



**Burnet Institute**

Medical Research. Practical Action.

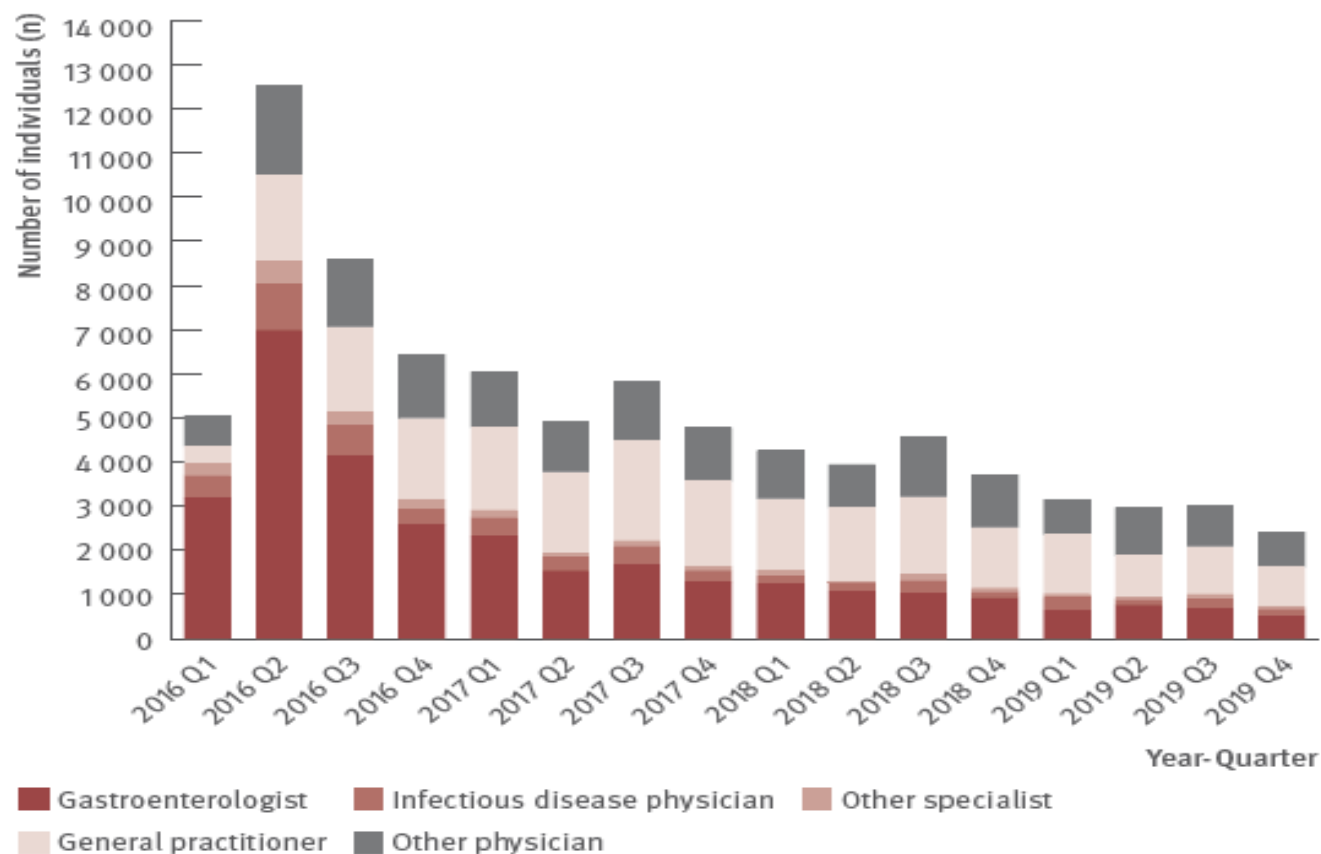
**Partnering peer specialists with  
nurses to expand access to HCV care  
for people who inject drugs: the  
PATH-EXpanded evaluation**

**Dr. Daniel O’Keefe**

**Burnet Institute**

**INHSU 2021**

# HCV in Australia



• Burnet Institute, Australia's progress towards HCV elimination annual report 2020

# PATH-Expanded project

- **Project objective**

*To evaluate a peer-specialist/integrated hepatitis C nurse partnership model of delivering HCV testing and treatment*

