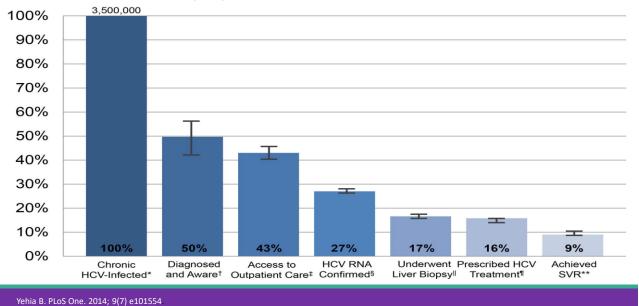
# Novel Strategies to Enhance Testing and Linkage to HCV Care and Treatment

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## Disclosures

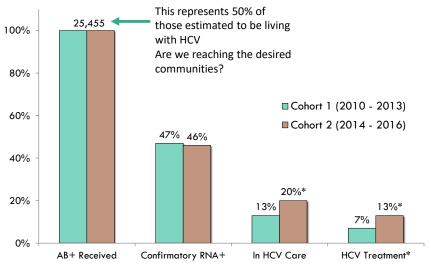
Grant Support from Gilead Sciences, FOCUS program



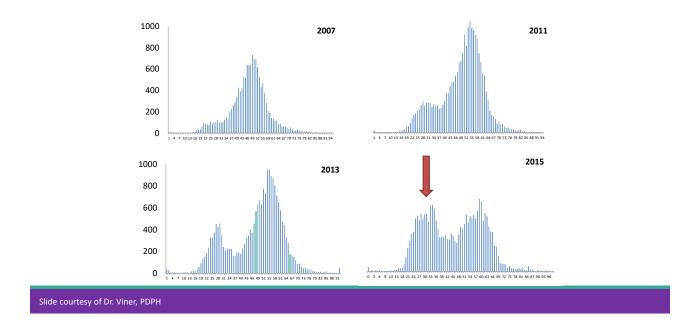


### Treatment cascade for people with chronic HCV infection

## Philadelphia DPH HCV Care Cascade

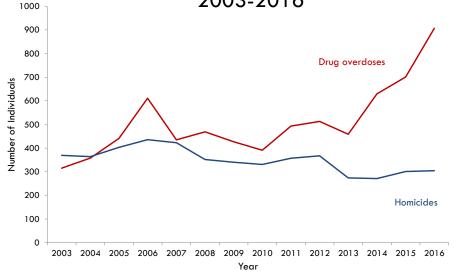


Viner et al. Hepatology. 2015 Mar;61(3):783-9. updated data via personal communiction w/ Dr. Viner



## Age Groups Tested, Philadelphia DPH Data

Number of Overdose and Injury-related Deaths – Philadelphia, 2003-2016



## Syringe Exchange Program Partnership

### Prevention Point Philadelphia

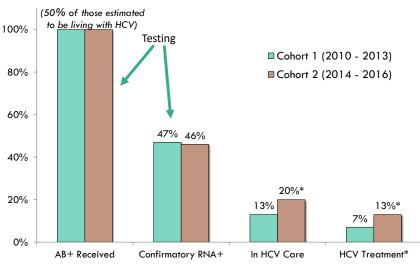
Harm reduction agency that seeks to serve individuals and communities affected by drug use

- Operates Philadelphia's only legal syringe exchange program (SEP)
- Offers HIV and HCV ab and confirmatory testing
- Case management services
- Free acute medical clinics
- Meal service twice a week
- Housing Respite
- Referrals for ID, food, clothing, drug treatment
- Bupenorphine/naloxone program
- Naloxone teaching and distribution



Poster #27





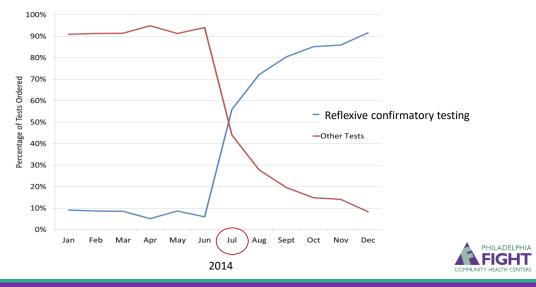
Viner et al. Hepatology. 2015 Mar;61(3):783-9. updated data via personal communiction w/ Dr. Viner

# Strategies for Enhanced Testing in the Clinic

- EMR modifications
- Integration into clinic work flow
- Antibody with Reflexive confirmatory testing only
- Automated ordering



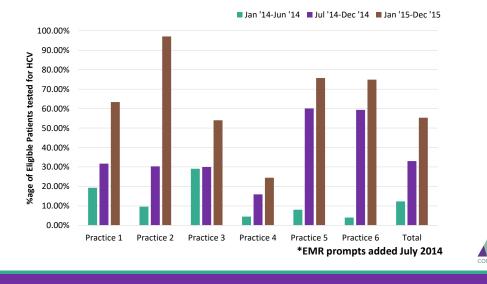
Impact of EMR Prompts on Type of HCV Screening Test Ordered



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FIGHT

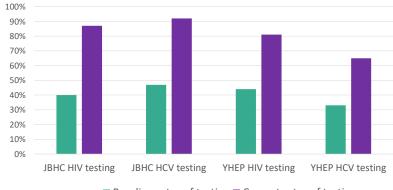
### Impact of EMR prompts on Percentage of Eligible Baby Boomers Tested for HCV



# Strategies for Enhanced Testing in the Clinic

#### In FQHC setting

- $^\circ\,$  Visit notes with prepopulated orders for HIV and HCV testing
- Provider education



