State Opioid Response Grant
HIV/Viral Hepatitis Integration Project

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Bureau of Epidemiology

In collaboration with
Bureau of Communicable Diseases, Division of HIV Disease

NASTAD VLC
July 13, 2022
Presentation Objectives

- Review Pennsylvania Department of Health’s work on the State Opioid Response grant HIV/viral hepatitis project
- Review how this work aligns with elimination planning
- Discuss collaboration with SSP advocacy partners on elimination plan release event
About

SAMHSA State Opioid Response Grant, HIV/Viral Hepatitis Service Integration Project is a collaborative initiative by the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs and the Department of Health.

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The goals of the project are to increase awareness of and expand access to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and viral hepatitis services in facilities treating persons with substance use disorder through:

- Prevention
- Testing
- Client Education
- Clinical Education
- Intervention
- Treatment
Technical Assistant Opportunities

- Prevention/Vaccination
- Onsite Treatment
- Onsite Screening (Test) & Testing
- Linkage to Care - Increase Referral Networks
- Patient Resource Materials and Treatment Curriculum
- Provider Training and Education
Single County Authority Engagement (n=47)

- Initial meeting: 89%
- Implementation plan meeting: 51%
- Provider overview presentation: 40%
- Educational materials provided: 72%
- Educational training scheduled: 32%

Total Single County Authorities Engaged: 94%
Project Toolkit

- Capacity assessment
- Screening tool for HIV/viral hepatitis services
- *Workgroup for protocol development*
- Educational materials including referral guide
- *Curriculum for addictions treatment programs*
- Trainings
  - Clinical foundations
  - Community training
  - Medical training
Capacity Assessment

A tool developed to assist in assessing a program’s capacity to offer HIV/viral hepatitis services, their current service options for HIV/viral hepatitis, and how to measure growth of services within the substance use disorder treatment system.
Capacity Assessment Domains:
Domain A: Provider Policies/Protocols
Domain B: Financial/Reimbursement
Domain C: Health Literature
Domain D: Risk Screening
Domain E: Testing
Domain F: Medical Treatment and Linkage to Care
Domain G: Preventive Services
Domain H: Documentation
Domain I: Training
Domain J: Staffing Requirements
A tool developed to ensure all persons entering substance use disorder treatment are offered:

a. Hepatitis A & B vaccination
b. HIV prevention
c. HIV testing
d. Hepatitis C testing
e. Referrals
Manual Update

Assisted with updates to the DDAP Case Management and Clinical Services Manual - HIV and viral hepatitis services section

2020-25 Case_Mgt_and_Clinical_Srvcs_FINAL.pdf (pa.gov)
Protocol Development Workgroups

A. Prevention  B. Testing  C. Treatment  D. Case Management

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Educational materials topics as requested by SCAs:

- HIV
- Viral Hepatitis
- TB
- STI

Referral guide by SCA in progress
Curriculum for Providers

Development of a brief psycho-educational curriculum about HIV and viral hepatitis

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Training Development

- Clinical Foundations Training for HIV and Viral Hepatitis Service Integration
  - Licensed clinicians
- Community training for case managers, peer recovery specialists
- Medical training for medical professionals
  - HCV treatment onsite
HIV/Hep Educational Campaign

- Collaboration between DDAP and DOH Communications
- Digital media campaign that will run 6/1 – 8/31/2022
  - Facebook/Instagram, Twitter
  - Google AdWords
  - Google Video
  - Other ad networks as identified
Educational Campaign

- **WIDE:**
  [video link](https://pacast.com/players/cmsplayerHD.asp?video_filename=app_20626.DOH.HIV-HepC_scrpt01_15s_WIDE-review3.m4v)

- **SQUARE:**
  [video link](https://pacast.com/players/cmsplayerHD.asp?video_filename=app_20626.DOH.HIV-HepC_scrpt01_15s_SQ-review3.m4v)
Next Steps

- Rapid HIV/HCV test kit distribution
- Hep A and Hep B vaccine distribution
- Technical assistance
SCA Recommendations

- Involve criminal justice programs in integration
- Address payor concerns
- Increase awareness about the need for HIV/viral hepatitis services
- Address access/availability issues statewide
BACKGROUND

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is hosting a viral hepatitis and syringe services programs awareness event in partnership with Hep Free PA, which serves as Pennsylvania’s statewide coalition focused on viral hepatitis elimination across the commonwealth.

This event will highlight the importance of the prevention and treatment of viral hepatitis, debut the commonwealth’s first iteration of its viral hepatitis elimination plan as well as spotlight the necessity of legalizing syringe services programs to address viral hepatitis and other preventable diseases.

The Wolf Administration worked closely with members of the General Assembly to develop Senate Bill 926 and House Bill 2264 which would allow additional organizations outside of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia to engage in syringe services work. Currently, there are more than 400 Syringe Service Programs operating in 39 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

AGENDA

This event will consist of a press conference with speakers including:

- Dr. Denise Johnson, MD, FACOG, FACHE — Acting Secretary of Health and Pennsylvania Physician General
- Dr. Stacey Trooskin, MD, PhD, MPH — Chief Medical Officer, Philadelphia FIGHT
- Dr. Chari Cohen, DrPH, MPH — Senior Vice President, Hepatitis B Foundation
- Pennsylvanians offering to share their lived experiences

Legislators have been invited to attend and participate.

LOCATION

Pennsylvania State Capitol Building – East Wing Rotunda
501 N. Third St Harrisburg PA 17120
Questions?

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