination Plan

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Objectives

- Background of Missouri's Viral Hepatitis Program
- Building a Committee for Elimination Planning
- Tools for Engagement and Ownership
- What's Next?

Background



- ▶ The Missouri Viral Hepatitis Prevention Program (VHPP) consists of two staff and is situated in the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis.
- ▶ Missouri is very diverse with both rural and urban areas.
- ▶ Our mission in the VHPP, is to reduce the burden of viral hepatitis among Missouri citizens by being a resource for education and awareness, testing, and linkage to care.
- ▶ The main focus is hepatitis C. Hepatitis A and B are located in other offices in the department.
- ▶ In 2018, the VHPP created the Missouri Viral Hepatitis Stakeholder workgroup.
- ▶ The program provides prevention education and awareness, rapid antibody test kits, and collaboration with stakeholders.

Program Barriers

- ▶ Until 2020, Missouri did not receive specific funding for viral hepatitis surveillance
- ▶ No state funding
- ▶ No set aside funding for hepatitis C state laboratory testing
- ▶ Missouri has laws that prohibit syringe service programs
- ▶ COVID-19 pandemic

Pre-Work

We called in reinforcements!

First quarter of 2021, NASTAD facilitated three webinars:

- ▶ Louisiana
- ▶ Hawaii
- ▶ Pennsylvania

**HEP TAC for
the WIN!**



Building MO HEPC

Prior to establishing our Missouri Hepatitis C Elimination Planning Committee, we surveyed our current Missouri Viral Hepatitis Stakeholder Workgroup members.

The survey consisted of the following questions:

1. Demographics
2. What is your area of expertise in regards to hepatitis C?
3. Would you like to participate in the planning committee?
4. Do you have the time to participate?
5. If you would like to assist in the state elimination plan, but do not have the time, would you like to have a representative from your organization be on the planning committee?
6. Is there any organization or individual that you feel would be an asset to the state elimination planning committee that isn't already a member of the Missouri Viral Hepatitis Stakeholder workgroup?
7. It was also explained to each member that their answers on the survey would not exclude them from being a member of the Missouri Viral Hepatitis Stakeholder (MVHS) workgroup.

Partners

- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Local Public Health Agencies
- Community Based Organizations
- Contracted HIV Testing Sites
- Department of Social Services (MO Healthnet/Medicaid)
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Corrections
- State Associations (Rural Health, Primary Care, etc.)
- Pharma
- Healthcare Providers
- Hospitals
- Substance Use/Harm Reduction Organizations

First Meeting

The Missouri Hepatitis C Elimination Planning Committee (MO HEPC) had their first meeting in August 2021.

- Established timeline
- Created Mission and Vision statements
- Completed a SWOT Analysis
- Asked for input on branding or slogan

Show Me the Cure!

Timeline Planning

2021

Month	Plans
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Finalize Mission, Vision, and PillarsDesignate Subgroups
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Create goals and objectivesMeeting on October 21, 2021
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Present draft goals and objectivesWork on activitiesMeeting on November 17, 2021
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Finalize goals and objectivesMeeting on December 9, 2021

2022

Month	Plans
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">DHSS staff begin draft planMeeting on January 20, 2022
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review draft planMeeting on February 17, 2022
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Finalize planCELEBRATE!Meeting on March 15, 2022
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Approval processMeeting on April 21, 2022 (if needed)
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Submit to CDCFinal meeting on May 19, 2022

Mission and Vision Statements

Mission:

To create a plan to eliminate hepatitis C in Missouri by increasing access to universal testing, improving health care outcomes for people living with hepatitis C, and preventing new infection, while increasing dignity and reducing stigma.

Vision:

By 2026, increase access to and capacity for hepatitis C prevention, testing, and treatment for all Missouri citizens.

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) Analysis

	HELPFUL (Positive Impact)	HARMFUL (Negative Impact)
Internal	<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Hep Cure • ShowMeEcho • Collaboration with other programs/grants • Stakeholder partnerships • Hep C Alliance 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding • Limited number of providers testing/treating • No state public health lab testing • Need for additional surveillance data • Limited access to testing supplies for providers
External	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicaid expansion • Syringe exchange • Universal testing • Expand treatment in FQHCs • Expand collaboration with other established programs • Educational campaign • Expand the capacity of the healthcare system • Patient assistance programs 	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Stigma • Syringe services limitations • Hard to reach populations • Lack of resources in rural areas • Cost of confirmatory testing • Laws impacting hepatitis C

Pillars of Focus

Access to Services	Policy & Advocacy	Education, Collaboration, & Awareness	Surveillance
Expanded provider capacity	Syringe Exchange programs	Signs/symptoms	Data
Expanded testing	Universal testing	Testing	Disease surveillance system
Treatment	Funding	Stigma	Epi profile
Linkage to care	Medicaid expansion	Transmission	Quality assurance
Patient navigation		Health Equity	Other data resources

Goals, Objectives, Methods of Measure & Activities (GOMMA)

- Each sub-committee had individual meetings to come up with their GOMMA for the assigned Pillar of Focus.
- The GOMMA were then presented to the entire committee at an in person meeting held in November 2021. This allowed the committee to assist each other in rewording, updating and finalizing each pillar of focus.



Tools for Engagement and Ownership

- Highly recommend a facilitator
- Make it “their” plan
- Be consistent on meetings (Timeline)
- Sometimes urgency is better
- Give them responsibility and freedom
(i.e. subgroup chairs, don’t attend every subgroup meeting)
- Gratitude - Praise, praise, and more praise

Some things to be ready for....

- Doing a lot of the work
- Patience
- Lots of reminders
- Be aware of silos and member’s organizational agenda

Meet our MO HEPC elimination planning committee



What's Next?

- ▶ Have a coordinated launch. (Social and digital media, press releases, webpage, etc.)
- ▶ Present plan at meetings, conferences, and exhibits
- ▶ Share with various stakeholders and encourage others to do so
- ▶ Keep the momentum!



Any Questions