

# Rapid Start-Up of a Field-Based Hepatitis C Elimination Program Enabled by State Funded 340B Initiative

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# **Disclosures**

No disclosures related to this presentation.



# **Creation of VEN Centers**

- AZ Liver Health was the largest treater of HCV in Arizona
  - Experienced providers and company leaders with more than 30 years of clinic and outreach experience
- 2021 ADHS granted ALH 340 B status
  - Funds to be used to
    - Eliminate HCV
    - Provide Access to STI care & PrEP/PEP in Arizona



# **Creation of VEN Centers**

- Estimated 90,000 patients in Arizona with HCV and 10,000 new cases annually
- Despite a robust clinical program, ALH treated about
   150 patients a year
- New strategy was necessary to treat more patients



# **Creation of VEN Centers**

- Sought insights from our patients and others with HCV
- Visited other HCV treatment programs to understand paradigms in care
- Learned from colleagues in the space
  - HepC Free AZ
  - ECHO Colleagues
  - Harm Reduction Programs in AZ





#### **VISION**

#### **ELIMINATE VIRAL HEPATITIS**

### **MISSION**

#### **EQUAL ACCESS TO VIRAL HEPATITIS & STI CARE**

### **VALUES**

#### COMPASSION

Care And Treatment With Dignity And Respect

#### **EQUITY**

Inclusive Healthcare Without Judgement

#### COLLABORATION

Partnership With Communities And Organizations

#### **ADVOCACY**

Innovation in Public Policy Change and Initiatives

#### **EXCELLENCE**

Leaders In Clinical Care, Public Health, And Research

### **Collaboration is the Name of the Game**





Crossroads Wission







Health and Wellness for All Arizonans



































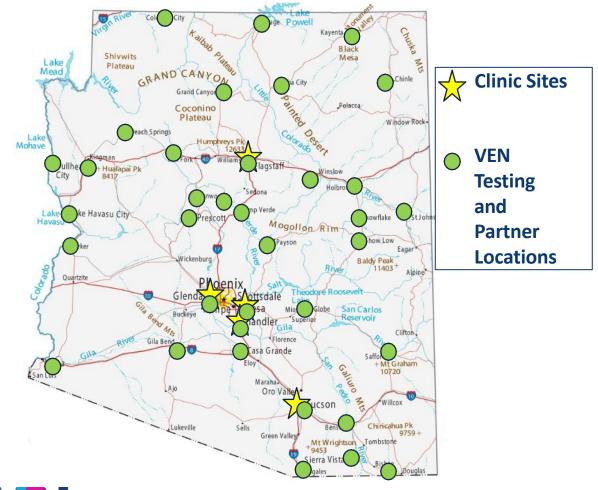




# **Arizona VEN Testing Locations**

- □ Northern Arizona☆ Flagstaff
- ☐ Central Arizona☆ PeoriaChandler Mesa

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## **HCV Cases Identified**

# HCV DAA Rx Clinic/Outreach Comparison





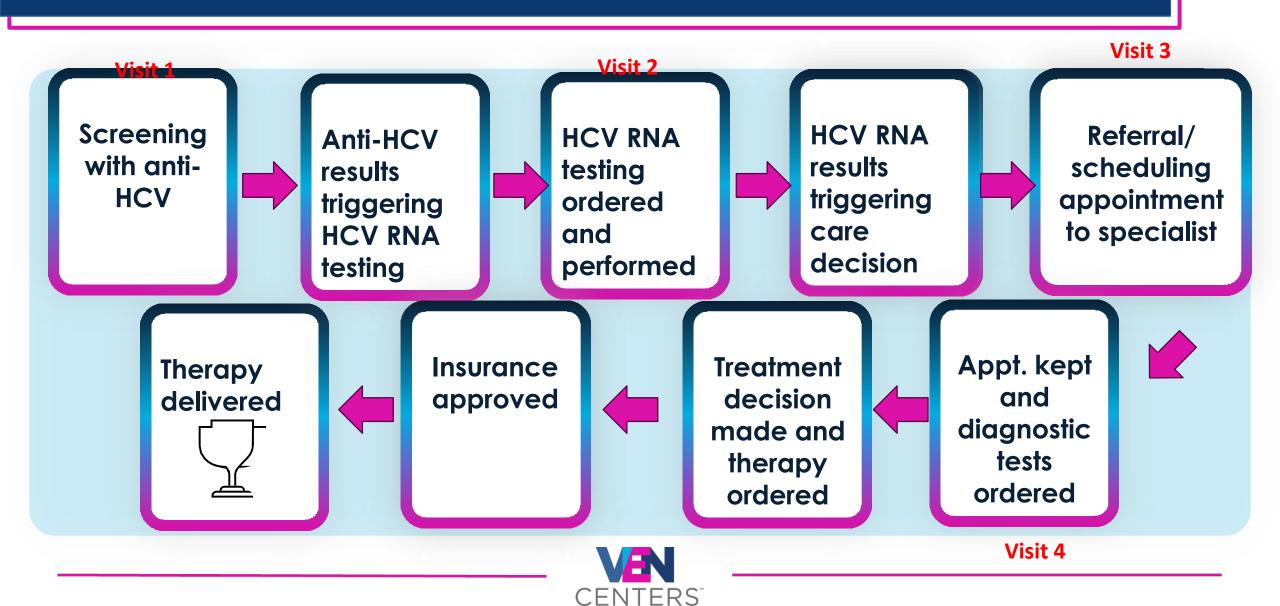
# Why We are Here



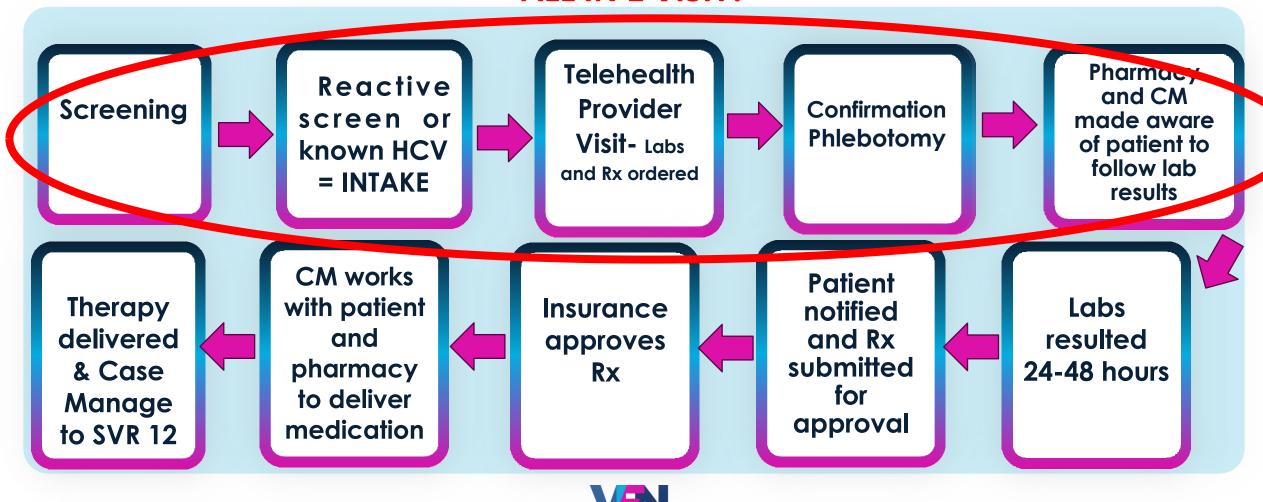
- Known HCV for Over a Decade
- Diagnosed originally in Prison
  - "not sick enough"
- Attempted to get treated by multiple providers while at various recovery centers
  - "Too expensive"
  - "Fibrosis score not high enough"
  - "Levels too low"



