HepTAC VLC: North Dakota

Working Across the Health Department and with Other State Agencies to Increase Collaboration on Viral Hepatitis Prevention and Surveillance Activities

March 8, 2023
Topics of Discussion

• NDHHS Program Structure
• Surveillance Tools
• Relationship with Medicaid, Corrections and Behavioral Health
NDDoH now NDHHS.

- Department of Health and Department of Human Services Merged in September 2022
- Public Health Division and a Behavioral Health Division
  - HIV, STIs, Viral Hepatitis, Ryan White and TB in one Unit
- Now Under Same Agency as Medicaid
ND Surveillance Activities.

- Hepatitis C RNA Negative Reportable
- Future: Adding HBV DNA Undetected, Pregnancy in Hepatitis C
- Data Sources:
  - HIN
  - Maven
  - Data Quality Coordinator
Need for Partnership with Medicaid.
Our Partnership with Medicaid.

- Medicaid shared their enrollees from 2000 – 2022
- Compared to HCV Surveillance Data
- Number of HCV Infections Enrolled in Medicaid & Number of Medicaid Enrollees that need Additional Follow-Up
- Developing Strategies to Involve DIS in HCV Treatment Follow-Up
Overall, 27% of reported HCV infections are currently enrolled in ND Medicaid.

- 4,035 Medicaid Enrollees have been reported to NDHHS as having confirmed or probable HCV infection.
  - Of these 1,220 (30%) have resolved infection and are not considered currently infected.
  - There are possibly 2,815 currently infected patients of ND Medicaid that could benefit from additional follow-up for confirmation of infection and/or treatment.
HCV Advisory Council.

- Developing HCV Elimination Plan
- Members:
  - Lived Experience
  - Syringe Service Programs
  - ND Dept of Corrections
  - SUD Treatment Providers
  - HHS Testing Sites
  - Surveillance Epidemiologists
  - Tribal Public Health & IHS
• Screen all Inmates: HIV/ Hepatitis C, GC, Chlamydia and Quantefiron gold testing
• Treat Individuals with APRI > 0.5
• Current budget allows treatment of about 43% of those with chronic HCV
• Utilize 340B
• Invited to Weekly Treatment Grand Rounds Among Providers
• Unable to Utilize Report Form
Behavioral Health

- Monthly Meetings
- Collaborate on Funding Announcements
- SOR – SSP Funding
- Exploring HCV screening in all programs: Administrative Rules
University Partnerships.

- Develop Relationships to Expand Full-Time Workforce.
- Detailing Program.
- Increase HCV Testing in Primary Care.
- Identify Providers Willing to Treat HCV.
- Center for Collaboration and Advancement in Pharmacy.
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The United States will be a place where new viral hepatitis infections are prevented, every person knows their status, and every person with viral hepatitis has high-quality health care and treatment and lives free from stigma and discrimination.

This vision includes all people, regardless of age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, geographic location, or socioeconomic circumstance.

National Viral Hepatitis Strategic Plan, 2021 - 2025