



Strategies to Improve the HCV Continuum of Care:

Best Practices in Testing, Linkage to Care & Treatment

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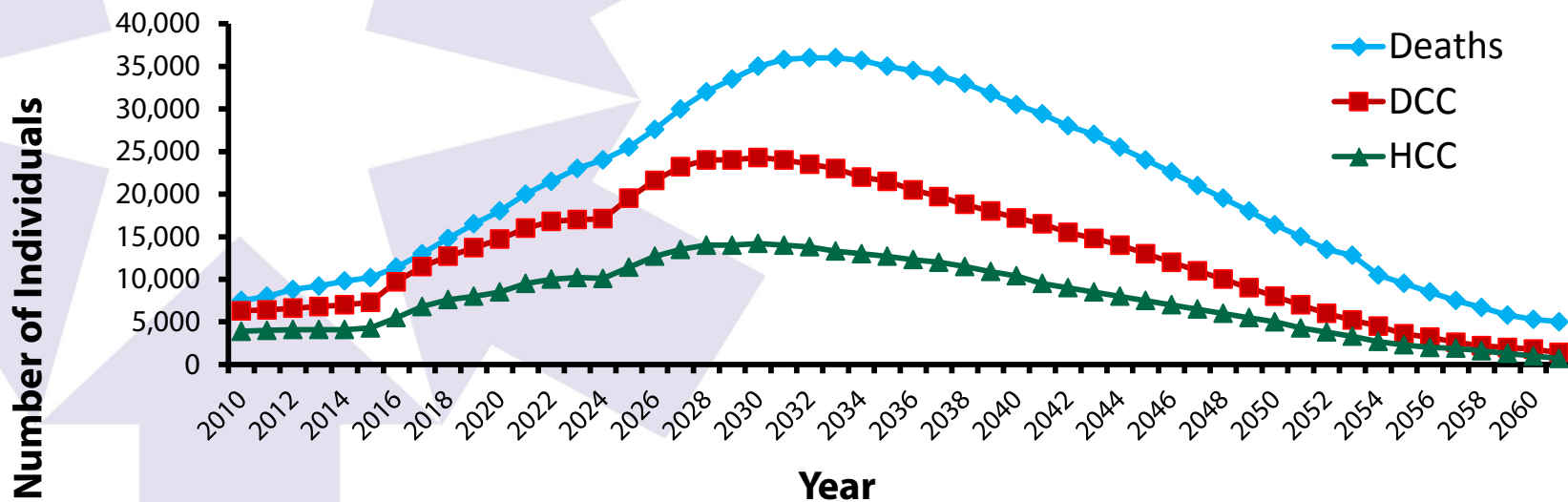
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Infectious Diseases

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Modeling the Growing Burden of Hepatitis C in the United States

