IN 2021, THE US GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO REACHING GOALS FOR HEPATITIS ELIMINATION

THE HEALTH BURDEN OF VIRAL HEPATITIS

**Hepatitis B virus (HBV)**

- **2030**
  - HBV elimination goal
  - Elimination of HBV mother to child transmission goal

**Hepatitis C virus (HCV)**

- **2030**
  - HCV elimination goal

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**862,000–2.4M**

Number of persons living with HBV infection, 2016

*Based on national survey*

Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and African-Born persons account for 50-80% of infections.

**2.4 M (2.0–2.8 M)**

Number of persons living with HCV infection, 2016

*Based on national survey*

75% of persons with chronic HCV were born from 1945 through 1965.
**Mortality**

- **HBV deaths, 2019**
  - 1,662 deaths
  - 42 deaths per 100,000
  - Death rate among Asian and Pacific Islanders is 5 times the rate among White Americans

- **HCV deaths, 2019**
  - 14,242 deaths
  - 3.33 deaths per 100,000
  - Death rate among Black Americans is almost 2 times the rate among White Americans

**Progress Towards 2020 WHO Elimination Goals**

### Prevention of New Infections and Mortality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Percentage Change in New Infections</th>
<th>Percentage Change in Deaths</th>
<th>WHO Target</th>
<th>SDG Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HBV</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>-3%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>WHO 2020 Target -30% (US 2025 Target &lt;18,000 cases)</td>
<td>WHO 2020 Target -10% (US 2025 Target &lt;0.37/100,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HCV</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>+70%</td>
<td>-27%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>WHO 2020 Target -30% (US 2025 Target &lt;25,000 cases)</td>
<td>WHO 2020 Target -10% (US 2025 Target 3.00/100,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Prevalence of HBsAg in children < 5 years (%)**

- 0.03 (0.02-0.04)%
- SDG 2020 Target 1%
ACCESS TO RECOMMENDED VACCINATION, TESTING AND TREATMENT

**76%**  
Hepatitis B vaccination coverage for newborns, 2017 [%]

WHO 2020 Target 50% (US 2025 Target 75%)

**91%**  
HepB 3 dose vaccine coverage for infants, 2017 [%]

WHO 2020 Target 90%

**32%**  
Proportion of persons living with HBV diagnosed, 2016 [%]

WHO 2020 Target 30% (US 2025 Target 50%)

**18%**  
Proportion of diagnosed HBV persons receiving appropriate treatment [%]

WHO 2020 Target 30%

**30**  
For persons who inject drugs (PWID), number of sterile needles per year

WHO 2020 Target 200

**60%**  
Proportion of persons living with HCV diagnosed, 2016 [%]
Proportion of persons who have cleared HCV infection, 2016

US 2025 Target 58%

Policy Environment for the Elimination of Hepatitis

Achievement

Innovations

Roadblocks

Strategic Information

Routine official reports to monitor HBV and HCV

Estimates of HBV and/or HCV economic burden

Monitoring of HBV and HCV diagnosis and treatment

Roadblocks

Inadequate surveillance data to guide service delivery for at-risk populations
### PREVENTION OF MOTHER TO CHILDREN TRANSMISSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy for hepatitis B vaccination of newborns</th>
<th>Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommendations for:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HBV testing of pregnant women</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV testing of pregnant women</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program for triple elimination of HIV, hepatitis B, and syphilis</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ACHIEVEMENTS

*Hep B Moms initiative to educate pregnant women at risk of, or infected with hepatitis B*

### ACCESS AND REGISTRATION OF MEDICINES AND TESTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCV: Registration of orginator medicines</th>
<th>Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HCV: Eligible for generic medicines</td>
<td>Not Eligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV: Registration of generic medicines</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed point-of-care PCR testing to detect HBV and HCV</td>
<td>Not Adopted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TESTING TO DIAGNOSE HBV AND HCV INFECTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Testing recommendations for:</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HBV: Risk-based</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HBV: Persons born in regions with prevalence &gt;2%</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ACCESS TO HBV AND HCV TREATMENT**

