

# Monthly Updates from End Hep C SF

Building a San Francisco Free of Hepatitis C

Highlights from our work and community in July 2023

## Treatment Access and Prevention, Testing & Linkage Workgroups Joint Meeting Highlights (July 11)

This month the Prevention, Testing & Linkage workgroup meeting and the Treatment Access workgroup meeting were combined.

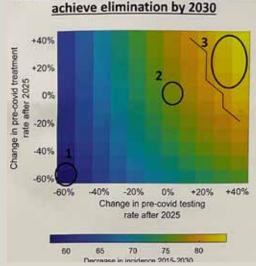
- 1. Brief Introductions
- 2. Share of modeling findings showing the various ways we need to increase HCV testing and/or treatment rates in San Francisco to reach our elimination goals, after the impacts of COVID.
  - a. Shelley shared a model created by the University of Bristol in England that shows a need to increase both testing and treament rates by 30-40% in order to achieve WHO elimination goals by 2030 (see figure).
  - Note of the importance that people who inject drugs should remain a population of focus and to think about how the new SFDPH-funded Health Access Points (HAPs, also sometimes called Wellness Hubs) will link people who test HCV positive to treatment.
  - c. Discussion on challenges folks are seeing in providing navigation or completing treatment referrals.
    EHCSF hep C client linkage flyer is available on the downloads tab on <u>endhepcsf.org</u>.

#### Next meeting: Treatment Access: August 8, 2023, 11am-12pm Prevention, Testing, & Linkage: August 10, 2023, 3-4.30pm

July 28 is World Hepatitis Day. Join us at 7.45pm that day at City Hall for a press call and photo op.

Full meeting notes are available in our Groupsite shared files or by request. Join our working groups or our mailing list by sending a request to info@endhepcsf.org





**Results II: Testing and treatment needed to** 

No meeting this month

Next meeting: August 21, 3-4.30pm

## **Policy & Advocacy Workgroup Meeting Highlights** (July 18)

- 1. Local updates: No budget victories locally there was no specific hep C funding
- 2. State Updates For FY 23-24, End the Epidemics achieved a major HCV funding victory and the governor signed a budget that will direct \$10 million over 3 years, encumbered for 5 to CDPH for allocation. There is a role for CaIHEP or EHCSF to work on funding negotiations with CDPH for advocacy. Syringe service programs received \$61m over 4 years (quadruple their previous funding). This all comes from opioid settlement funds.
- 3. Open press call/photo op at City Hall at 7.45pm on World Hepatitis Day i-next Friday July 28th.

Next meeting: August 15, 1-2pm

Welcome to our new MAT Program liaison on the Coordinating Committee - Soraya Azari from OTOP at SF General.

### Coordinating Committee Meeting Highlights (July 27)

- 1. General updates and announcements
- 2. Workgroup updates
- 3. Introduction and welcome to our new MAT Program liaison Soraya Azari
- 4. Budget Update
- 5. Strategic Director Update on End Hep C SF current (main) activities
- 6. EAC planning and next steps (reminder meeting is Sept 11)
- 7. Discussion about workgroup attendance and EHCSF membership overall





