



Eliminate Hepatitis C Task Force

Surveillance Committee

May 25, 2022
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Via ZOOM

MINUTES

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.

Participants: Samantha Tweeten, Andrea Tomada, Ryan Clary, Carrie Farrell, Stephanie Strathdee, Lisa Asmus, Megan Johnson, Tony Fristachi, Michael Abassian, Jaskaran Cheema

April 2022 Minutes:

- The April 2022 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Welcome Jaskaran Cheema:

- Jaskaran will be working with Natasha Martin on HCV modeling for the elimination initiative.

Progress Report:

The Committee reviewed and updated its progress report. See progress report for details.

Report from Dr. Tweeten:

Tweeten:

California Department of Public Health is starting to request reporting of negative viral loads from various health systems, including Kaiser South. This is a mid-step to requiring this reporting and a big step forward.

Eliminate Hepatitis C Task Force

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

5755 Oberlin Drive, Suite 301 | San Diego, CA 92121

Phone: (858) 800-0116 | **Fax:** (858) 800-0117 | Hepatitis C Initiative - Liver Coalition of San Diego

Direct Cell: (619) 416-1665 | **Email:** scott@livercoalition.org



Linkage and Testing Committee:

Ryan and Andrea will follow up with the Linkage and Testing Committee to discuss testing of incarcerated individuals and will report back.

2021 Surveillance:

In 2021, there were 3,700 chronic cases, 75 acute cases, and 3 perinatal cases. There is underreporting of race/ethnicity (being reported as unknown). We need to work with providers and systems to make sure this information is being collected and reporting. There are also issues with risk factors in which information about people who inject drugs is not being reported. We need data and can't make assumptions. We are also having issues getting genotype information and who is being referred to treatment. People who are doing initial HCV testing are not used to collecting this type of information. As we develop better systems with follow up, we will get better information.

Andrea and Ryan can bring this issue to the Treatment Committee for discussion. They could help with an educational campaign to make sure providers are reporting all pertinent information.

HCV Care Cascade:

Dr. Tweeten reported that the county has done well with developing an HIV care cascade and is now working on HCV cascade. The first components are established (baseline and number of persons with viremic infection). This gives us a starting point. There are issues with getting number for those treated and those with SVR. It will take time to get these numbers and we need to get negative viral load information to help with the cascade. Surveillance is putting things in place to gather necessary information.

Eliminate Hepatitis C Task Force

c/o Liver Coalition of San Diego

Scott Suckow, Executive Director

5755 Oberlin Drive, Suite 301 | San Diego, CA 92121

Phone: (858) 800-0116 | **Fax:** (858) 800-0117 | Hepatitis C Initiative - Liver Coalition of San Diego

Direct Cell: (619) 416-1665 | **Email:** scott@livercoalition.org