



# The Eliminate Hepatitis C Partnership

## Models of care to enhance hepatitis C treatment

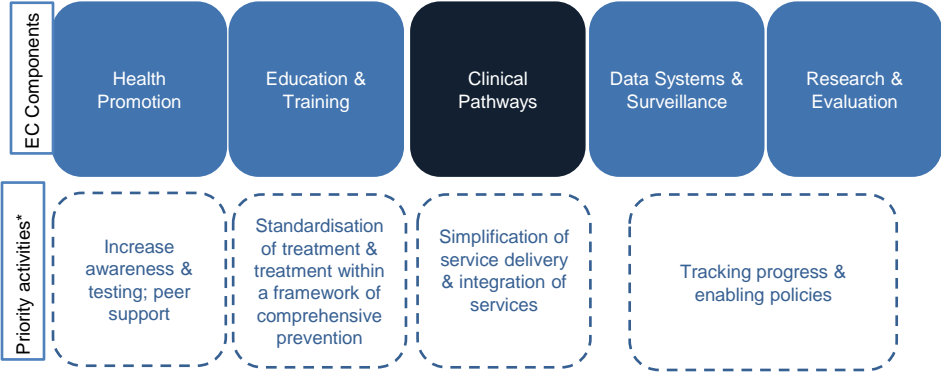
Authors: Wong E, Pedrana A, Draper BL, Gold J, Richmond J, Stoove M, Doyle JS, Thompson AJ, Hellard ME



## EC Partnership

### Aim of EC Partnership:

Expanding community-based treatment program to increase HCV **treatment uptake in people who inject drugs (PWID)** using nurse-led models of care in the community and the prison system



\* Ref: Ford et al, Ten priorities for expanding access to HCV treatment for people who inject drugs in low- and middle-income countries, 2016

## Aim of site scoping

- Identify high case load clinics for PWID
- Document models of hepatitis C care in community clinics
- Identify barriers and enablers to increasing hepatitis C treatment uptake
- Inform EC intervention package

### 23 sites approached (Metropolitan Melbourne)

- Community clinics with alcohol and other drug service (AoD) or needle syringe programs (NSP)
- Opioid substitution therapy (OST) providers



### 16 sites responded and visited

- 9 community health clinics with NSPs and AOD services
- 2 AOD services attached to hospitals
- 1 community medical clinic
- 4 private OST GP clinics



### Semi-structured interview

- Case-load
- Workforce/staff
- HCV testing process
- HCV treatment process
- Barriers and enablers
- Support needed to increase testing and treatment

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## Models of Care

### Community prescribing

- Clinic nurses or GPs arrange HCV tests.
- Liver assessments (scans) referred to radiology services or to hepatitis nurses\*
- GPs independently prescribe treatment
- Complex clients with cirrhosis referred to specialists

### Nurse\* led hepatitis C clinic

- Hepatitis nurse\* visits outreach clinic and arranges HCV tests and liver scans
- Hepatitis nurse\* arranges for treatment scripts to be written by a specialist
- Hepatitis nurse\* may have mentored GP and clinic nurse on hepatitis C management

### Comprehensive community care

- Hepatitis nurse\* visits an outreach clinic with a specialist
- Hepatitis nurse\* or clinic staff arranged HCV tests
- All care including for clients with cirrhosis remains at community clinics

\* Integrated hepatitis nurses are funded by the Victorian Department of Health to deliver hepatitis care in community settings

## Key opportunities to increase testing and treatment uptake

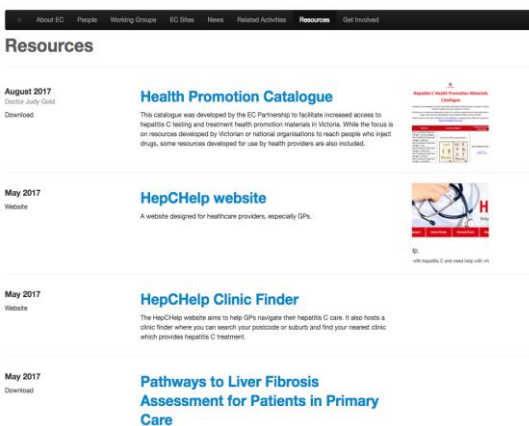
- Partner with hepatitis nurses to support clinic's capacity to offer opportunistic testing
- Trial rapid point-of-care testing to increase opportunistic testing and treatment
- Support hepatitis nurses in mentoring GPs or nurse practitioners to independently prescribe treatment
- Develop standardised data collection tools to address current ad hoc data collection to facilitate monitoring of program



## Acknowledgement

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[ecpartnership.org.au/resources](http://ecpartnership.org.au/resources)



The screenshot shows the 'Resources' section of the EC Partnership website. It features a navigation bar with links for 'About EC', 'People', 'Working Groups', 'EC Sites', 'News', 'Related Activities', 'Resources', and 'Get Involved'. Below the navigation bar, there are four resource cards:

- August 2017**: **Health Promotion Catalogue**. A download link. Description: 'This catalogue was developed by the EC Partnership to facilitate increased access to hepatitis C testing and treatment health promotion materials in Victoria. While the focus is on resources developed by Victorian or national organisations to reach people who inject drugs, some resources developed for use by health providers are also included.' Includes a thumbnail image of the catalogue cover.
- May 2017**: **HepCHelp website**. A website link. Description: 'A website designed for healthcare providers, especially GPs.' Includes a thumbnail image of the website interface.
- May 2017**: **HepCHelp Clinic Finder**. A website link. Description: 'The HepCHelp website aims to help GPs manage their hepatitis C care. It also hosts a clinic finder where you can search your postcode or suburbs and find your nearest clinic which provides hepatitis C treatment.' Includes a thumbnail image of the clinic finder interface.
- May 2017**: **Pathways to Liver Fibrosis Assessment for Patients in Primary Care**. A download link. Includes a thumbnail image of the assessment document cover.

**EC Partnership is currently hiring nurses!**

**Find out more through Burnet – Careers**

