

February 2012 ♥

NYC Hepatitis ABC Newsletter

NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene : Office of Viral Hepatitis Coordination

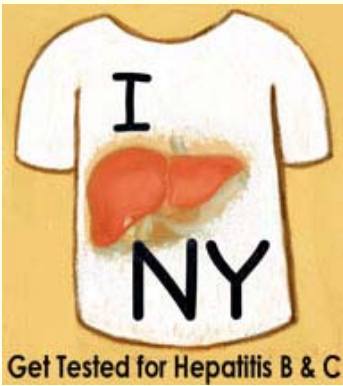
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NYC Hepatitis B & C Task Forces & Coalitions: 2012 Calendar

Confirm all dates & locations by joining an invitation list: HepatitisABC@health.nyc.gov



- **NYC Hepatitis B Coalition** (3-5 PM): Feb 9th, May 10th, July 12th & Nov 8th
- **NYC Hepatitis C Task Force** (3-5 PM):
 - **Brooklyn:** Feb 15th, June 6th & Sept. 19th
 - **Bronx:** March 7th, June 27th & Oct. 17th
 - **Jamaica Queens:** March 28th, July 18th & Nov. 14th
 - **Staten Island:** April 18th, August 8th & Dec. 5th
 - **Harlem:** May 2nd & August 29th
- **Health Access & Insurance Committee Meeting:** February 21st (3 - 4:40 PM). 26 Federal Plaza. RSVP: Frank.Winter@cms.hhs.gov
- **African Immigrant Hepatitis B & C Committee:** Kick-off meeting April 4th (2-5 PM). African Services Committee. RSVP: demetri.blanas@mssm.edu

Upcoming Events

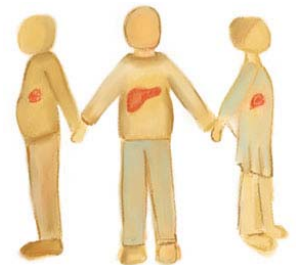
- [New Advances in Hep C Therapy: The World is Changing! Symposium](#). NATAP. February 9th (3-6 PM). 10 Union Square East, NYC. Reserve seat: (888) 266-2827.
- [New York State Hepatitis C Legislative Awareness Day](#). March 14, Albany. Get on the bus! Ensure your elected officials are considering Hepatitis C! Learn more: sfoster.statuscunknown@gmail.com.
- [2012 New York State Viral Hepatitis Conference](#). NYS Department of Health. March 20th. CUNY Graduate Center, NYC.
- [International Conference on Viral Hepatitis \(ICVH\) \(CME\)](#). March 26 -27. Mount Sinai Hospital, NY.
- [Hepatitis Management: State of the Art](#) (CME). May 11-12. Einstein Hospital, NY.

National & International Conferences

- [Reimbursement & Coding for Gastroenterology](#). Sponsored by American Gastroenterological Association (AGA). Optimize & Streamline your billing & coding. Next NYC Training: March 15th.
- [Optimal Management of HIV Disease & Hepatitis: Clinical Conference \(OpMan\)](#). March 15-18. Fort Lauderdale, Florida.
- [8th International Workshop on HIV & Hepatitis Coinfection](#). May 30-June 1. Madrid, Spain.
- [2012 Annual CCO HIV and Hepatitis C Symposium: Implementing Best Practices in HIV, HCV, and Coinfection](#). June 8-11. Hollywood, Florida.
- [7th International Workshop on Clinical Pharmacology of Hepatitis Therapy](#). June 27-28. Cambridge, MA.
- [2012 International Meeting on Molecular Biology of Hepatitis B Viruses](#). September 23-26. Oxford, England.

Patient Empowerment

- **Hepatitis B & C Personal Stories Development Workshop**. Feb 7th (5:45-7:15 PM). Designed to help patients develop their own stories for themselves or to generate awareness. RSVP required for new members: njohnso2@health.nyc.gov.
- **Ongoing: NYC Hepatitis B & C Patient Education & Support Groups**
 - **New! Russian Hepatitis B & C Support Group in Coney Island**. February 29th (6:30-7:30 PM). Kings Highway Library: 2115 Ocean Ave. Contact: (718) 395-9120.
 - **New! Jamaica Queens Hepatitis C Support Group**. Last Wednesday of the month (4-5 PM). HELP/PSI 105-04 Sutphin Blvd. Contact: (718) 725-5000 uweiss@projectsamaritan.org



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Online Training

- [Highlights of AASLD 2011](#). CME-certified slide-set: [click here](#). Clinical Care Options.
- [HCV Care & Guidance Curriculum](#) (CME/CE) Will help you implement direct-acting antiviral (DAA) therapies into your practice. Projects in Knowledge.
- [Expert Insight Into: Hepatitis B Virus in the United States: Infection, Exposure, and Immunity Rates in a Nationally Representative Survey \(Part 4 of Series\)](#) (CME).
- [Chronic Hepatitis B: Misinformation, Missed Diagnoses, and Missed Opportunities](#). CME/CE
- [Teens Lacking in Protection Against Hepatitis A](#) CME. Most adolescents have not been vaccinated against hepatitis A virus, leaving them vulnerable to serious disease as they move into adulthood, a cross-sectional study showed.
- [The New Elements of HCV Care: Practical Skills to Optimize Protease Inhibitor-Based Therapy](#). CME. Clinical Care Options.

