

# Engaging High-Risk Persons with Hepatitis C in Care and Treatment through Community-Based Care Coordination: Check Hep C Year 2

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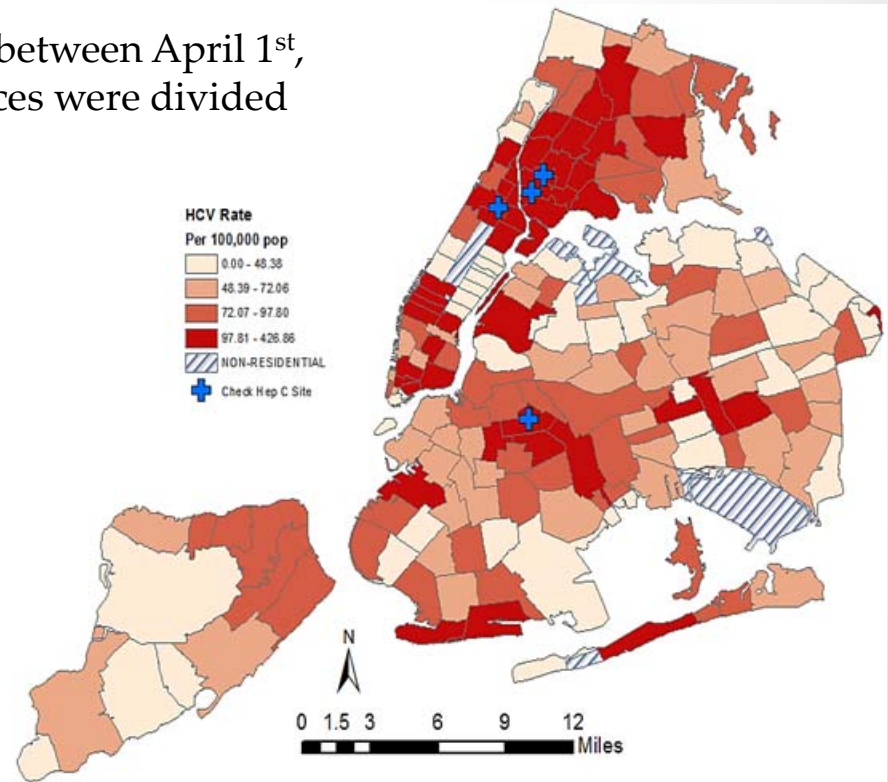


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# Check Hep C: Program Overview

- In 2012, the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) implemented Check Hep C, a community-based program that provided HCV screening, diagnosis, linkage to care and clinical capacity building through tele-medicine.
- Year 2 of Check Hep C aimed to enroll 400 persons between April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 and March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Patient navigation services were divided into two categories:
  - 1) **Linkage to Care:** clinical services were based at an external site, with patient navigation assisting
  - 2) **Care Coordination:** clinical services were provided on-site at the same organization
- The Check Hep C Year 2 program was implemented at four sites in NYC:
  - 2 Federally Qualified Health Centers with co-located supportive and clinical services
  - 2 Harm Reduction programs that linked participants to external community health centers.

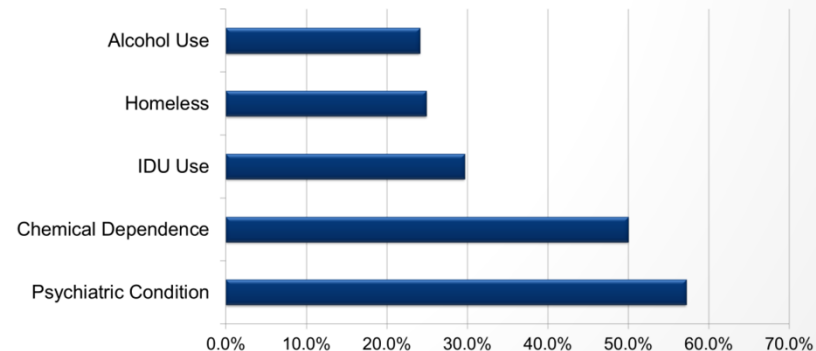


# Check Hep C: Participant Profile

- Between April 2014 and January 2015, 388 participants were enrolled in Check Hep C.
- All participants were HCV RNA positive.
- 69 (19.4%) participants had a history of HCV treatment.
- Liver Disease Stage: (n=182)
  - F 0-1: 71 (39.0%)
  - F 2-3: 70 (38.5%)
  - F 4-Cirrhosis: 41 (22.5%)

