



**Department  
of Health**

# **Eliminating Hepatitis C in New York State**

**February 6, 2019**



# Timeline towards HCV elimination

Spring 2016

- Series of meetings between HCV community, AIDS Institute and NYCDOHMH, to discuss HCV elimination

Fall 2016

- Establishment of steering community and workgroups
- Development of recommendations for HCV elimination

February 2017

- NYS HCV Elimination Summit
- Release of Consensus Statement on Hepatitis C Elimination in NYS

March 2017

- Consensus statement delivered to Governor Cuomo, along with \$10.8 million elimination budget

Summer 2017

- Statewide HCV Listening Session

March 2018

- Governor commits to HCV elimination

# Governor Commits to Eliminating HCV

TOP ▲ **Governor Cuomo Announces Statewide Expansion of...** SHARE [email icon] [facebook icon] [twitter icon]

March 16, 2018

**Governor Announces Nation's First State-Level Hepatitis C Elimination Strategy to Increase Access to Medication, Expand Comprehensive Programs and Enhance Treatment Services**

*"Ending the Epidemic"* Progress Report Issued Highlights New York's Historic Advancements in Ending the AIDS Epidemic by the end of 2020

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced he is advancing a statewide expansion of the HIV/AIDS Services Administration rental assistance program for New Yorkers living with HIV/AIDS. Additionally, the Governor announced the nation's first state-level Hepatitis C comprehensive elimination strategy to end the Hepatitis C and HIV epidemics in New York State. The new effort aims to stop the Hepatitis C virus in its tracks by increasing access to medications that can cure Hepatitis C and expanding programs to connect New Yorkers in high-risk communities with wrap-

Desktop Libraries 1:43 PM 7/26/2018



**GOVERNOR**  
**ANDREW M. CUOMO**

JULY 27, 2018 | Albany, NY

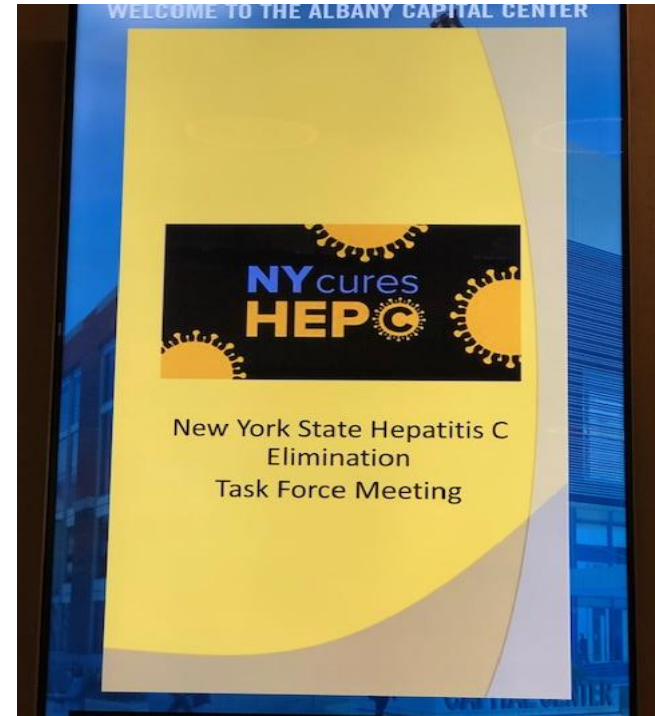
# Governor Cuomo Announces First-In-Nation Strategy To Eliminate Hepatitis C

HEALTH

SHARE   

# NYS Hepatitis C Elimination Task Force

- 28 member Task Force
- Community members, public health experts, HCV providers and persons infected with and affected by HCV
- Establish NYS Hepatitis C Elimination Plan
  - Build on existing recommendations from 2017 Summit
  - Identify key populations
  - Identify infrastructure needs



# NYS Hepatitis C Elimination Task Force Workgroups

- Five workgroups
  - HCV prevention
  - HCV testing and linkage to care
  - HCV care and treatment
  - Surveillance, data and metrics
  - Social determinants
- Review the existing recommendations
  - Still relevant and appropriate?
  - Revise, if necessary
- Identify any additional recommendations
- Prioritize recommendations

# Funding



- Patient navigation program
- Innovative care models to address barriers PWID face when accessing HCV treatment
- Re-entry programs for incarcerated individuals infected with HCV
- Surveillance infrastructure
- HCV testing
- HCV research
- Multi-media awareness campaign

Expand prevention, screening, care and treatment



# Strategy for Eliminating HCV in NYS

- Removal of HCV insurance barriers
  - Extend duration of prior authorization approvals to six months
  - Eliminate week 2 HCV RNA tests for persons on treatment
  - MCO to reimburse for telehealth for HCV treatment.

# Strategy for Eliminating HCV in NYS

- Medicaid reimbursement for harm reduction services
- Expansion of syringe exchange access
  - STD clinics
  - Homeless shelters
  - Local health departments
  - Promotion of ESAP by pharmacies
- Allow for limited primary care services in harm reduction settings

# Establishing the Elimination Target and Metrics

- Establish the HCV elimination target
  - Contracted with CDA Foundation
- Create various metrics



# Timeline



# Thank you

- Colleen Flanigan
  - Director, Bureau of Hepatitis Health Care
  - [Colleen.Flanigan@health.ny.gov](mailto:Colleen.Flanigan@health.ny.gov)



NYS Hepatitis C Elimination Web Page:

[https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/hepatitis/hepatitis\\_c/elimination.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/hepatitis/hepatitis_c/elimination.htm)