



Viral Hepatitis Newsletter

July 2024

Spotlight

WORLD HEPATITIS

World Hepatitis Day

World Hepatitis Day takes place July 28, and reminds us that it is time for action. World Health Organization data shows the number of deaths related to hepatitis is rising. Each year, 1.3 million people lose their lives to hepatitis. This year, for World Hepatitis Day we are calling for action to help put an end to this preventable disease. We have the tools we need to eliminate hepatitis by 2030, but we have to take action.

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Hepatitis News

FDA clears first hepatitis C RNA test for 'point-of-care' settings

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has authorized the first hepatitis C virus (HCV) test that can be used to bring HCV diagnosis to certified point-of-care settings. The authorization of this new test supports the test-and-treat approach where if a person is reactive for HCV RNA they can be linked to care and cure in the same health visit. Previously this would have been a multi-step process, which can lead to patients not receiving their HCV diagnosis and linkage to the cure.

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"A third of people with hepatitis C in the United States don't even know they have a deadly, yet curable, infection."

Jonathan Mermin, M.D., MPH, director of CDC's National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention

American Liver Foundation patient registry

The American Liver Foundation developed a patient registry, to collect important data about liver diseases from the patient's perspective. The American Liver Foundation patient registry will help provide researchers with a better understanding of liver diseases, the impact of treatments and the effects of liver diseases.

How does it work?

- Open to all adults (18 and older) with any type of liver disease, who live in the United States
- Voluntarily fill out questions in the patient registry survey. Answers will be combined with other participants and used in research.
- Patient registry survey should take around 30 minutes to complete. You can pause any time.



To find out more information or participate in the American Liver Foundation patient registry:

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

New hepatitis C prevalence estimates

A recently published article, "[Estimating hepatitis C in the United States, 2017-2020](#)" in [Hepatology](#) by HepVu Fellow Dr. Eric Hall and HepVu Project Director Dr. Heather Bradley in collaboration with colleagues at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Emory Coalition for Applied Modeling for Prevention ([CAMP](#)). This paper demonstrates new models to estimate the number of hepatitis C infections in the United States.

The new hepatitis C prevalence estimates show that the number of people currently living with hepatitis C is much higher than previously thought. This new model shows that there are approximately [4 million](#) people living with hepatitis C in the United States, rather than the previous estimation of [2.4 million](#).

To learn more about new hepatitis C prevalence estimates:

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

Educational Resources

Hepatitis C ECHO trainings

Extension for Community Healthcare Outcome (ECHO) is a collaborative program that uses technology to provide case-based learning to improve access to high-quality treatment for hepatitis B and C. On the web-based platform, participants share knowledge with others, connect to specialists, and participate in discussions, and medical experts provide recommendations to enhance the mastery of topics.



The Hepatitis C ECHO meets online on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

To register for the Hepatitis C ECHO:

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

IN-HAMP

Indiana Hepatitis Academic Mentorship Program (IN-HAMP) is a medical education training program for clinicians who are new to treating hepatitis C. The IN-HAMP program includes two 1.5-hour long hepatitis C ECHO sessions, Cycle 1 training and preparation for clinicians to treat individuals living with hepatitis C, and Cycle 2 that covers advanced topics in hepatitis C care.



If you are a clinician and interested in learning more about IN-HAMP, email inhamp@iu.edu or enroll in Cycle 1 and Cycle 2. The next Cycle 1 training is Sept. 5. To register:

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

If you attended IN-HAMP Cycle 1 training, and are interested in joining Cycle 2 training, please email jennwatk@iu.edu.

At the conclusion of the training, clinicians will have the tools and education to begin treating hepatitis C immediately.

To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers

