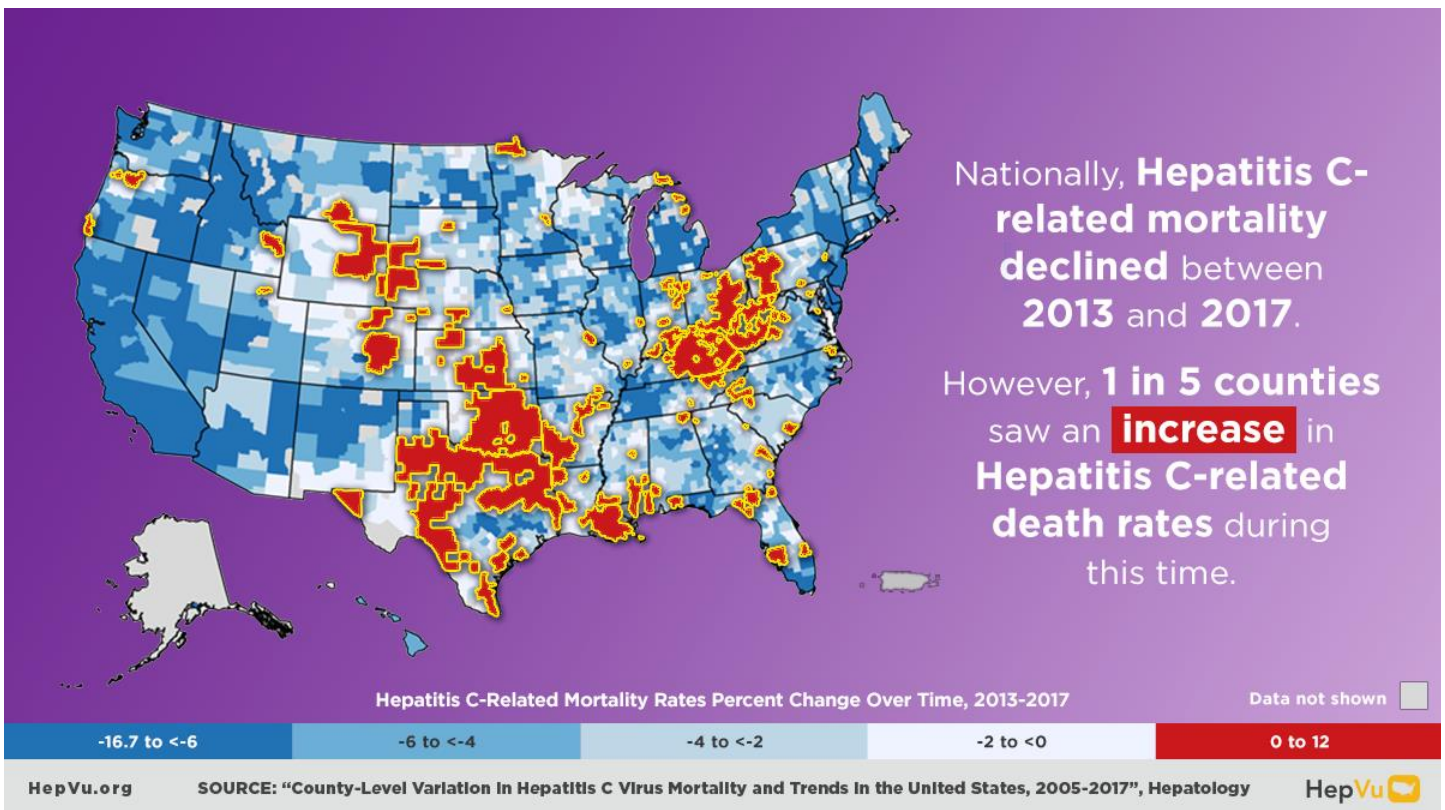




# NVHR

National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable



Earlier this month, [HepVu](#) released a [new resource](#) to visualize hepatitis C mortality at the county-level. The data and interactive maps highlight key disparities and demonstrate how communities and demographics, such as age and region, are impacted by the hepatitis C epidemic at the local level. Join HepVu, NVHR's Adrienne Simmons, and a panel of experts TODAY for a deep dive into HepVu's Hepatitis C-Related Mortality tool. [Register here.](#)

The findings show that while Hepatitis C-related mortality has been decreasing nationally since 2013, the decline varies across the country. In fact, 1 in 5 counties saw an increase in hepatitis C mortality rates between 2013-2017.

The hepatitis C mortality data is a valuable resource which can be used to:

- Monitor progress, trends, and disparities in Hepatitis C-related mortality at the county-level among specific age groups, and by race and sex at the state-level;
- Compare Hepatitis C-related mortality among counties in your state or region;
- Support research to identify viral hepatitis interventions and preventions; and
- Inform public health planning.

[Click here to read more!](#)

*Keep reading below for the latest updates from NVHR and the viral hepatitis community.*

## TAKE ACTION

### Congressional Hepatitis Caucus

The Congressional Hepatitis Caucus, led by Co-Chairs Rep. Grace Meng (NY-6) and Rep. Hank Johnson (GA-4), serves as a resource for members and staff on issues and research related to the prevention and treatment of viral hepatitis. Email your representative today to encourage them to join the caucus.

Email Your Member of Congress

Click the button below to urge your member of Congress to join the Congressional Hepatitis Caucus.