- **Project aims**

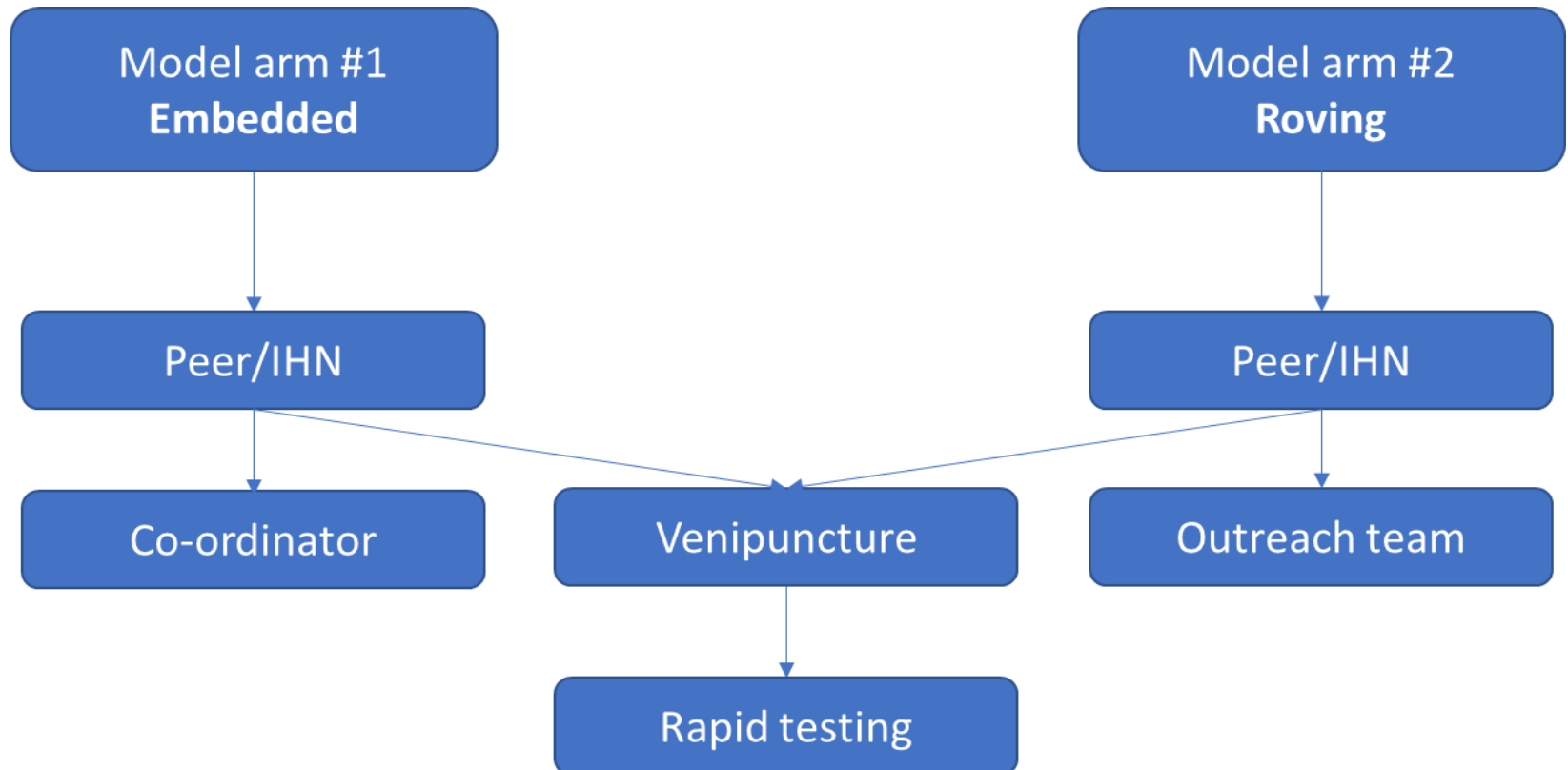
- 1) Evaluate the effectiveness and feasibility of two HRV Peer Specialist/IHN partnership modalities to increase HCV testing and treatment among PWID,
- 2) Evaluate the acceptability of the HRV Peer Specialist/IHN partnership model of HCV care among HRV Peer Specialists, IHNs, service providers and service clients, and
- 3) Evaluate street-based, peer-delivered rapid HCV testing as a method of promoting HCV testing and treatment.



