



Eliminate Hepatitis C Task Force

April 8, 2022
12:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Via Zoom

Minutes

Attendance: Patrick Loose, County of San Diego (Co-Chair), Robert Lewis, Family Health Centers of San Diego (Co-Chair), Mark Beatty, MD, County of San Diego, Michelle Darnelle, Medical Center Pharmacy, Carrie Farrell, County of San Diego, Jeffrey Johnson, MD, County of San Diego, Meghan Johnson, County of San Diego, Christian Ramers, MD, Family Health Centers of San Diego, Claire Riley, County of San Diego, Tara Stamos-Buesig, San Diego Harm Reduction Coalition, Andrea Tomada, County of San Diego, S. Samantha Tweeten, PhD County of San Diego and Wilma Wooten, MD, County of San Diego

Contract Support Staff: Scott Suckow, Liver Coalition of San Diego and Ryan Clary, Clary Strategies.

The meeting started at 12:04 PM. The purpose of the Task Force was reviewed.

Purpose: To coordinate the implementation of the plan to eliminate HCV in San Diego County by 2030. With the overarching targets: • 80% decrease of incidence of chronic HCV by 2030, and • 65% reduction of HCV mortality by 2030.

Updates: Plan of Work

Annual Progress Report: Andrea Tomada will serve as the point person for the report. Have a “final” draft by the first week of June. There will not be a presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Look at Getting to Zero’s progress report for format of report.

HCV Bridge: Dr. Ramers reported that there will be a May 4th a training at TrueCare and on June 18 a training to Neighborhood Healthcare.

Virtual Trainings: Scott shared that Viral Hepatitis in Kids will be on May 24th and Hepatitis C and Substance Use will be on June 28th.

Eliminate Hepatitis C Task Force

c/o Liver Coalition of San Diego
Scott Suckow, Executive Director

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Health Center Partners CMO Committee Meeting on May 17th: Scott shared that these key points will guide the discussion.

- Testing and Linkage – Brief overview of the findings for this area. Followed by a conversation: the report looks at providing Hep C testing in non-traditional settings. Mobile clinics are the best tool. We want to learn who has mobile clinics. Do they currently test for HIV and/or HCV? If not, do they plan on adding that testing? Who should be talk to about their mobile clinics. (10 mins)
- Treatment – Brief overview of the findings for this area. Followed by a conversation: we are wondering if each clinic’s EHR can run a report of who has been tested for HCV, then follow up on those. There is a large number of folks who tested positive, but did not seek treatment for whatever reasons. Now, with a cure, it’s good to follow-up with those patients. La Maestra has done this and Dr. Rodriguez and the head of their liver clinic Dr. Gish can speak to this. (10 mins)
- Surveillance - Brief overview of the findings for this area. Followed by a conversation: review the process for reporting cases to the County. Explaining the difference between acute vs. chronic. (10 mins)

Annual Regional/State Meetings: Ryan shared that this will be a virtual learning exchange with the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable as a supporting sponsor. Speakers are being confirmed, with the focus on harm reduction best practices on testing and linkage to care. Date will be in June of 2022.

Committee Updates

The Surveillance Committee and the Linkage and Testing Committee have, or are, meeting. The Awareness and Prevention Committee and the Treatment Committee have not yet met. The Task Force stressed the importance of getting each committee up-and-running.

General Updates

Social Media: Dr. Wooten offered the County as a resource on social media. Suggested a possible survey of stakeholders to determine what information would like.

The meeting ended at 1:03 PM

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