

# What Are Hepatitis C Patients Experiencing in 2017?

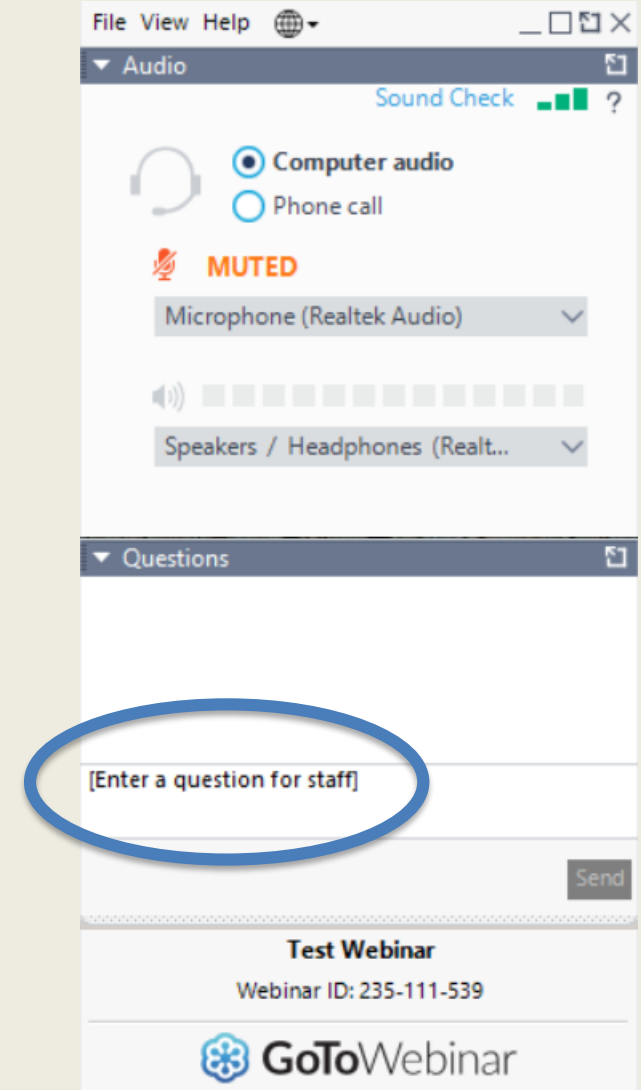
July 20, 2017

# Welcome

- National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable
- Coalition working to end hepatitis B and hepatitis C in the U.S.
- [www.nvhr.org](http://www.nvhr.org)

# Housekeeping: GoToWebinar

- Slides and a recording of the webinar will be sent to everyone who registered and posted on our website.
- Please use the question box to submit your questions and comments
- The Q&A session will follow the last presentation



# Webinar Overview

## Panelists:

- Orlando Chavez, Glide Foundation
- Corinne Miga Miosi, Erie County Medical Center
- Lucinda Porter, HepMag

# Orlando Chavez

GLIDE FOUNDATION

# Why I got involved

- ▶ First injected at 12 years old
- ▶ Contracted hep A & B in my twenties
- ▶ Jails and prisons said not to worry about hep B
- ▶ A proactive doctor helped me with hep C treatment

# My Current Role

- ▶ Health Navigator-HIV-Hep C Test Counselor and NCCT certified phlebotomist
  - ▶ Hep C education and support group
- ▶ offer harm reduction services
- ▶ use a peer-based model to engage with clients & build trust
  - ▶ peers can go much further and deeper

# End Hep C SF Prevalence Report

- ▶ Approximately 17,500 people would have had active infection with hepatitis C if new treatments were not being used in San Francisco
- ▶ At least 4,500 people have already received the new hep C treatments
- ▶ Approximately 70% of people infected with hep C are people who inject drugs, although people who inject drugs make up less than 3% of the city's population
- ▶ Around 13% of infections are among men who have sex with men, and almost 3/4 those infected with hepatitis C are also living with HIV
- ▶ 40% of infections are among baby boomers (people born from 1945 – 1965), who make up 21% of the overall population of San Francisco
- ▶ For more information and a summary of the findings and analysis released by End Hep C SF, visit <https://tinyurl.com/sfhcvprevalence>.



# What I hear from Patients

- ▶ There's new hope
- ▶ The perception of stigma or discrimination from current/previous providers
- ▶ Conflicting messages
  - ▶ Hep C is never an emergency/you're not sick enough yet
  - ▶ Get treatment now
- ▶ Handle your substance abuse first
- ▶ Patient has other competing needs and priorities

# Patient Success Story

- ▶ Reached out to a client at an encampment, tested him, reached him the next day and he was willing to come to Glide for results
- ▶ Disclosed the results and the client had a doctor's appointment 16 days after the initial encounter
- ▶ The client is homeless, actively using and making investments in his health, including his current hep C treatment

# Key Takeaways

- ▶ Shift in thinking
  - ▶ “We can't because...” to “How can we do this?”
- ▶ engage with
  - ▶ drug users
  - ▶ people of color
  - ▶ incarcerated and formerly incarcerated
  - ▶ LGBTQ people
  - ▶ homeless people
- ▶ Doing the right thing has many rewards for society, the patient and the provider
- ▶ Big tidal waves start with small ripples

# Corinne Miga Miosi

---

ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

# Why I got involved

---

- From Buffalo, NY
- Graduated with a Master's degree in Social Work
- Started working in clinic 4 years ago
- Patients have inspired me

# Current Role with HCV Patients

---

- Medical Social Worker
- Educate patients on social, emotional and spiritual consequences of HIV and HCV
- Bi-weekly peer support group



Caring Ambassadors Advocates Unite, NYS Advocates: (Washington DC May 2015)

# Most Important Things I Hear from Patients

---

- Stigma
- Lack of support and competing priorities for basic needs

# My last point...HOPE

- Hepatitis C does not discriminate.
- The treatment landscape has evolved significantly over the past few years.
- Share your story and support others.
- For providers, it's not our job to judge but to provide a safe and supportive environment for people to be themselves and access the care they need.



Second Annual HCV cure Party held in Buffalo, NY May 2017



# LUCINDA K. PORTER, RN

*Author of [Free from Hepatitis C](#)  
and [Hepatitis C Treatment One Step at a Time](#)*

[www.LucindaPorterRN.com](http://www.LucindaPorterRN.com)

# RESOURCES

- *"It takes community to maintain a human."* ~Earon Davis
- Hep Forum [www.hepmag.com/forum](http://www.hepmag.com/forum)
- HCV Advocate [www.HCVAdvocate.org](http://www.HCVAdvocate.org)
- Facebook: Hepatitis C Family and Friends

# HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

- 1998: Low success rate era
- 2003: Peginterferon and ribavirin era
- 2011: Triple therapy and the dawn of direct-acting antivirals
- 2014 Era of insurance and Medicaid denial

# 2017: ERA OF CHOICE

- Do I have HCV?
- What do my lab results mean?
- Transmission concerns
- Parents of children with hep C

# ERA OF CHOICE, CONTINUED

- Treatment
- Paying for treatment
- Drug interactions during HCV treatment
- Post-treatment

# Questions?

Please submit questions for any of the presenters via the webinar question function or send an email to [tbroder@nvhr.org](mailto:tbroder@nvhr.org)

