



Viral Hepatitis Diagnostics Working Group Charter

Purpose:

Advocate for accessible, affordable, effective, and rapid viral hepatitis diagnostics, that most closely meet communities where they are, in pursuit of viral hepatitis elimination.

Bring the voice of people with lived experience to the table in developing strategies, activities, and tactics to achieve our advocacy goals.

Goals:

1. Work with viral hepatitis diagnostic partners to encourage them to bring their rapid tools to market in the United States as quickly as possible.
2. Work with the federal *agencies*, particularly the Food and Drug Administration, to ensure speedy review and approval of rapid viral hepatitis diagnostics.
3. Educate and organize the viral hepatitis community about the need to weigh in and provide grassroots advocacy to achieve goals #1 and #2, and secure financing to facilitate regulatory approvals and support programmatic needs.

Guiding Principles:

1. Engagement and leadership by people with viral hepatitis lived experience.
2. Access to the most affordable rapid and, when possible, point-of-care, HBV and HCV diagnostics.
3. Minimizing the negative environmental impact of diagnostics.
4. An end to racial and health inequities that inhibit access to HBV and HCV testing.
5. Immediate action by manufacturers and government to bring rapid HBV and HCV diagnostics to market in the United State.

Membership:

The Working Group is coordinated by the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR). The Working Group is composed of advocates, clinicians, community-based organizations, people with lived experience, and researchers. Membership is open to anyone from these communities who are committed to advancing the Working Group's goals.

To join the Working Group, email Adrienne Simmons (adrienne@nvhr.org). After joining, members will be added to a Google Group (hepdiagnostics@googlegroups.com) and receive a calendar invite, as well as access to a Google Drive.



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Participation:

Members are expected to actively participate in the Working Group through one or more of the following activities:

1. Engage on monthly Working Group calls
2. Participate in the development and/or execution of advocacy strategies and activities
3. Provide technical assistance and share information, ideas, best practices, and updates
4. Disseminate Action Alerts and other materials widely
5. Assist with special projects

Decision-making:

Key decisions made by the Working Group will occur after opportunities for all members to provide input. We will strive to reach consensus on all major decisions. If that is not possible, we will try to ensure that each member can “live with” a decision. If that is not possible, the Working Group will vote.

Meeting schedule:

The Working Group meets monthly via Zoom on the 4th Thursday at 3:00 pm Eastern. All Working Group members are encouraged to participate in as many meetings as possible. Notes are provided for those unable to attend.

Questions/Feedback:

All questions, comments, or concerns about the Working Group can be sent to Adrienne Simmons (adrienne@nvhr.org).