TAKE ACTION

## Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment Act (MAT)

On February 25, U.S. Representatives Paul Tonko (D-NY) and Mike Turner (R-OH) and Senators Maggie Hassan (D-NH) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) reintroduced the Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act. HR 1384 / S 445 would increase access to lifesaving addiction medicine by eliminating the federal buprenorphine waiver – commonly called the X-waiver – that medical professionals must receive from the Drug Enforcement Administration to prescribe buprenorphine for the treatment of substance use disorder. [Click here to urge your members of Congress to support the MAT Act.](#)

## Public Health Infrastructure Saves Lives Act (PHISLA)

Earlier this month, Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), Chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and 19 of her Democratic Senate colleagues, re-introduced the Public Health Infrastructure Saves Lives Act (PHISLA). The legislation would establish a new core public health infrastructure program which ramps up to \$4.5 billion in annual funding to bolster the nation's efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, and strengthen its ability to respond to other public health challenges going forward. NVHR supports this legislation to create a stronger public health infrastructure, which will help in the fight to eliminate viral hepatitis. [Read more.](#)

FROM THE COMMUNITY



Visualizing Hepatitis C Mortality – A  
HepVu Webinar

Join NVHR's Adrienne Simmons, HepVu, and a panel of experts for a deep dive into HepVu's Hepatitis C-Related Mortality tool.

Wednesday March 17th, at 2 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

Project ECHO® presents

**HARM** ● Hepatitis, Addiction  
● & Stigma Reduction  
● in Medicine

AN HCV ELIMINATION PROGRAM VIRTUAL SERIES



### March Grassroots Advocacy Call

Join NVHR on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 3 pm ET to learn about updates in viral hepatitis advocacy and to share

progress in your jurisdiction. This Thursday, hear how HepVu maps and other resources can be used to help illustrate the impact of hepatitis in the U.S. To add an item to the agenda, email [info@nvhr.org](mailto:info@nvhr.org).

Thursday, March 18 at 3 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

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## DEMYSTIFYING 340B FOR CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

March 31, 1-2:30 PM ET

REGISTER TODAY





# HEP C 101

Educational Track: Hepatitis C

Training Level: Individual and Organizational

Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1:00 - 2:00 PM Eastern

## Presenter:



**Robin Lord Smith**  
Operations Manager  
Peer Counselor  
Help4Hep  
Patient Advocate Advisor  
NVHR

This webinar will cover basic education about the Hepatitis C virus.

Participants will learn about the natural history of the virus, potential impact on the liver, transmission risk factors, testing, treatment and treatment access issues, and liver healthy lifestyle choices.

**Register today:**  
<https://cutt.ly/HepC-Apr21>



Community Education Group  
[www.communityeducationgroup.org](http://www.communityeducationgroup.org)





***We need your help to prevent a budget cut to critical  
HCV services!***

**MASSACHUSETTS ADVOCATE ACTION  
ALERT!!**

Governor Baker released budget recommendations which include cuts to the line items that fund AIDS service organizations: a \$2.5 million cut to the HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis C Line Item and a \$900,000 cut to the Harm Reduction Line Item.

**Take Action Today!**

[Click Here to Email Your Legislator](#)

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Community Education Group

TRU EVOLUTION  
ORGANIZE • EDUCATE • MOBILIZE



### Rural Voices Needed

The Rural Public Health Needs Survey is designed to seek input from community members, organizations, and healthcare providers on what the greatest public health needs are in their rural communities, what educational, training, and technical assistance resources are needed to address these issues, what issues they have accessing essential services, and how communities are working to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine.

Survey participants can enter to win one of eight Amazon Digital Gift Cards up to \$500. Winners will be selected by random drawing and announced in the April 2021 CEG and RHSPN newsletters.

**Take the Survey Today!**

[Click Here to take the Survey.](#)

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## HepChats – Getting Tested for Hepatitis C: Why It Matters

NVHR patient advocate Karen Hoyt is featured in a new video series sponsored by AbbVie. In the videos, Karen [urges individuals to get tested for hepatitis C](#) and [provides tips for caregivers helping a loved one deal with their hep C](#).

Watch & Share the videos today.

Watch: [HepChats – Getting Tested for Hepatitis C: Why It Matters](#)

Watch: [HepChats: Support for the Support System](#)



## NoHep – Global Contest for Viral Hepatitis Stories

Has viral hepatitis impacted your life or the life of someone you care about? Are you willing to share your story to help spur change?

The purpose of this open call is to gather stories of hepatitis that will help spur change in your country. These stories could take the form of text, audio, visual art, or infographics. All submissions will be reviewed by independent judges and exceptional submissions will be recognized at national and global events, in addition to receiving prizes.

**The deadline for submissions is April 30, 2021.**

[Click here to share your story.](#)

[NVHR'S NEW WEBSITE](#)

NVHR launched a redesigned website that offers more ways for advocates to connect and has more resources than before. Check out some of the newest features:

### **Upcoming Events**

Hepatitis and public health advocacy organizations host various educational and advocacy events in order to engage patients, providers, and advocates. These events are critical in the fight to eliminate viral hepatitis and making sure people are connected to the resources they need. Find a calendar of upcoming or past events at

[www.nvhr.org/events](http://www.nvhr.org/events). Have something to add? Email us at [info@nvhr.org](mailto:info@nvhr.org).

## LATEST NEWS

Rhode Island Medical Journal: [Losing Our Way: Caring for Patients Who May, Too Soon, Become Organ Donors](#)

The Spokesman-Review: [Michael Ninburg and Sue Birch: A public-private partnership to eliminate hepatitis C in Washington is a model for other states](#)

North Carolina Health News: [NC Prisons Must Test And Treat Inmates For Hepatitis C Under Class-Action Settlement](#)

Hepatitis B Foundation: [Chronic hepatitis B is far more prevalent among U.S. residents than previously reported](#)



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[unsubscribe](#)