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Policy & Advocacy



Give the Gift of Life! More than 8,000 New Yorkers are on the organ donation waiting list. Make the decision to register to become an organ donor yourself now, so that your family doesn't have to during a time of stress. [Learn more & Register](#)
\$1,000 Cash Prize. New York Organ Donor Network is seeking team leaders for the *Campaign4Life* organ donation registration challenge from March 1-31st. Become a team leader: apalmieri@nyodn.org or [646-291-4461](tel:646-291-4461).

Action Alert!

- [Sign Petition to encourage the Federal Government to Fund Syringe Exchange.](#) In December 2011, the U.S. Congress established a ban on the use of federal funds to support syringe exchange programs. This reinstated a previous ban on federal funds for domestic programs and established a new ban for global programs. In response to the federal ban, several advocates have drafted a Syringe Exchange Position Statement condemning the ban, while emphasizing the efficacy and effectiveness of these programs.
- [New York State Hepatitis C Legislative Awareness Day.](#) March 14, Albany. Get on the bus! Ensure your elected officials are considering Hepatitis C! Learn more: sfoster.statuscunknown@gmail.com.
- [Alliance for Justice 10-part webinar series for advocates working on behalf of immigrant communities.](#) Begins February 15.
- Raising the Profile, Raising Your Voice: Viral Hepatitis Advocacy Webinar. With Chris Taylor, NASTAD. February 17th (3-4 PM). Step 1) Call in 866.740.1260. Step 2) Web log-in <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/rjxrbtpv16n>.

Get Involved! Join an Advocacy Group that interests you...

[Drug Policy Alliance](#)
[Status C Unknown](#) – New York State Advocacy
Follow [NYHepatitis](#) on Twitter!

[National Viral Hepatitis Round Table \(NVHR\)](#)
[National Hepatitis B Task Force](#)
[Hepatitis Health Action](#) – Hepatitis & Health Care Reform

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News

- [Steven Tyler reveals battle with hepatitis C.](#) Rock legend and Aerosmith lead singer Steven Tyler revealed to Access Hollywood that he has been fighting a secret battle with hepatitis C.
- [Experimental Hepatitis C Vaccine Shows Early Promise.](#) CDC.
- [Many High-risk Americans Don't Get Hepatitis B Vaccine.](#) A recently published study investigating hepatitis B vaccination rates in the United States found that more than half of adults at risk for hepatitis B virus remain unvaccinated.
- [Entry point for hepatitis C infection identified.](#) A molecule embedded in the membrane of human liver cells that aids in cholesterol absorption also allows the entry of hepatitis C virus, the first step in hepatitis C infection, according to research at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine.
- [Scientists show brain vulnerable to Hepatitis C virus.](#) Scientists at the University of Birmingham have demonstrated for the first time that human brain cells can become infected with the Hepatitis C virus (HCV), it is reported today.
- [Hepatitis C May Increase Pancreatic Cancer Risk.](#) A new study shows that infection with hepatitis C virus increases a person's risk for a highly fatal cancer of the biliary tree, the bile carrying pathway between the liver and pancreas.
- [Orasure HCV Finger Stick Rapid Test Approved.](#) To request training or information in NYC, contact: degan@orasure.com.