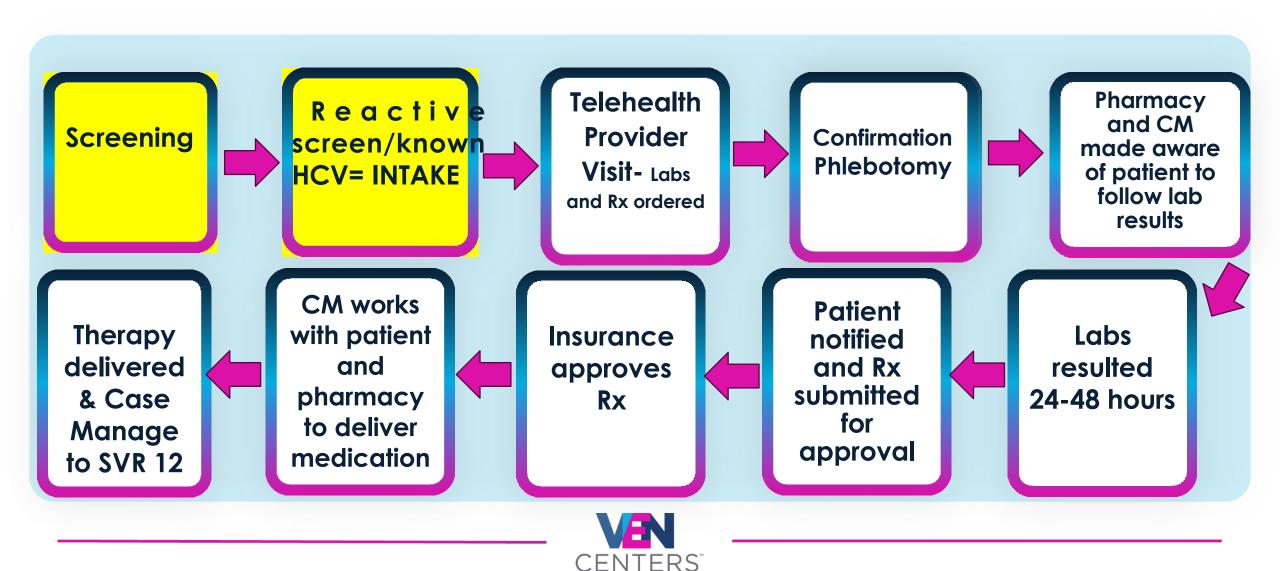
# **Linkage to Care – Access to Treatment**



### **ALL IN 1 VISIT!**



CENTERS



### **Intake Processes Save Time and Fallouts**

- Detailed patient info
  - "How am I going to find you"
- Patient contracts and consents