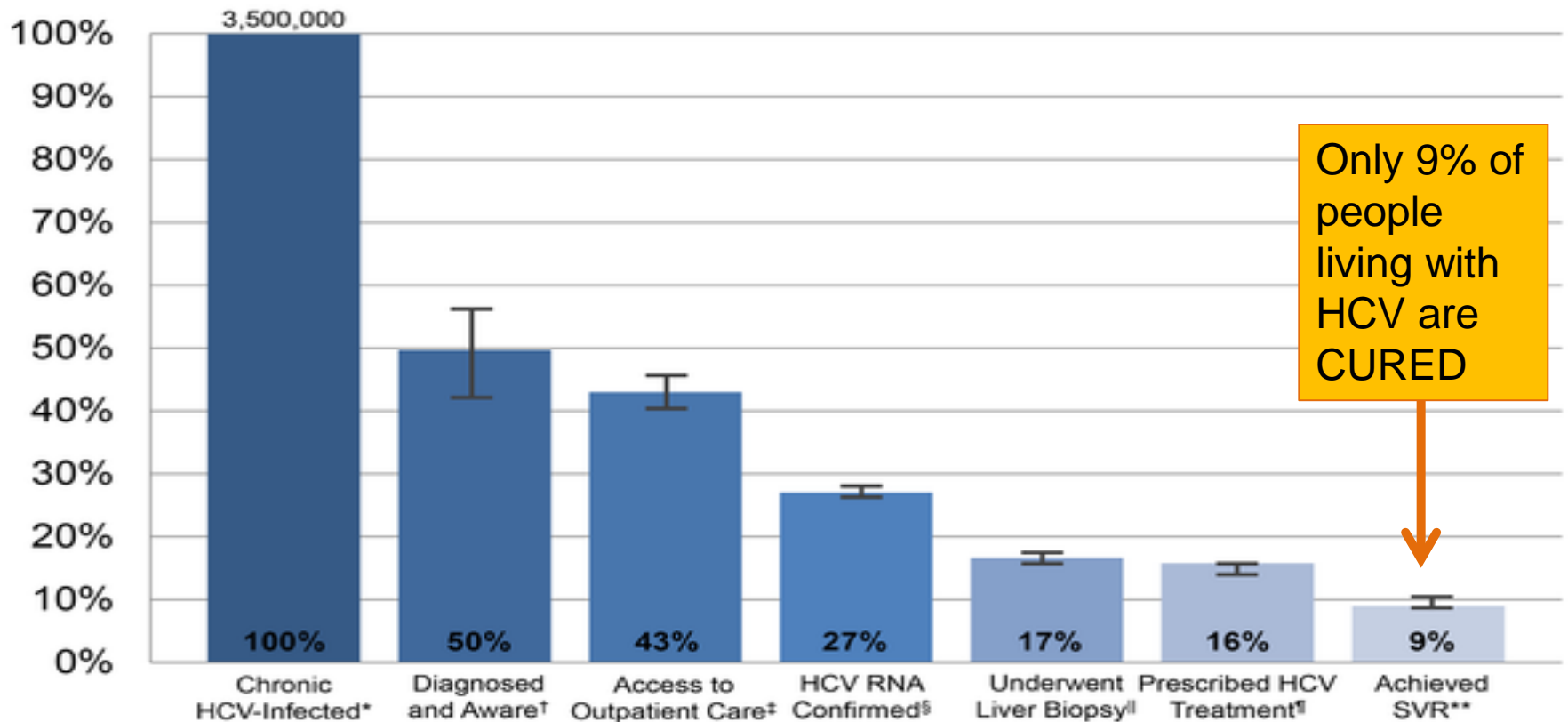
Of 2.7 million HCV-infected persons

- 1.47 million will develop decompensated cirrhosis (DCC)
- 350,000 will develop hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)
- 897,000 will die from HCV-related complications



(Based on a model presented by Rein et al. *Dig Liver Dis* 2011;43:66-72.)

Stages of the HCV Continuum of Care, US



* Chronic HCV-Infected; N=3,500,000.

† Calculated as estimated number chronic HCV-infected (3,500,000) x estimated percentage diagnosed and aware of their infection (49.8%); n=1,743,000.

‡ Calculated as estimated number diagnosed and aware (1,743,000) x estimated percentage with access to outpatient care (86.9%); n=1,514,667.

§ Calculated as estimated number with access to outpatient care (1,514,667) x estimated percentage HCV RNA confirmed (62.9%); n=952,726.

|| Calculated as estimated number with access to outpatient care (1,514,667) x estimated percentage who underwent liver biopsy (38.4%); n=581,632.

¶ Calculated as estimated number with access to outpatient care (1,514,667) x estimated percentage prescribed HCV treatment (36.7%); n=555,883.

** Calculated as estimated number prescribed HCV treatment (555,883) x estimated percentage who achieved SVR (58.8%); n=326,859.

Note: Only non-VA studies are included in the above HCV treatment cascade.

(Yehia et al, PLOS One, 2014)

CDC Expanded Hepatitis C Testing Recommendations, 2012

All persons born 1945 through 1965

Why?