New Reports & Journal Articles

- [Surveillance for Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection — New York City, June 2008–November 2009.](#) Chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is a leading cause of cirrhosis and liver cancer worldwide; the estimated prevalence in the United States is 0.3%–0.5%. Each year, approximately 11,500–13,000 persons are newly reported with a positive HBV test to the New York City (NYC) Department of Health...
- [Updated CDC Hepatitis B Vaccine Information Statements \(VIS\).](#) Updates to epidemiologic statistics, inclusion of the routine schedules and addition of diabetes as an indication for patients 60 and older, and waiting to donate blood following vaccination.
- [Inactivation and Survival of Hepatitis C Virus on Inanimate Surfaces.](#) J Infect Dis. (2011).
- [Integrated Internist – Addiction Medicine – Hepatology Model for Hepatitis C Management for Individuals on Methadone Maintenance.](#) J Viral Hepatitis, 2012.
- [Neurocognitive Effects of HIV, Hepatitis C, and Substance Use History.](#) journals.cambridge.org
- [Alcohol Treatment Boosts Hep C Cure Rates Among Drinkers.](#) People who drink, even heavily, can successfully undergo treatment for hepatitis C virus (HCV) if they're provided with individualized, multidisciplinary care that also addresses their alcohol use, according to a study published in the February 2012 issue of Journal of Hepatology.
- [EXPLORING HIV/AIDS AND VIRAL HEPATITIS HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER COLLABORATIONS.](#) The reports highlights "models of excellence," opportunities and strategies, factors contributing, and challenges faced by collaborations.
- [Understanding State Departments of Health and Corrections Collaboration: NASTAD](#) Part I of survey findings conducted to better understand the degree to which state health departments interact with departments of corrections regarding prevention, care and treatment of HIV and viral hepatitis in state correctional facilities.
- [Vital Signs: Binge Drinking Prevalence, Frequency, and Intensity Among Adults](#) — United States, 2010. CDC.
- [Guide to Clinical Trials for People with Hepatitis C.](#) 2011. Treatment Action Group.

New Tools

- CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention [Atlas](#), a new tool that will allow users to create maps, charts, and tables using HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB surveillance data.
- [Hepatitis C Basic Brochure in Creole](#). HCV Advocate. Brooklyn HCV Task Force members [Haitian Centers Council, Inc.](#) translated the brochure.
- [Hepatitis C Blood-to-Blood Booklet](#). NYS DOH. Targets persons 13-24 years of age and focuses on drug use, tattoo and body piercing.
- [The HCV Treatment Psycho-Social Readiness Assessment Tool \(HCV-PRAT\)](#) is a standardized tool developed to assess and improve a client's psycho-social readiness to begin HCV treatment. Request Tool: Jeffrey.Weiss@mountsinai.org NYC Health Department 'City Health Information (CHI)' education for medical providers going paperless. [Subscribe](#).

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Health Care, Insurance & Medications

Health Care & Insurance Access Assistance

- [NYC Health Insurance ACCESS Link](#) – Helps citizens and small businesses in search of health insurance.
- [Community Health Advocates](#). NY Statewide program to help people of all ages find insurance and resolve insurance issues with help available in multiple languages from community partners. (888) 614-5400
- [Office of Citywide Health Insurance Access](#) provides info on health care access for all types of people.

Medication Assistance

- [CoverMyMeds](#) helps physicians and pharmacists complete Prior Authorization and other insurance coverage determination forms for any drug and almost all drug plans.
- [Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs: Hepatitis B](#). HBV Advocate.
- [Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs: Hepatitis C](#). HCV Advocate.

Evaluate & Improve the Health Care System

- Provide Feedback to Medicaid & Medicare: www.innovations.cms.gov
- New York State Medicaid Redesign: [Submit feedback to help redesign the NYS Medicaid Program](#)
- [Hepatitis Health Action](#) – Hepatitis & Health Care Reform Advocacy Group

Holistic Health

- [Alcohol & Stress & the Liver](#). Learn about stress's effect on the liver, alcohol's effect on the liver and the evidence demonstrating that alcohol appears to be the opposite from a stress remedy.
- [Hair Color for the Liver Conscious](#)
- [Is Bleach Bad for Your Liver?](#) Whether it's in your water, hair dye, laundry detergent or toilet bowl cleaner, learn why bleach is not the most liver-friendly compound.
- [Sugary soda increases risky fat deposits](#). Drinking a liter of regular cola every day increases the amount of fat in the liver and in the muscles and surrounding the organs in the belly...
- [Cleaning with Herbs](#). With herbal cleaning products, your home will be less toxic and will smell exactly right.
- [Got HBV? Adding Vitamin D to Your Diet | hepblog](#) Do you have hepatitis B, and are you considering adding vitamin D to your diet? Adding vitamin D seems to be a win-win for those with liver disease since it is a potent immune modulator, appears to aid in the prevention of cancer, and other potentially related disorders such as NAFLD
- [Eat for Your Liver: Easy Choices for a Liver-friendly Diet « Al D. Rodriguez Liver Foundation](#). What we eat and drink every day can greatly impact liver disease and our health.
- [Penetrating Postures: The Science of Yoga - Forbes](#). Wondering how yoga exerts its benefits on body and brain? Here's the science behind it.
- [Five principles to remember if you're diagnosed with a life-threatening illness: Friends In Deed](#). When one is diagnosed with a life-threatening illness, it's not uncommon to experience a period of "groundlessness."