Pharmacy Releases



# **Outreach in Action**





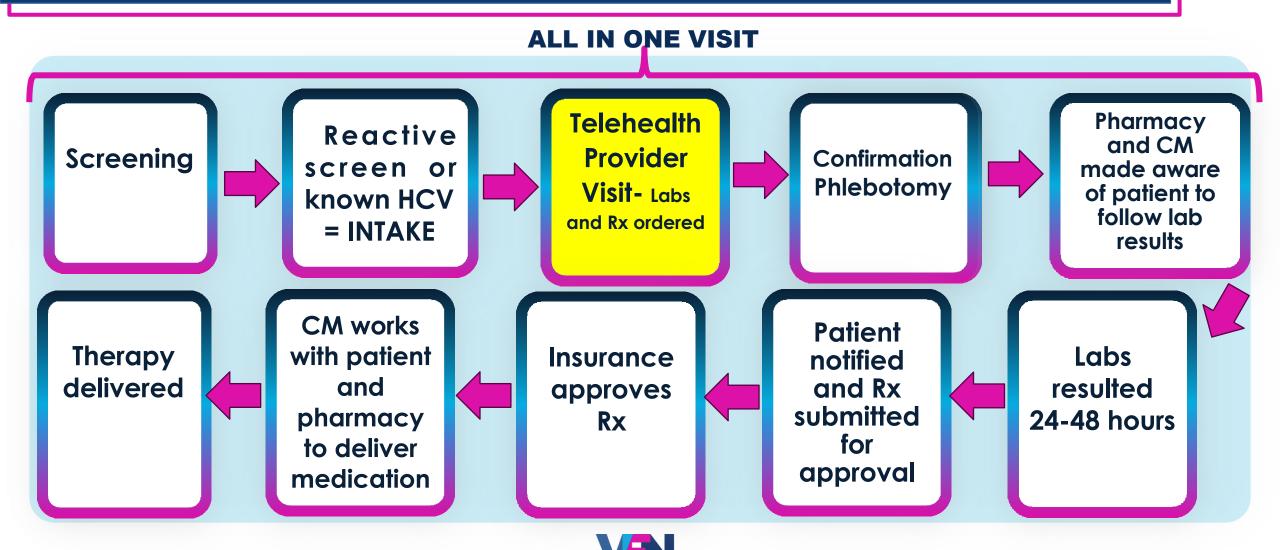




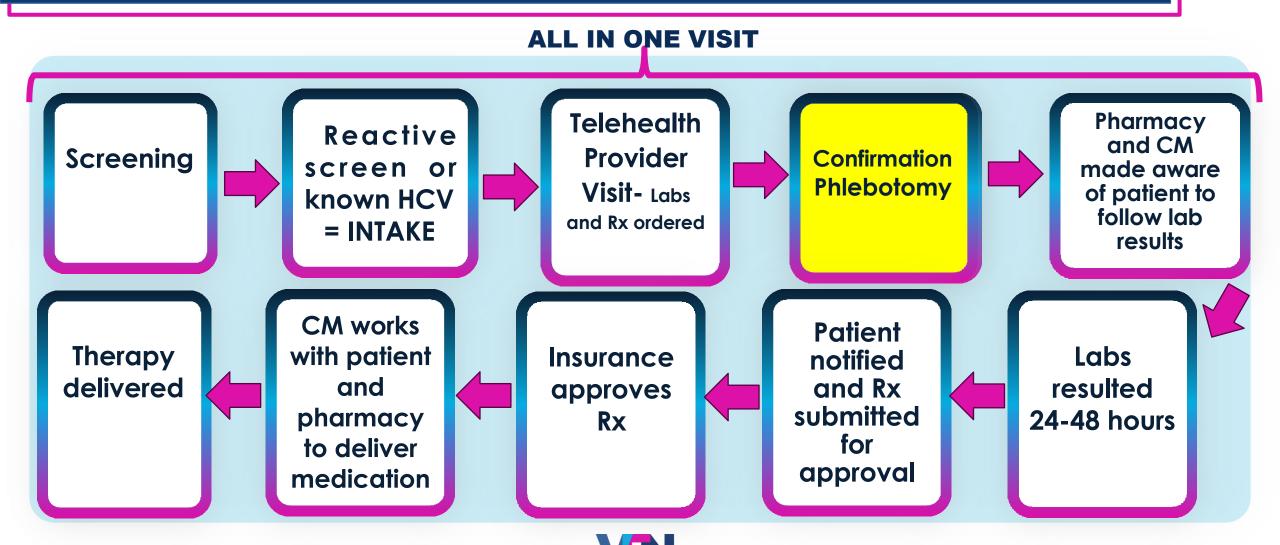








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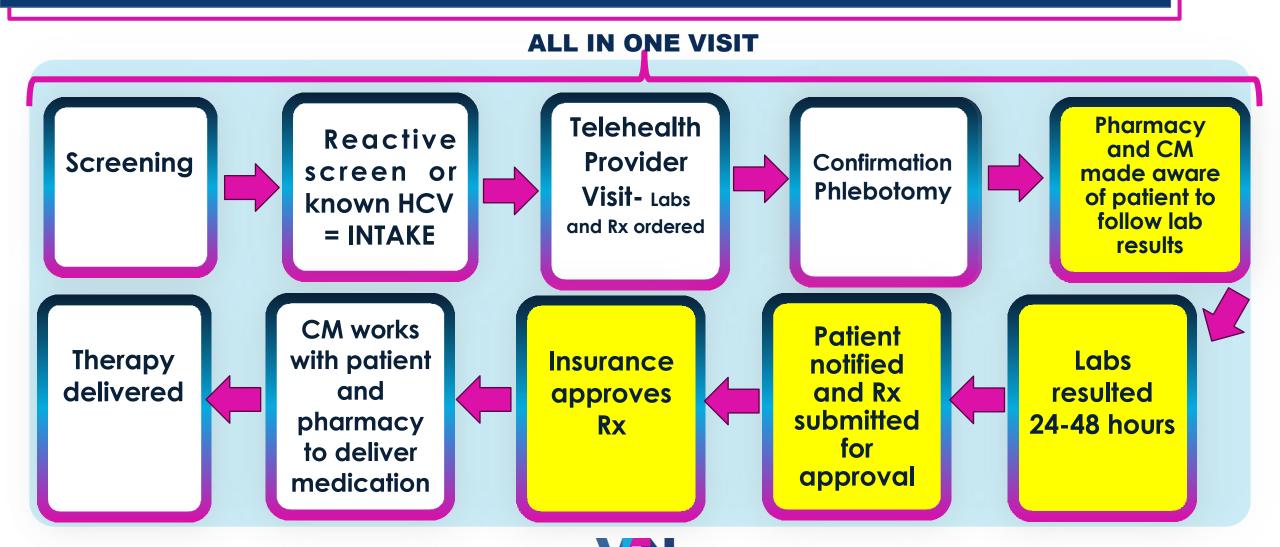
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# **Skilled Phlebotomy Ensures 1 Visit**

