

The Bree Collaborative Hepatitis C Charter and Roster

Problem Statement

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is the most common chronic blood-borne pathogen in the US and a leading cause of complications from chronic liver disease.¹ In 2018, an estimated 59,100 Washingtonians were living with HCV, prompting Governor Inslee to issue Directive of the Governor 18-13: “Eliminating Hepatitis C in Washington in 2030 through combined public health efforts and a new medication purchasing approach.”²

Aim

To increase evidence-informed screening, monitoring, and access to treatment for Hepatitis C virus (HCV) to reduce the burden of HCV in Washington state.

Purpose

To propose evidence-informed recommendations to the full Bree Collaborative on achieving HCV elimination including:

- Monitoring HCV prevalence and treatment using existing metrics or through new data strategies.
- Improving access to patient-centered preventative and universal screening services for HCV.
- Improving equitable access to HCV treatment and intervention services.
- Building clinical capacity and simplifying clinical workflows to diagnose and treat HCV.
- Identifying engaging, and treating underserved patients with HCV.
- Training and incentivizing primary care providers on how to treat HCV.
- Increasing HCV awareness, education, and reducing stigma.
- Engaging pharmacists as a care team partner.
- Developing reimbursement models to reach patients with HCV outside of traditional delivery systems.

Duties & Functions

The workgroup will:

- Research evidence-informed and expert-opinion informed guidelines and best practices for screening, monitoring, and treating HCV (emerging and established).
- Identify current barriers and future opportunities for implementing interventions.
- Consult relevant professional associations and other stakeholder organizations and subject matter experts for feedback, as appropriate.
- Align with other related state-wide initiatives and Hep C Free Washington.
- Maintain an equity lens while developing recommendations.
- Meet for approximately nine months, as needed.
- Provide updates at Bree Collaborative meetings.
- Post draft report(s) on the Bree Collaborative website for public comment prior to sending report to the Bree Collaborative for approval and adoption.
- Present findings and recommendations in a report.

¹ US Preventative Services Task Force (2020). Screening for Hepatitis C Virus Infection in Adolescents and Adults. JAMA. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.1123

² HEP C Free Washington (2019). Plan to Eliminate Hepatitis C in Washington State by 2030. <http://www.doh.wa.gov/HepCFreeWA>

- Recommend data-driven and practical implementation strategies including metrics or a process for measurement.
- Create and oversee subsequent subgroups to help carry out the work, as needed.
- Revise this charter as necessary based on scope of work.

Structure

The workgroup will consist of individuals confirmed by Bree Collaborative members or appointed by the chair of the Bree Collaborative. The Bree Collaborative director and program coordinator will staff and provide management and support services for the workgroup.

Less than the full workgroup may convene to: gather and discuss information; conduct research; analyze relevant issues and facts; or draft recommendations for the deliberation of the full workgroup. A quorum shall be a simple majority and shall be required to accept and approve recommendations to send to the Bree Collaborative.

Meetings

The workgroup will hold meetings as necessary. Bree Collaborative staff will conduct meetings, arrange for the recording of each meeting, and distribute meeting agendas and other materials prior to each meeting. Additional workgroup members may be added at the discretion of the Bree Collaborative director.

Name	Title	Organization
Abha Puri, MPH	Program Manager	Community Health Plan of Washington
Emalie Huriaux, MPH	STD, Adult Hepatitis, and Syringe Service Program (SSP) Manager	Washington State Department of Health
John Scott, MD, MSc	Professor, Department of Medicine Medical Director, Telehealth Associate Medical Director, Liver Clinic	University of Washington
Jon Stockton, MHA	Adult Viral Hepatitis Coordinator	Washington State Department of Health
Judith Tsui, MD, MPH	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine Director, UW Medical Student Addiction Research Program	University of Washington
Melda Velasquez	Service Line Director	Kadlec Regional Medical Center
Omar Daoud, PharmD	Director of Pharmacy	Community Health Plan of Washington
Patrick Judkins	Education and Outreach Specialist, Disease Control and Prevention	Thurston County Health Department
Ryan Pistoresi, PharmD, MS	Assistant Chief Pharmacy Officer	WA Health Care Authority
Wedny Wong, BSc	Ambulatory Clinical Pharmacist	Providence Health and Services
Vania Rudolph, MD, MPH	Addiction Medicine Specialist	Swedish Health Centers
Yumi Ando, MD	Gastroenterology Specialist	Kaiser Permanente