

**New York State
Hepatitis C Elimination Annual Progress Report
Virtual Meeting
10:00 am – 2:00 pm on May 14, 2025**

Opening Remarks

10:00 am – 10:15 am

*Brianna Norton, DO, MPH
Deputy Medical Director
AIDS Institute*

Keynote: Leveraging Syndemic Approaches to Eliminate Hepatitis C

10:15 am – 10:45 am

*Boatema Ntiri-Reid, JD, MPH
Senior Director, Syndemic Approaches
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors*

The keynote address will focus on the potential for syndemic approaches to help us realize our hepatitis elimination goals. Hepatitis C does not exist in isolation—it is deeply intertwined with other hepatitises, HIV, STIs, and other infectious conditions, behavioral health including substance use, and societal drivers of health such as food access, housing, education, transportation, employment, safety, and social supports. A syndemic approach recognizes the convergence of each and presents an opportunity to integrate harm reduction, universal testing, accessible treatment, and social intervention into broader public health strategies. By embracing a syndemic framework, we can move beyond traditional models of disease elimination and implement comprehensive, community-driven solutions to make hepatitis C elimination a reality.

Progress Towards Hepatitis C Elimination

10:45 am – 11:45 am

New York State

- New York State Elimination Metrics Update
*Larissa Wilberschied, MS
Epidemiology and Surveillance Program Manager, Bureau of Hepatitis Health Care and Epidemiology, AIDS Institute*
- Updates on New York State Programs, Policy, and Significant Accomplishments
*Colleen Flanigan, RN, MS
Director, Bureau of Hepatitis Health Care and Epidemiology, AIDS Institute*

New York City

- New York City Elimination Metrics Update
*Holly Anger, MPH
Senior Surveillance and Research Scientist, Viral Hepatitis Program
Bureau of Hepatitis, HIV and STI, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene*
- Updates on New York City Programs, Policy, and Significant Accomplishments

*Reed Vreeland, MPA
Viral Hepatitis Elimination Coordinator / Policy Analyst
Bureau of Hepatitis, HIV and STI, New York City Department of Health and Mental
Hygiene*

Break

11:45 am – 12:15 pm

Innovative and Promising Practices Panel

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

Hepatitis C Dashboard to Improve Linkage to Comprehensive Care Services

*Jess Metlay, MD
Infectious Disease Fellow
New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Irving Medical Center*

New York Presbyterian's Comprehensive Health Program (CHP) is using an Electronic Medical Record based dashboard to improve linkage to care for people living with hepatitis C and simultaneously expanding HCV treatment services with an emphasis on treatment for people with active substance use. CHP is both a Patient Centered Medical Home and Designated AIDS Center (DAC); given the overlapping social vulnerabilities faced by people living with HIV and people living with hepatitis C, leveraging and expanding the robust services available at DACs represents one potential model for improving rates of linkage to hepatitis C care and treatment in New York. This presentation will describe the dashboard rollout, rates of diagnosis, treatment, cure, linkage, engagement and service delivery.

Innovative Hepatitis C Navigation Program

*Pete Emery
Hepatitis C Navigation Manager
ACR Health*

This presentation will describe ACR Health's effective Patient Navigation model, which opens doors to a healthy life by creating trusting relationships, reducing stigma, and empowering clients to access services available in the community. Since the ACR Health Patient Navigation program's inception in 2018, they have streamlined hepatitis C diagnostic and treatment processes for individuals in their community and have enrolled over 700 clients, with approximately 90% of these clients successfully starting treatment. ACR Health's contributions to hepatitis C elimination have been successful by prioritizing client services and promoting personal choice.

The Circle: A Progressive Model towards Addressing Syndemics of Hepatitis C

*Robert Desrouleaux
Program Manager
Hepatitis C Mentor and Support Group*

The presentation will detail how the Hepatitis C Mentor and Support Group's *The Circle Model* can serve as a non-clinical model, which can be adopted by community-based organizations, syringe service programs, overdose prevention centers, hospitals, and

clinics who can provide a physical support environment for participants. It serves as an enhancement to strengthen existing services and programs within the partner organizations. Partner organizations are provided with educational training tools, materials and support to help bridge the systemic gaps in terms of education and supportive services for vulnerable populations.

Tracking Hepatitis C Elimination in NYS

1:15 pm – 1:30 pm

*Benjamin Katz, MPH, MIA
Senior Project Manager
Institute for Implementation Science in Population Health
City University of NY*

The purpose of the [New York State Hepatitis C Dashboard](#) is to measure, track and disseminate actionable information on progress towards eliminating hepatitis C as a public health problem in New York State. This presentation will provide a brief overview of what features and data are available across the dashboard and include a short demonstration on how to access trends and regional data.

Striving Toward Elimination: Advances in Hepatitis C Testing and Treatment

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

*Anthony Martinez, MD, AAHIVS, FAASLD
Associate Professor of Medicine, Jacobs School of Medicine, University at Buffalo
Medical Director, Hepatology, Erie County Medical Center*

This presentation will highlight new advances in hepatitis C testing and treatment, including SVR4, point of care diagnostic testing and treatment among pregnant people. Dr. Martinez will share his experiences implementing the new hepatitis C point of care testing instrument, treating and curing pregnant people diagnosed with hepatitis C and why it is important to address syndemics.