



Eliminate Hepatitis C Task Force

**September 9, 2022
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Via Zoom**

Minutes

Mission: Eliminate HCV in San Diego County by 2030

Purpose: To coordinate the implementation of the plan to eliminate HCV in San Diego County by 2030, with the overarching targets:

- 80% decrease in the incidence of chronic HCV by 2030, and
- 65% reduction of HCV mortality by 2030.

Attendance: Patrick Loose, Andrea Tomada, Carrie Farrell, Megan Johnson, Lori Jones, Christian Ramers, MD, Clair Riley, Samantha Tweeten, PhD, Winstone Tilghman, MD, Tom Coleman, MD, Tanya Mercado, MD, Scott Suckow, Ryan Clary

Topic/Lead	Reports/Discussion	Follow-Up
Opening – Patrick <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome & Introductions 	Meeting called to order by Patrick Loose at 12:05 pm Introductions followed.	
Old Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Memo 	Revisions have been completed. Forward up line for approval and presentation to the Board of Supervisors	Patrick
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCSD Modeling Project / Process for Reporting Back to Task Force 	Forwarded Dr. Martin’s presentation slides to Surveillance Committee for review and asked them to come back with recommendations. Report does show being unable to meet the mortality goal is a factor of the long term of the disease itself and not due to some lack of what we and the County are doing or not doing.	Dr. Tweeten with Surveillance Committee - Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge HCV Trainings / Ongoing / Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract ends October. Connections have been made but not yet completed. There is forward progress, however results show trainings are not enough. Logistical problems in navigating the 	

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	<p>systems of cares still the barrier.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea reported the County is currently working on a navigation system and will let us know when they have something. 	
<p>Street “Field” Medicine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Health Centers & St Vincent de Paul 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill passed by State Legislature was vetoed by Governor. Reasoning referred to CalAim. Noone knows yet if or how much that will cover. • Ryan reported he is putting a zoom meeting together with some outside organization such as Hep Free Hawaii, Philly Fight and Rachelle McClain from the White Huse to share information. This will be in October or November on a Friday. • Dr. Ramers reported FHC has reached 140 clients of their goal of 200 through the use of their mobile unit. That way they can bill MediCare. However, there is still no way to bill for staff to go on foot into homeless encampments. So far it only works because of the approved mobile unit. Homeless testing/treatment still has barriers due to no coverage of costs for the testing/treatment entities. 	<p>Ryan: Set-up zoom meeting with national partners. Publish and invite participants. Before October</p>
<p>Focus on Lived Experience – Engaging via Listening Tours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HIV Health Services Advisory Council (2 seats) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott reported we are considering a series of Listening Tours using various providers in the different regions of the county. Dr. Ramer said they are limited by HIPPA, and the stigma placed on Hep C. He suggested we try to engage those who were in the former planning group to possibly share their stories. Andea reported there is a Recovery Happens event on September 17th. County will have a booth there. Ned the one-page flyer with general information on Hep C testing and treatment. 	<p>Scott: Draft one-page flyer and send to Committee By first of next week.</p>
<p>Committee Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment - (Dr. Ramers/Dr. Dunford) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea reported they were changing meeting time and have added additional members • Asked members to submit a list of who they know that are providing testing and treatment so they can create a living document to publish for clients • Scott showed the Resources listings available on the Eliminate Hep C website as a very basic beginning. Dr. Ramers suggested each 	<p>LCSD On-going</p>

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	<p>resource needs a point of contact to be useful and needs to be very public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea reported County is currently working on a scope of work to come up with a system that is accessible. Hoping 211 could then apply to operate. Will report more later. 	Ongoing - Andrea
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveillance - (Dr. Tweeten/Andrea) 	No update. Still working and making progress.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkage and Testing - (Letty/Andrea) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update: FHC is increasing their testing through the grant they currently have and will continue after the grant is over. They have also linked with La Maestra to further expand. Will be at the 9/17 event doing testing • Dr. Coleman said they are looking forward to working with the committees in the pregnant and infants' communities. He reported that the ACOG (American Council of Gynecology) recommends testing for Hep C in every pregnancy. Also, Pediatrics agrees, however they cannot treat infants until they reach 3 years of age. Scott said he would put Dr. Coleman in touch with Dr. Schwarz of Rady's Hospital as that is her area of interest. Dr. Coleman will reach out to Dr. Kelly Motadel with the County. Also, Paul Hegyi with the Medical Society said he would be open to adding the current testing requirements into their core CEU trainings to get the new requirements out there. 	<p>Scott to introduce Dr. Coleman to Dr. Schwarz at Rady's Children's Hospital</p> <p>Dr. Coleman to reach out to Dr. Kelly Motadel</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness and Prevention (Tara/Andrea) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on coming up with ideas to get the information out to the community better. Need the one-page flyer previously mentioned. 	
<p>Training Opportunity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention & Therapies for Hepatitis and Chronic Liver Disease <p>Saturday, October 8th 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM Embassy Suites La Jolla</p>	Scott shared the flyer giving all the specifics to the upcoming training.	

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<p><u>Standing Agenda Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy/funding updates (Scott) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ White House, National Plan to Eliminate Hepatitis C – Francis Collins, MD, Science Advisor to the President 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryan, Scott and Rick Janisch were on the call for the White House meeting. Bottom line we need funding to better meet the testing and treatment needs. There is also the possibility of some technology that is not currently available in the U.S. that other countries are using successfully. Rick mentioned this was the first time he heard of now all levels of government recognizing the need for this. 	<p>)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Update (Scott) 	<p>None</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opioid Settlement Dollars County Planning Sessions - Aug. 10th, Sept. 6th and Sept. 7th 	<p>Per Patrick we have no idea how much the County may receive from the settlement. Possible to hear soon.</p>	
<p><u>Closing Remarks:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review items for follow-up • Confirm next meeting – October 14th , 12pm 	<p>Meeting adjourned at 12:59 pm.</p>	

Respectfully submitted: Susan Olivier, Liver Coalition of San Diego