- ▲ Most are unaware of infection
- ▲ Testing is cost-effective
- ▲ Therapies can cure 90-100% of cases
- ▲ Left untreated, hepatitis C can cause liver damage & liver failure

People born from 1945-1965 are **5X MORE LIKELY TO BE INFECTED WITH HEPATITIS C**



3 OUT OF EVERY 4 people with Hepatitis C were born between these years

(CDC Fact Sheet, Aug 2012)



Follow-Up Testing for HCV in Massachusetts, 2007-2010

- ▲ EIA detects anti-HCV antibodies
- ▲ NAT detects HCV RNA, denoting active infection
- ▲ Analysis of MA surveillance data, 2007-2010
- ▲ 34,005 cases of HCV reported
 - 45% (15,279) had an antibody test only reported
 - Cannot determine resolved or current infection
- ▲ Similar to a previous CDC study (49% had ab only)*

* MMWR 2013;62:357-361

(Barton et al. Public Health Rep 2014; 129: 403-407)

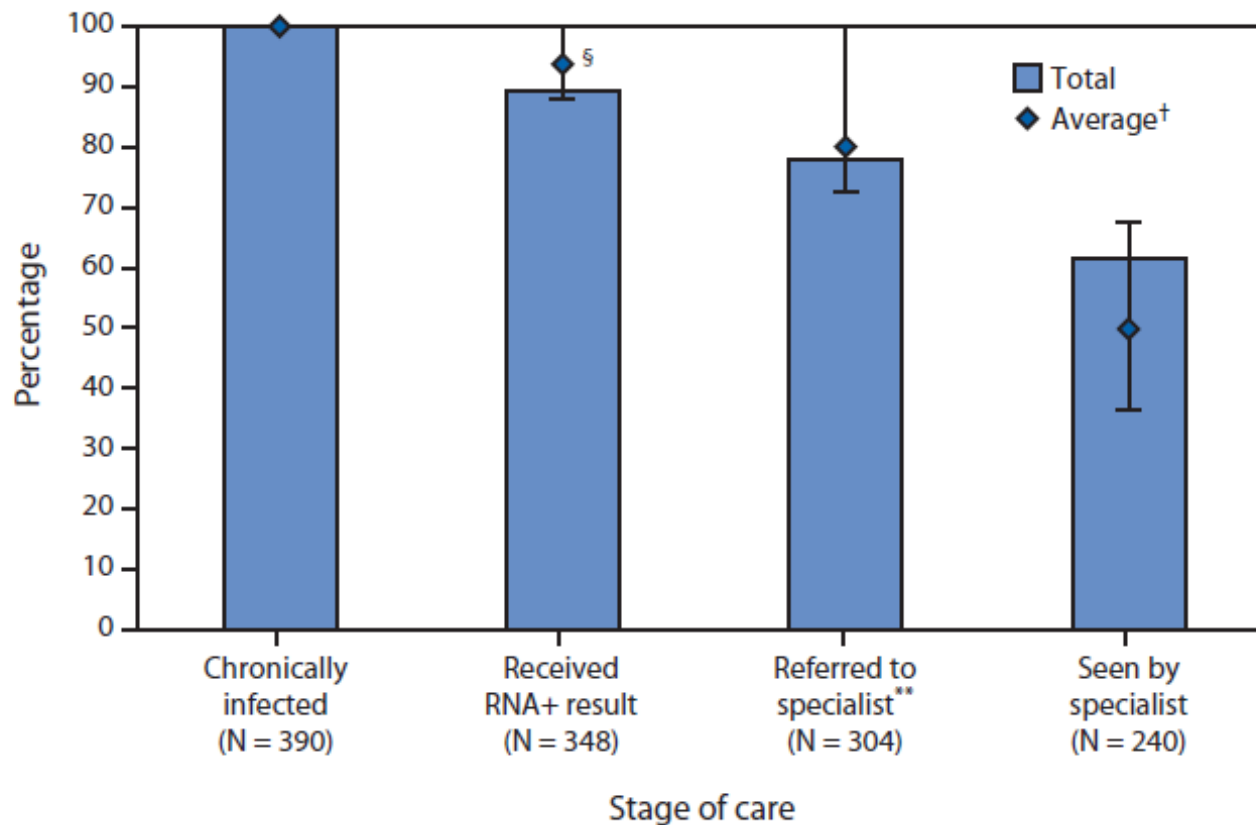


Successful Integration of Routine HCV Testing in CHC's

- ▲ 5 FQHCs, Philadelphia (10/2012 – 7/2014)
 - Key populations: homeless and public housing residents
- ▲ 4,514 patients tested
- ▲ 595 (13.2%) HCV antibody positive (+)
- ▲ 550/595 (92.4%) confirmatory HCV RNA testing
 - 390/550 (70.9%) chronic HCV infection
- ▲ Overall HCV prevalence: 8.6%

(Coyle et al., MMWR 2015;64: 459-463)

HCV Continuum of Care in 5 FQHCs – Philadelphia, PA October 2012 – July 2014



§ Error bars are the range of percentages for each stage of care across all five FQHCs.

¶ Average = average of values at all five FQHCs.

** Specialists include primary care providers who were trained to care for patients infected with HCV, as well as hepatologists or gastroenterologists from one of the local academic medical centers.

(Coyle et al., MMWR 2015;64: 459-463)



Successful Integration of Routine HCV Testing in CHCs Best Practices

- ▲ Medical Assistants guided patients through testing process
- ▲ EMR prompts for HCV testing & linkage to care
- ▲ HCV reflex testing
- ▲ Creation of linkage-to-care coordinator position
- ▲ Negotiated competitive HCV test prices for uninsured

(Coyle et al., MMWR 2015;64: 459-463)

Affordable Care Act Opportunities

- Elimination of pre-existing condition restrictions
- Expanded access to health insurance
- Preventive health care coverage
 - Screening
 - USPSTF Grade A or B
 - Vaccination
 - ACIP recommended