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Jobs & Funding



Jobs

- [Assistant Commissioner of Alcohol and Drug Use Prevention, Care, and Treatment](#). New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.
- [Hepatitis C Social Worker - Part Time - Mount Sinai](#). Hepatitis C Primary Care Program.
- \$1,000 Cash Prize. New York Organ Donor Network is seeking team leaders for the *Campaign4Life* organ donation registration challenge from March 1-31st. Become a team leader: apalmieri@nyodn.org or [646-291-4461](tel:646-291-4461).

Funding

- [Grant available for Student Groups: National Hepatitis B Task Force](#). The National HBV Task Force will award three monetary awards of \$2,500 each to student groups in the U.S. to begin new programs, or augment existing programs focusing on Asian and Pacific Islander Americans including: screening projects, educational and awareness projects, and media campaigns/comm...
- [United Way Community Grants](#).
- [The New York State Health Foundation \(NYSHealth\) 2012 Special Projects Fund Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) awards are one-time, non-renewable funding opportunities. Eligible projects will take place over a specified period of time to achieve quantifiable results. Deadline: April 27, 2012.
- [AETNA FOUNDATION](#). In 2009 gave \$20.8M: priority to programs improving health & the health care system by addressing...racial and ethnic health care equity to promote equity in health and health care for common chronic conditions & infant mortality, or the promotion of integrated health care.... August 15, November 15 & February 15

(Letters of inquiry for grants of \$50K or under may be submitted at any time).

- [ARTHUR VINING DAVIS FOUNDATIONS](#): Health Care Grants Grants to \$200K for efforts to encourage caring attitudes in the delivery of patient care. Projects should have the potential for widespread practical application & be of interest to other groups.
- [BARKER WELFARE FOUNDATION](#). Grant more than \$2M annually primarily to non-profits providing services to youth, families & local cultural institutions in the 5 boroughs. Letter of intent or call before preparing full proposal. 516- 759-5592. August 1.
- [BMS Community Grants](#).
- [CAMPBELL FOUNDATION](#). Grants focusing on alternative, nontraditional avenues of research that will have direct clinical impact/relevancy to the HIV care/research community 5-7 years.
- [Dissemination & Implementation Research in Health \(R01\), NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH](#). Grants to support research that will identify, develop, & refine effective & efficient methods, structures, & strategies that test models to disseminate/implement research-tested health behavior change interventions & evidence-based prevention, early detection, diagnostic, treatment, and quality of life improvement services into public health and clinical practice settings.
- [Exploratory & Developmental Grant to Improve Health Care Quality through Health Information Technology \(IT\) \(R21\), \(AHRQ\)](#). Grants to \$300K for up to 2 years. Contact: [Angela Lavanderos](#). Due: October 16.
- [Genentech Community Grants & Scholarships](#).
- [Gilead Grants](#).
- [Health Impact Project, ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON & PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS](#) - Up to 15 grants to \$150K (over 24 months) to encourage the use of Health Impact Assessment (HIA) to help decision-makers better assess proposed policies, projects, & programs with respect to their impact on health so that they may avoid adverse health consequences & costs and improve health.
- [HEARST FOUNDATIONS](#). In 2009 granted over \$25M under the broad priorities of Education, Culture, Health, & Social Service. While most grants are to large organizations, some grants go to CBOs.
- [LANGELOTH FOUNDATION](#). Grants generally over \$100K over several years in CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE: interested in projects that seek to improve the health (physical, mental, substance abuse) of inmates during their time of incarceration, & as they transition back to their home communities.
- [PAUL RAPOPORT FOUNDATION](#). Grants of \$50,000 and higher, per year for direct services & advocacy for low or no income populations of LGBTQ or transgender communities of color.
- [Public Health Law Research, ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION](#). Rapid-Response Evaluations - 1 year grants to \$100K & Public Health Law Mapping Projects - 8 month grants to \$50K to build evidence for & strengthen the use of regulatory & policy solutions to improve public health, and identify & ameliorate laws & legal practices that unintentionally harm health. Letter of Intent is required before a full proposal can be submitted.
- [RITE AID FOUNDATION Grants for projects that focus on health & wellness](#). January 1.
- [ROBIN HOOD FOUNDATION](#). Grants to \$200K for general/operating support, program development & seed money as well as technical assistance to organizations serving very low income NYC residents in Early Childhood & Youth, Education, Jobs/Economic Security, & Survival.
- [Vertex Grants](#).
- [Women Helping Others \(WHO\) Foundation](#). Grants to \$40K to support grassroots charities that serve the overlooked health & social service needs of women & children.

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Information on Viral Hepatitis and the NYC Hepatitis B & C Coalitions

[NYC Department of Health Hepatitis ABC Website](#)

[NYC Hepatitis C Task Force Website](#)

[NYC Hepatitis B Coalition Website](#)

About this Newsletter: This newsletter is created through contributions from the NYC Hepatitis B & C Coalitions & Task Force.

Contribute: HepatitisABC@health.nyc.gov

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