

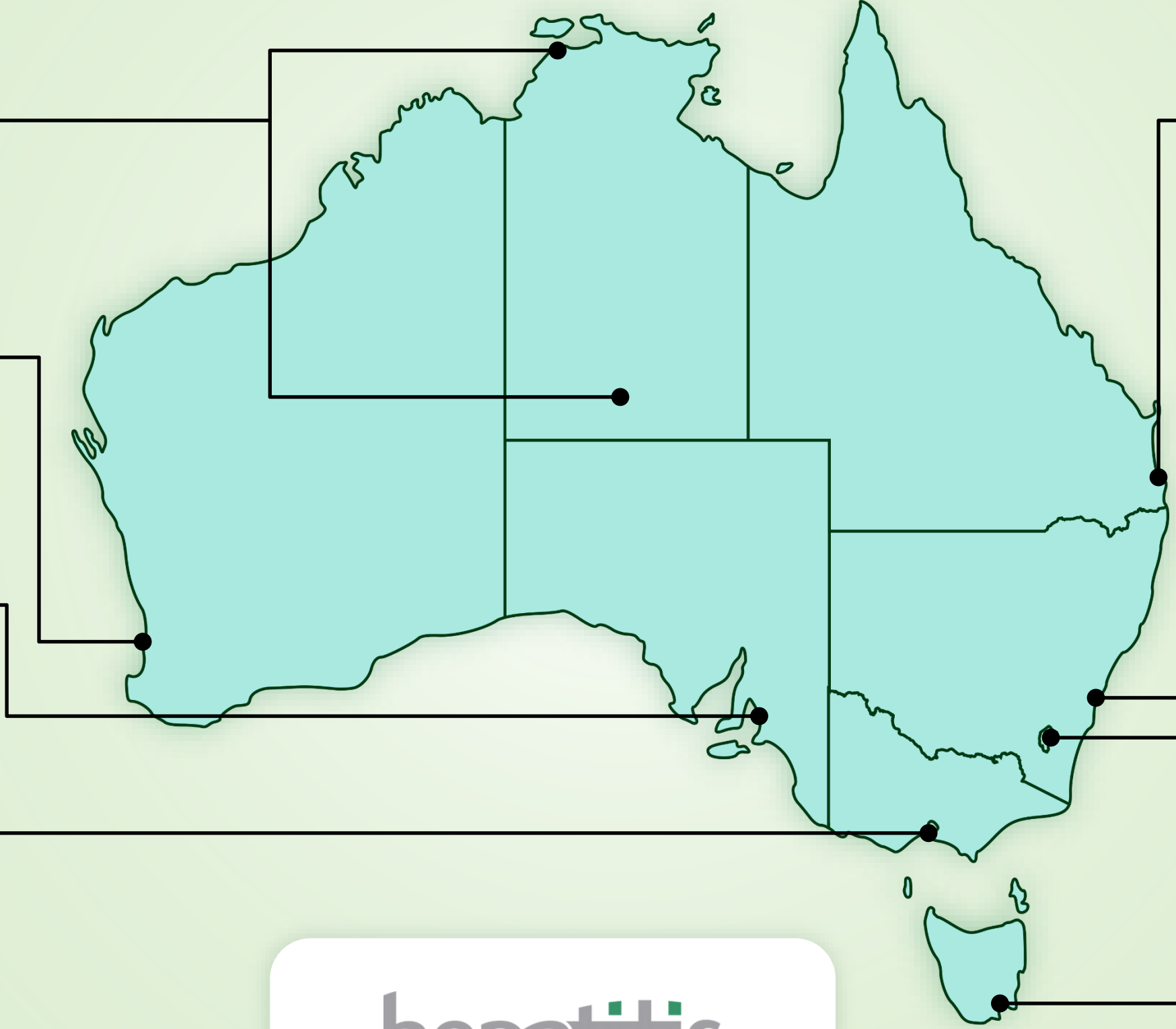
# HepLink Australia: Commonwealth funding community to advance the national response