**HBV:** National treatment guidelines 30  
- Simplified care: No patient treatment co-pays  
- Developed

**HCV:** National treatment guidelines 22  
- Simplified care algorithm: Less than 2 clinic visits during treatment 22  
- Adopted  
- Simplified care algorithm: Non-specialists can prescribe treatment 23  
- Partially Adopted  
- Simplified care algorithm: No patient treatment co-pays  
- Partially Adopted  
- No fibrosis restrictions 23  
- Partially Adopted  
- No sobriety restrictions 23  
- Partially Adopted  
- No genotyping 22  
- Adopted

**ROADBLOCKS**

Limited access to HCV testing in emergency departments

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

All-adult HCV testing recommendations (2020)

**HCV:** Risk-based 17  
- Adopted  
- HCV: Universal One-Time 17  
- Adopted  
- No patient co-pays for HBsAg and anti-HCV testing 21  
- Adopted
ACHIEVEMENTS
Simplified hepatitis B treatment and monitoring algorithm for primary care providers developed

Increasing number of states removing fibrosis, sobriety, and prescribing restrictions

INNOVATIONS
Project ECHO tele-mentoring to expand access to HBV and HCV treatment in under-served areas

Sub-national HCV elimination programs, including Cherokee Nation, San Francisco, and Louisiana

ROADBLOCKS
Cost of HCV testing in emergency departments and other priority settings beyond primary care

Hepatitis B treatment remains unaffordable or out of reach to many patients due to discriminatory practices by insurance companies

Innequities in access and affordability of HBV and HCV testing, care, and treatment

Unnecessary complexity of HCV care and treatment

HEALTH EQUITY AND ADDRESSING DISPARITIES

National strategy addresses populations most affected

Adopted

National anti-discrimination laws against persons living with hepatitis B and/or C

Partially Adopted

National policy for adult hepatitis B vaccination

Adopted

National policy for:

Harm reduction for persons who inject drugs (PWID)

Developed

Syringe exchange in federal prisons

Not Adopted

Number of needles/syringes per PWID per year

30

WHO 2020 Target 200

Number of opioid substitution therapy recipients per 100 PWID

Not Adopted
Decriminalization of possession of syringes & paraphernalia  
**Partially Adopted**  
3 of 51 states/territories (inc. DC)

Decriminalization of drug use  
**Not Adopted**

Decriminalization of hepatitis infection  
**Partially Adopted**  
12 of 50 states have laws that criminalize hepatitis

**INNOVATIONS**

The HIT-B program was a program at a community health clinic primarily serving medically underserved Asian American patient mined electronic health record (EHR) data on HBV screening and vaccination history to provide point-of-care recommendations that resulted in improvement in HBV screening and vaccination rates.

Community-based HCV testing and referral to care for homeless persons (e.g. Los Angeles)

New York State’s Drug User Health hubs, which co-locate HCV treatment at syringe exchange programs

Increased US CDC support for hepatitis prevention, diagnosis, and treatment for PWID

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

Federal support for harm reduction awarded in the American Rescue Plan (2021)

**ROADBLOCKS**

Substantial racial/ethnic disparities in HBV and HCV incidence and mortality

Limited access to harm reduction, safe injection equipment, and opioid substitution therapy for PWID

**FINANCING**

Public budget line for HBV and HCV testing and treatment  
**Adopted**

**INNOVATIONS**

Innovative Medicaid financing programs, i.e. subscription models in Louisiana and Washington state
NEXT STEPS TOWARD ELIMINATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Increase support for hepatitis surveillance linked to program planning and targeting service delivery</th>
<th>Guided by strategic information, expand access to harm reduction, including in correctional settings</th>
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<td>Prioritize programs and partnerships to address hepatitis-related health disparities</td>
<td>Pursue policies to expand access to HepB vaccination, care and treatment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scale-up HCV testing for all-adults, including for pregnant women</td>
<td>Expedite FDA licensure of point-of-care HBV and HCV diagnostic tests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remove restrictions to HCV treatment (e.g. sobriety restrictions)</td>
<td>Leverage innovations from COVID-19 response (e.g. home-based testing)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

SOURCES


22. AASLD-IDSA. Recommendations for testing, managing, and treating hepatitis C. https://www.hcvguidelines.org/


WORKING TOGETHER,
WE WILL ACHIEVE ELIMINATION.

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