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Prevention of HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STDs, and TB Through Health Care

Prevention Through Health Care :: Preventive Service Tables

Viral Hepatitis Preventive Services

Preventive Service	Recommending Authority (authorized under Section 1001 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act)	Eligible Population
Hepatitis A Vaccination	Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) (Recommendations issued and adopted by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention May 2009)	Adults and children, for increased risk of any person in community* (See MMWR Through Ad Immunization: The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices)
Hepatitis B Vaccination	Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) (Recommendations issued and adopted by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention December 2005)	Universal vaccination who were not pregnant or being at risk (HBV) infected unvaccinated infection, or protection from (See MMWR Immunization: Transmission of Hepatitis B Virus Infection in Adolescents: A Call to Action to Eliminate HBV Infection and 21 Imm Discussion)
Hepatitis B Testing	USPSTF (Grade "B" recommendation issued May 2014)	Screening for infection in infection*

Prevention Through Health Care

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention



Cost Effectiveness of New Therapies to Treat HCV

- ▲ Interferon-free therapies to treat HCV are cost-effective.
- ▲ Despite providing high value, the high cost of drugs is limiting access.
- ▲ No one knows the true cost of drugs, which limits negotiating power and access.
- ▲ Discussion of HCV therapy must consider the real price of meds, not the catalogue price.

Presentation to PACHA (5/22/15) by
Dr. Benjamin P. Linas, Boston University School of Medicine



**“A nation committed to combating the
silent epidemic of viral hepatitis”**

-Vision of the *Action Plan for the Prevention,
Care and Treatment of Viral Hepatitis*





Panel: Strategies to Improve the HCV Continuum of Care

- ▲ Promoting HCV Screening and Linkage to Care in New York:
 - Colleen Flanigan
- ▲ HCV Testing and Linkage to Care in Community Settings:
 - Michael Ninburg
- ▲ Diagnosing and Treating Veterans with HCV:
 - David Ross
- ▲ Integrating HCV Care into Substance Abuse Treatment:
 - Chinazo Cunningham
- ▲ Questions & Answers