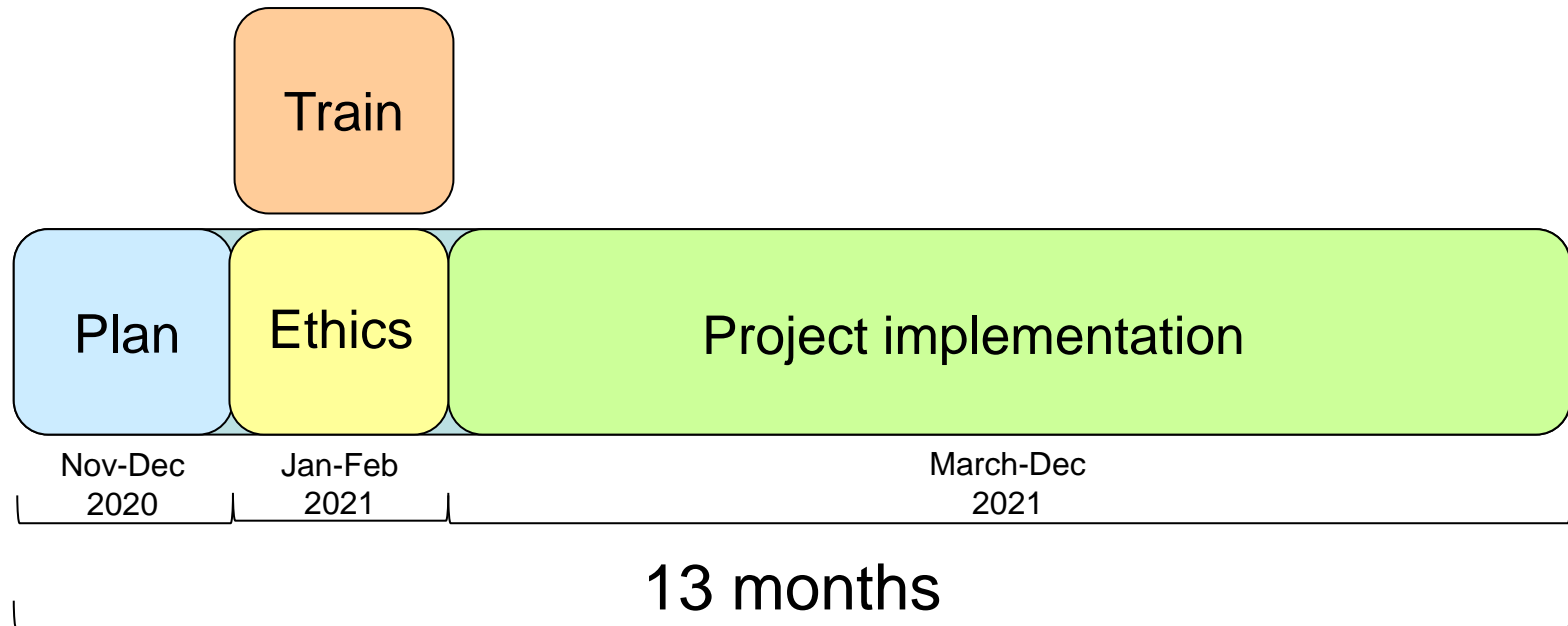
# PATH-EXpanded: Client referral



# PATH-Expanded project plan



# Project timeline



# Acknowledgements

## **Harm Reduction Victoria**

Sione Crawford, Jane Dicka, Caro Weidner, Sam Bamford, Stu Armstrong, and the rest of the HRVic team for support and guidance

## **Burnet Institute**

Alisa Pedrana, Melissa Wright, Jack Gunn, Judy Gold, Filip Djordjevic, Chloe Layton, Joseph Doyle, Mark Stoové, Margaret Hellard and the rest of the EC Victoria Partnership team at Burnet

## **Integrated HCV nurses (St.V and Alfred)**

Sally Watkinson and Alexandra Scott

## **Project partners**

Everyone at Access Health, CoHealth and Living Room

Dr. Daniel O'Keefe

[daniel.okeefe@burnet.edu.au](mailto:daniel.okeefe@burnet.edu.au)



**Burnet Institute**

# Disclosure of interest

- The PATH-EXpanded evaluation is funded by Gilead Sciences. The funders have had no input regarding the design or reporting of the project.
- The Eliminate Hepatitis C Victoria Partnership is funded through an NHMRC partnership grant, with additional funding provided by Gilead Sciences. Chief investigators have received investigator-initiated research funding support from Gilead Sciences, Abbvie and Bristol-Myers Squibb and Merck, and their institution have received consultancies from Gilead, AbbVie and Merck.

