

## Adrienne Simmons

---

**From:** National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR) <info@nvhr.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 2:08 PM  
**To:** Adrienne Simmons  
**Subject:** NVHR Newsletter: August is National Immunization Awareness Month



August is National Immunization Awareness Month, held annually to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. While hepatitis A and hepatitis B are both preventable via immunization, the rate of infection among adults for both HAV and HBV remain significant, in large part due to the opioid epidemic. According to the CDC, 46% of hepatitis A cases and 35% of hepatitis B cases reported injection drug use in 2019, respectively. August is a month to raise awareness about the need to improve access to and utilization of hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines. Earlier this year, NVHR hosted two webinars focused on [building COVID-19 vaccine confidence in the viral hepatitis community](#), and [advancing health equity through adult hepatitis B vaccination](#). Read below to learn how you can get involved, as well as for policy updates and events about viral hepatitis.

You have  
**power to  
protect**

against vaccine-preventable  
**diseases.**



**National Immunization  
Awareness Month**

**TAKE ACTION**



**HEPELIMINATION**

**Take Action TODAY!**

Sign up by clicking below  
to get notified when the  
full project launches in

## Sign Up for HepElimiNATION Updates

*HepElimiNATION: A National Evaluation of States' Capacity for Viral Hepatitis Elimination* is a project in partnership between NVHR, the O'Neill Institute and CHLPI at Harvard Law School to study viral hepatitis elimination efforts across the U.S. On World Hepatitis Day, the partnership launched its preliminary rubric and new website.

late 2021, view the preliminary rubric, and share your thoughts on the project.

Click Here to Stay  
Up to Date on the  
HepElimiNATION  
Project

## POLICY UPDATES

**Rhode Island Improves Access to Hepatitis C Treatment.** Rhode Island's Department of Health and Human Services has eased restrictions on hepatitis C treatment, eliminating prior authorization requirements and maintaining continuity of treatment for those transitioning between publicly funded delivery systems. CHLPI and NVHR have increased Rhode Island's [\*Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access\*](#) grade from an A- to an A+, though work still remains to ensure full access to treatment.

**New CDC Data Shows Funding Rates for Infectious Diseases through FY2020.** In FY2020, CDC's enacted funding amounts to prevent and control viral hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, STI's TB, and other infectious diseases was \$1,123,556,000, an increase of 13% over the previous year. Appropriately funding these programs helps save lives, save money, and are vital for helping our nation achieve health equity.

**Raise Awareness for National Immunization Awareness Month with Hep B United's Social Media Toolkit.** The [toolkit](#) features graphics and sample posts to promote adult hepatitis B vaccination and universal adult hepatitis B vaccination. Throughout the rest of the month, Hep B United will also be sharing quotes from patients, providers and hepatitis B champions on the importance of getting vaccinated against hepatitis B on their social media channels, which you can share and interact with to help raise awareness.

**NVHR's Monthly Grassroots Advocacy Call is Canceled.** We hope to see you at our next call on Thursday, September 17th from 3-4pm ET. Enjoy August recess and be safe!

## FROM THE COMMUNITY



### **CDC Now Accepting Nominations for CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and STD Prevention and Treatment (CHAC)**

CDC is seeking nominees that provide a balance of diverse experiences and expertise, as the committee advises the Director of CDC and Administrator of HRSA on an array of topics associated with objectives, strategies, policies, and priorities for HIV and STD prevention and treatment.

**Nominations are requested by August 21.**

[Click here](#) to view the nomination process details.



## **HARM: Hepatitis, Addiction & Stigma Reduction in Medicine**

Join the Louisiana Department of Health and Ochsner Health System for an HCV elimination program virtual series on Hepatitis, Addiction & Stigma Reduction in Medicine.

**Wednesday, August 18 at Noon CT**

[Register Here](#)



## **The Role of Syringe Exchange Service Programs in Ending HIV and HCV: A Conversation with Dr. Reonna Chandler**

Join the Addiction Policy Forum for a discussion about the intersection of addiction and infectious diseases, current trends in HIV and HCV infections, the evidence and research on SSPs and the expansion of successful models.

**Tuesday, August 24 at 3pm ET**

[Register Here](#)



## 2021-2022 Vu Fellowship Announced

HepVu has recently launched the Vu Fellowship, a year-long fellowship program focused on empowering new voices and researchers in the fields of viral hepatitis and HIV. Applications for the fellowship are due **Tuesday, August 31 by 5 pm ET**.

[Apply Here](#)



## International Overdose Awareness Day

International Overdose Awareness Day is the world's largest annual campaign to end overdose, remember those without stigma those who have died and acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind. Learn how you can get involved by [visiting the official website](#).

**Tuesday, August 31**



## NAIRHHA Day: A Conversation with Federal & Local Partners

Join HBF, NASTAD and the Multicultural AIDS Coalition for an event that brings together federal and local partners working in the HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis spaces for a conversation centered on work with African immigrant communities.

**Wednesday, September 1 at 1 pm ET**

[Register Here](#)



**Hepatitis Community Collaborative**  
NASTAD and The AIDS Institute are hosting the second annual HC2, a one-day virtual convening of hepatitis and infectious disease advocates and patients from across the country to connect with each other and learn about what jurisdictions are doing to combat viral hepatitis in their communities, through informative presentations and authentic dialogue.

**Tuesday, September 28**

Please reach out to [Frank Hood](#) or [Jasmine West](#) with any questions.

---

## LATEST NEWS

(Opinion) Morning Consult: [Congressional Action Is Needed to Expand Access to Hepatitis C Testing and Treatment](#)

The New York Times: [As Overdoses Soar, This State's Largest Needle Exchange Is Being Evicted](#)

HepVu (featuring HepVu Co-Chair Ronald O. Valdiserri, MD, MPH): [What's New in Viral Hepatitis – August 2021](#)

The Atlantic: [What Those in Power Are Missing About the Opioid Epidemic](#)

---



1621 South Jackson Street, Suite 201 | Seattle, WA 98144

[unsubscribe](#)