	N	%	
Race	Hispanic	242	64.4
	Black, NH	103	27.4
	White, NH	28	7.4
	Other	3	0.8
	Total	376	100.0
Gender	Male	284	73.2
	Female	101	26.0
	Trans M-F	3	0.8
	Total	388	100.0
Borough	Bronx	218	57.5
	Manhattan	84	22.2
	Brooklyn	72	19.0
	Queens	5	1.3
	Total	379	100.0
Age	Born Pre-1945	16	4.1
	Born 1945 - 1965	236	60.8
	Born Post-1965	135	34.9

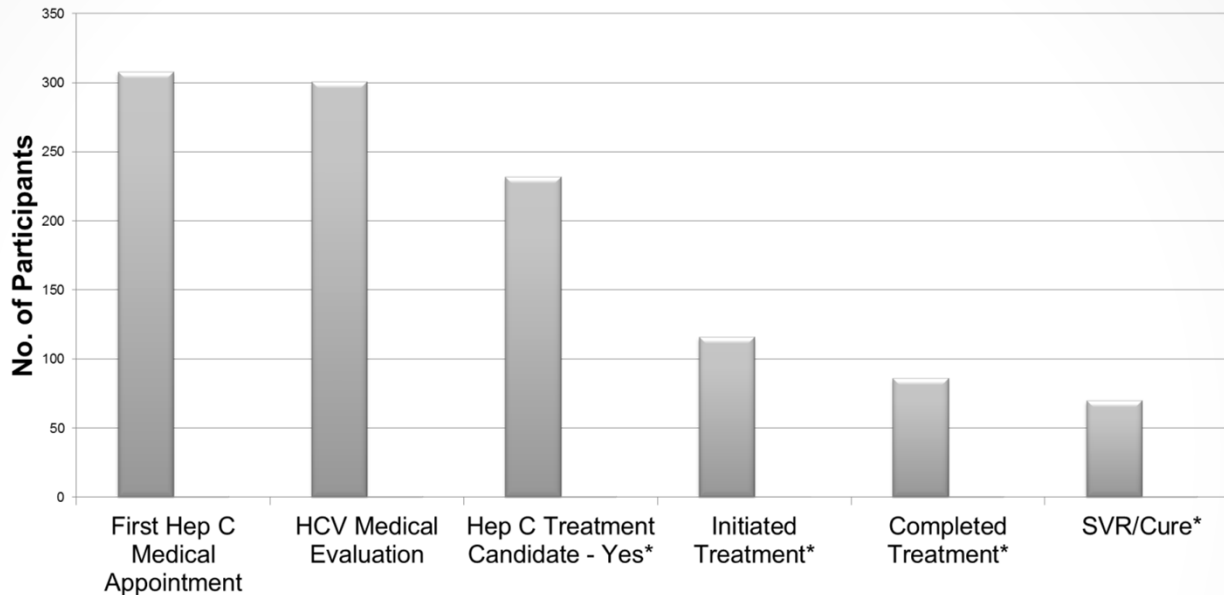
Participant characteristics including demographics and risk factors were collected and reported on using descriptive statistics.



Graph 1: Check Hep C Participant Risk Factors



# Check Hep C: Treatment Cascade



- Seventy-nine percent (n=308) of participants with HCV infection attended their first medical appointment. Of the 301 participants that completed a HCV medical evaluation, 232 (77.1%) were eligible treatment candidates.
- As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 116 (50.0%) of eligible treatment candidates initiated treatment and, of those, 86 (74.1%) completed treatment. Seventy (81.4%) of the 86 participants that completed treatment have achieved SVR to date.



# Conclusions

- Check Hep C year 2 has been successful in engaging HCV-infected persons in HCV care, and a high proportion of those eligible for treatment have initiated treatment and been cured.
- As the program continues, many more participants are expected to undergo medical evaluation, initiate, and complete treatment.
- Even with new HCV treatments, patient navigation remains integral to getting high need patients into medical care and through treatment.
- This program provides services that fill vital gaps that are currently not covered by insurance plans and are essential to getting high-risk persons into and through treatment.
- Therefore, the NYC DOHMH is exploring a variety of ways to expand and sustain these services.
- The demonstrated effectiveness of programs like Check Hep C can be used to support policy changes that ensure funding or insurance reimbursement is made available for HCV specific patient navigation and care coordination.