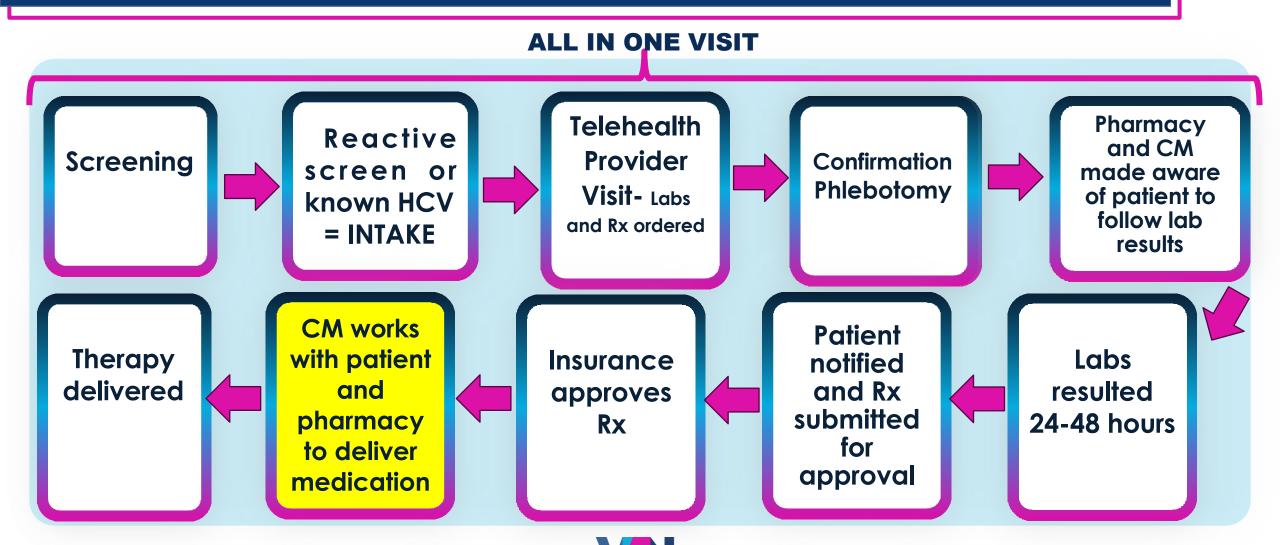


- Field Draws can be difficult- skilled phlebotomy is a must
- Some patients may have already had recent labs





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# Case Management Is the KEY to Successful HCV Treatment

# **ALH Case Management Program Creation**

- HCV Education for all staff
- Standardize the Process
- Consistent Staff for Familiarity and Trust
- Follow Up at Critical Moments
  - Initial Contact
  - HCV RNA results
  - Rx Approval for Fill
  - Assist with and Confirm Rx Delivery

- Confirm Rx started- follow for compliance and SEs
- Refill assistance
- Confirm EOT
- Schedule SVR Labs



# 4 Areas of Focus to Improve HCV Outcomes

- Improve Access to Care
- Decrease Treatment Process Steps and Barriers
- Decrease Stigmatization and Treatment Misconceptions
- Improve Patient Tracking Methods



# Why We are Here



- Completed entire intake process within 30 minutes of meeting
- Meds with ALH pharmacy team within 3 days
- Meds in patient hand in 7 days



# In Closing

"Far and away, the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard, at work worth doing."

-Theodore Roosevelt



## **Contact Information**

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