What is Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)?

- Most common blood born disease in the U.S.
- Between 75-85% of people infected will develop chronic HCV.
- Chronic HCV is a lifelong virus that can cause severe scarring (cirrhosis) of the liver, liver cancer, the need for a liver transplant, and even death.
- The death toll from HCV continues to rise, tied to the opioid epidemic and the rise in injecting drugs.
HCV in Washington State

- Estimated 65,000 people living with HCV in Washington State at the start of 2018.
- ~30,000 are covered by state-purchased healthcare: AH, UMP, DOC, L&I, DSHS.
- 118 new reports of acute infection in 2018, the highest in over twenty years.
- 543 deaths attributed to chronic HCV in 2017.
- Most affected populations are baby boomers and intravenous drug users.
Barriers to Treating HCV

- First direct-acting antivirals (DAA) came to market in 2011.
- Prices range from $417 to $1,125 per day, or $35K-$95K per 12 week treatment.
- Only chronic HCV patients can be treated.
- Stigma among patients and providers. IV drug users won’t be treated.
- The lack of urgency among patients and providers to treat.
- Access to HCV specialists.
Governor Inslee’s September 2018 Directive

- HCA and DOH to jointly develop strategies to eliminate HCV from Washington State by 2030
- HCA to develop a procurement strategy for all state covered lives
- DOH to develop a comprehensive public health outreach strategy
HCA’s Purchasing Strategy

- RFP issued January 2019
- Requested discounted drug costs for all state covered lives as well as outreach support services
- Two contracts effective 7-1-19
  - Medicaid - also includes outreach services
  - Non-Medicaid – same net cost for all non-Medicaid programs: UMP, DOC, DSHS, L&I
Apple Health (Medicaid) Policy Changes

- Mavyret® is preferred on the Apple Health Preferred Drug List
- No Prior Authorization for Mavyret®
- No sobriety or fibrosis restrictions
- No wait to assure chronic
- Any licensed prescriber can screen and treat
Mavyret® FDA Changes

September 2019 FDA approved Mavyret® 8 week treatment for treatment of treatment-naïve, compensated cirrhotic, and chronic HCV patients across all genotypes.
AbbVie Outreach Support

- Find untreated patients
  - Data solutions that can help pinpoint the locations where HCV infections are most common

- Physician education and support
  - Partnering with, educating, supporting prescribers: printed materials & webinars

- Screening and connection to care
  - Event scheduling and deployment of Elimination Awareness Bus, to be staffed by Hepatitis Education Project
  - Nurse Ambassador Program [https://www.mavyret.com/patient-support](https://www.mavyret.com/patient-support)
  - Printed patient education materials
Public Health Strategy

- DOH formed Hep C Free Washington Coordinating Committee
- Plan comprised of 15 goals and 90 recommendations. Work groups:
  - Data & strategic information
  - Community-based responses & interventions
  - Clinical strategies
What we need from you

Anyone licensed to prescribe antiviral treatments is allowed to screen and treat Medicaid members to support this effort.

If a patient knows they have Hep C, but has not gotten treatment:

- There is a cure.
- Encourage them to get treated.
- They do not have to be experiencing symptoms or be chronic to get treated.
- They do not have to stop using IV drugs to be treated.
- Uphold the dignity of each person by breaking down the stigma of the affected communities.
Questions?

Email: eliminatehcv@hca.wa.gov

HCA website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/clinical-collaboration-and-initiatives/eliminating-hepatitis-c

DOH website: https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/Hepatitis/HepatitisC/EliminatingHepatitisC