VH2025

7 Aug 2025



# HepLink delivery across Australia



# If viral hepatitis was 100 people



70  
are living with  
**hepatitis B<sup>1</sup>**

25  
are living with  
**hepatitis C<sup>2</sup>**

3  
are living with  
both **hepatitis B** and  
**hepatitis D<sup>3</sup>**

2  
are living with both  
**hepatitis B** and  
**hepatitis C<sup>4</sup>**

# Hepatitis B in Australia

*Almost 220,000 people in Australia are living with hepatitis B.*

*460 Australians died because of hepatitis B in 2023.*

## Hepatitis B

Nearly

220,000



people in Australia

Over



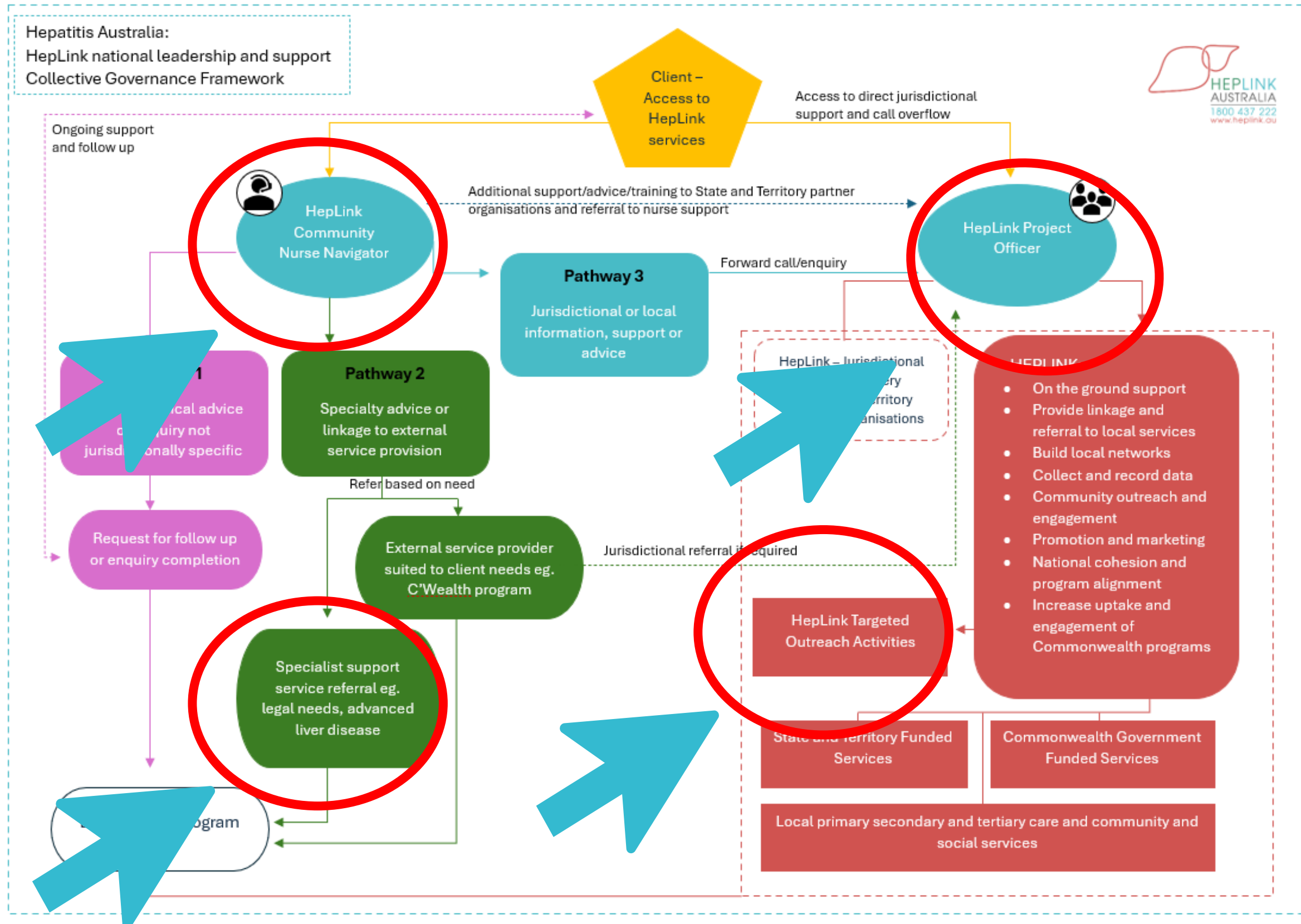
undiagnosed



not receiving regular care



# HepLink Australia: Commonwealth funding community to advance the national response – HepLink 1800 437 222



## Key Features

1. A national 'Front Door' CONNECTING people to care and support
2. NEW HepLink Community Nurse Navigator tele-support
3. STRONGER stakeholder engagement and partnership development
4. BETTER linkage to care and support services provided nationally and locally
5. ABILITY to respond to emerging need through targeted outreach activities
6. NEAR to REAL TIME DATA from our updated HepLink community hepatitis minimum data set
7. DEDICATED HepLink project officers in every state and territory

# HepLink Australia: Commonwealth funding community to advance the national response



## Key Objectives and activities

### Reduce the Incidence and Impact of Hepatitis B:

- Promote prevention strategies and support increased vaccination coverage.
- Enable access to prevention, screening, testing, care, and management.
- Facilitate outreach and collaborative decision-making.

### Reduce Hepatitis B-Related Mortality:

- Promote uptake of Commonwealth funded testing initiatives to reduce late diagnosis/misdiagnosis.
- Facilitate access to timely and effective treatment.
- Support linkage to appropriate care services.

### Provide Trusted, Coherent, and Evidence-Based Health Advice:

- Deliver accurate, consistent, and timely health information.
- Develop service standards, workforce training, and supporting materials.

### Reduce the Incidence and Prevalence of Hepatitis C

### Reduce Mother-to-Child Transmission of Hepatitis B:

- Promote universal immunisation of newborns.
- Increase maternal antiviral prophylaxis and post-partum care linkages.
- Facilitate referrals for immunisation programs in diverse communities.

### Increase Diagnosis and Treatment of hepatitis B and hepatitis C:

- Promote uptake of Commonwealth funded testing initiatives.
- Improve access to antiviral treatments for HBV.
- Support service users through referrals and access to local community workers and peers.
- Expand access to, and facilitate referrals for, testing, treatment, and diagnosis.
- Develop and promote referral pathways for seamless client navigation.

### Build Partnerships:

- Contribute to national surveillance and sector intelligence.
- Grow a network of organisations addressing viral hepatitis health inequities.
- Facilitate a collaborative Expert Advisory Committee and maintain the national hepatitis community dataset.

### Reduce Hepatitis C-Related Mortality

# HepLink – Why is it important?



HepLink is the national 'front door' to hepatitis support, treatment and care

Connecting healthcare providers to local services and peer networks and strengthening pathways

Grounded in community, offering place based and person centred services.





Michelle Kudell | Programs Director –  
[Michelle@hepatitisaustralia.com.au](mailto:Michelle@hepatitisaustralia.com.au)

Emily Skillin | HepLink Program Manager –  
[Emily@hepatitisaustralia.com.au](mailto:Emily@hepatitisaustralia.com.au)