Baseline rates of testing Current rates of testing

# Strategies for enhanced testing in the community

**Testing Technology** 

- Rapid point of care (POC) testing with immediate results
- Immediate confirmatory testing
- · Focus on methods that eliminate the need for venipuncture (DBS testing)
- Development of affordable, reliable 1 step POC testing
- Decrease waste and repeat antibody testing

#### Tester

#### • Peer

- Designated testing staff at community based organization (CBO)
- Navigator/Tester
- Health care worker/ nursing

#### Location

· Colocation with harm reduction services and MAT

#### Outreach

• Peer referral with monetary incentive

Bajis et al. International Journal of Drug Policy, 2017, In Press

## Philadelphia FIGHT



The Jonathan Lax Treatment Center The Youth Health Empowerment Project The John Bell Health Center





A Program of Philadelphia FIGHT

COMMUNITY BASED TESTING Syringe Exchange Program Drug Treatment Programs Homeless shelters Opioid substitution programs (Philadelphia Dept of Prisons)

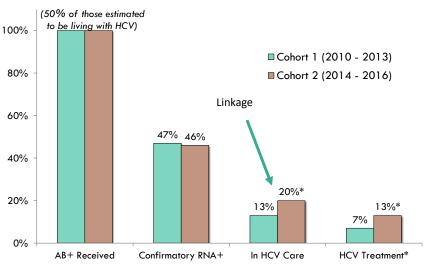
Testing protocol Oraquick Rapid HCV ab test; if reactive, Immediate blood draw for RNA by tester

# Philadelphia FIGHT's HCV testing program: C a Difference

622 tests performed between 11/2016 and 7/2017

- 209 ab+ (33.60%)
  - 193 successful venipunctures for confirmatory tests (92%)
  - 189 resulted draws (6 lab result errors)
- 137 RNA+ (72.49% of resulted draws)

## Philadelphia DPH HCV Care Cascade



Viner et al. Hepatology. 2015 Mar;61(3):783-9. updated data via personal communiction w/ Dr. Viner

## Strategies for enhanced linkage

Patient navigation models

- Peer navigators
- Tester/ Navigators
- Non-peer navigators
  - CBO based navigators
  - Clinic based navigators

Embedded models (care within OST, Addiction treatment, CBO)

- Nurse led models
- Physician led models

Mobile models of care

Mixed models

Bajis et al. International Journal of Drug Policy, 2017, In Press

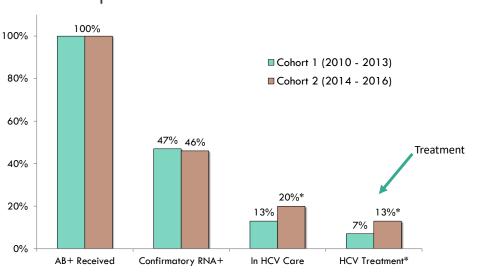
## Linkage to Care at Philadelphia FIGHT

Patient Navigation Model

- Detailed contact information obtained
- Cross disciplinary and multi center weekly "HCV Huddle"
- Open scheduling/ walk in hours
- On site fibroscan
- Federally Qualified Health Center: no insurance or referral required
- Free transportation
- Food, blankets, shoes
- Modified DOT model, nurse led but patient driven
- · Blood draws at the syringe exchange, OST site or addiction program if patient cannot get in

Linkage to care rates are still fluid and vary based on testing site: 25 to 65%

Next steps: Embedded provider model



## Philadelphia DPH HCV Care Cascade

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## AASLD/IDSA: Who should be treated?

Treatment is recommended for <u>all patients with chronic HCV infection</u>, except those with short life expectancies that cannot be remediated by treating HCV, by transplantation, or by other directed therapy. Patients with short life expectancies owing to liver disease should be managed in consultation with an expert.

Rating: Class I, Level A

## Current Challenges in HCV Care in the US

Restrictive criteria for drug approval for many payers

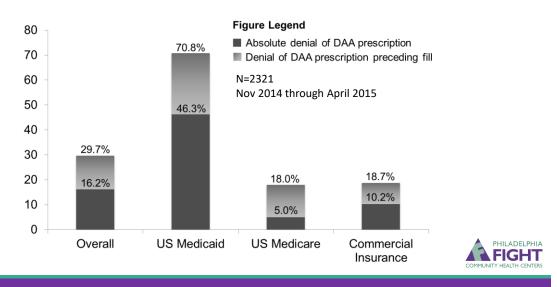
- Sobriety requirement
- Prescriber requirement
- Disease severity requirement
- HIV may not be a mitigating factor

Arduous prior authorization process for providers



Barua S et al., Ann Intern Med. 2015;163(3):215-223 Canary LA et al., Ann Intern Med. 2015;163(3):226-228

## Incidence of Absolute Denial of DAA Therapy, By Insurance



LoRe et al. Clin Gastro and Hep. 2016; 14 (7) 1035-1043.





## Current Challenges in HCV Care in the US

- Harm reduction

### Restrictive criteria for drug approval for many payers

- Sobriety requirement
- Prescriber requirement
- Training, support, education - HCV treatment in people actively using drugs
- Disease severity requirement
- HIV may not be a mitigating factor

Arduous prior authorization process for providers



Barua S et al., Ann Intern Med. 2015;163(3):215-223 Canary LA et al., Ann Intern Med. 2015;163(3):226-228

## Thank you!

C a Difference Team

- Lora Magaldi, C a Difference Project Coordinator
- Carla Coleman, Linkage Coordinator
- Ta-Wanda Preston, Lead Outreach specialist
- Ricardo Rivera, HIV/HCV tester and educator
- Nabori Brown, HIV/HCV tester and educator
- Students, volunteers, community partners
- Patients

HepCAP members and leadership • Alex Shirreffs & Jack Hildick- Smith

**Prevention Point Philadelphia** 

Gilead FOCUS and Prevent Cancer Foundation

