

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 10, 2020

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CHLPI of Harvard Law School, NVHR, and the O'Neill Institute at Georgetown University Launch New Partnership to Study Viral Hepatitis Elimination Efforts in the U.S.

The Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation (CHLPI) of Harvard Law School and the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR) have launched a new partnership with the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University to study viral hepatitis elimination efforts in the U.S. Building on the longstanding partnership between CHLPI and NVHR, the new venture will centralize resources and best practices for viral hepatitis elimination efforts in the U.S.

"As we progress towards viral hepatitis elimination in the U.S., this partnership will allow us to provide states and advocates the information they need to operationalize elimination strategies across the country," said Dr. Adrienne Simmons, NVHR Policy Manager. "We're excited about this new partnership with the two premier health law institutions in the country and look forward to sharing the results of our research."

The partnership comes at an important juncture as the U.S. faces rising rates of viral hepatitis – despite the availability of vaccines for hepatitis A and B, and a cure for hepatitis C – and as reports show that the country is not on track to meet the World Health Organization's goal of eliminating viral hepatitis by 2030. With approximately 3.3 million Americans living with chronic viral hepatitis, the research from CHLPI, NVHR, and the O'Neill Institute will provide critical insight into state policies that impact efforts to prevent, treat, and eliminate viral hepatitis in the U.S.

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About the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation of Harvard Law School (CHLPI)

The Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation of Harvard Law School (CHLPI) advocates for legal, regulatory, and policy reforms to improve the health of marginalized populations, with a focus on the needs of low-income people living with chronic illnesses and disabilities. CHLPI works with consumers, advocates, community-based organizations, health and social services professionals, government officials, and others to expand access to high-quality health care; to reduce health disparities; to develop community advocacy capacity; and to promote more equitable and effective health care systems. CHLPI is a clinical teaching program of Harvard Law School and mentors students to become skilled, innovative, and thoughtful practitioners as well as leaders in health and public health law and policy. For more information, visit http://www.chlpi.org.

About the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR)

The National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable, a program of <u>HEP</u>, is a national coalition working together to eliminate viral hepatitis in the United States. NVHR's vision is a healthier world without viral hepatitis.

NVHR's work is guided and informed by our beliefs and commitment to: Participation, Inclusiveness, Intersectionality, Health Equity, and Stigma Elimination. For more information, visit www.nvhr.org

About the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law and Georgetown University

The O'Neill Institute, housed at Georgetown University Law Center, was established to create innovative solutions to the most pressing national and international health concerns, with the essential vision that the law has been, and will remain, a fundamental tool for solving critical health problems. Read more at <u>oneillinstitute.org</u> and connect with us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.