

## Increasing Primary Care Capacity for Hepatitis C Screening Among Individuals born 1945-1965, Care and Treatment for American Indian and Alaska Native



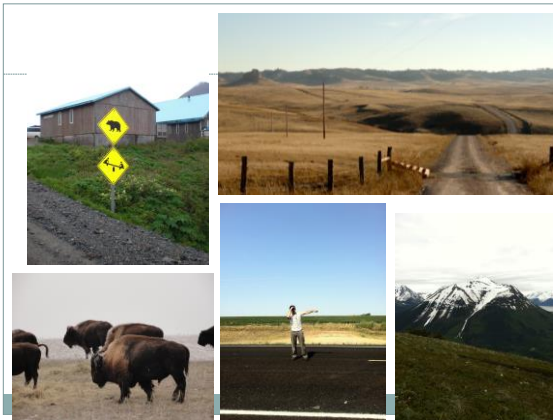
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WORLD INDIGENOUS PEOPLES'  
CONFERENCE OF VIRAL HEPATITIS  
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## Disclaimer

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## American Indian and Alaska Native People



## Indian Health Service

- The Indian Health Service (IHS) is an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services that is responsible for providing health services to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people.
- The system serves AI/AN who live on or near reservations and Alaska Native villages, and AI/AN living in urban areas in 35 states.



## The Larger I/T/U System

- 46 Hospitals (1/3) tribally operated
- 630 Health Centers and Clinics (80% tribally operated)
- Contract Health Service
- Provision of Public Health Services
  - Indian Health Boards
  - Tribal Epidemiology Centers



## Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board



Established in 1972, the Board is a non-profit tribal organization serving the 43 federally recognized tribes of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

INDIAN LEADERSHIP FOR INDIAN HEALTH



**MISSION:**  
To assist Northwest tribes to improve the health status and quality of life of member tribes and Indian people in their delivery of culturally appropriate and holistic health care.

## Hepatitis C in American Indian and Alaska Native People

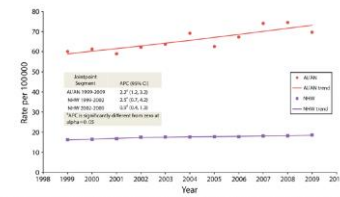


FIGURE 1—Trends in annual age-adjusted chronic liver disease death rates in CHSDA Counties, for both genders, among American Indians and Alaska Natives and Whites, United States, 1998–2009.

Supersand A, Ryd K, Rodt JT, Pecher FG, Munoz MM, McMahon BJ. Mortality caused by chronic liver disease among American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States, 1999–2009. *Am J Public Health*. 2014 Jun;104(Suppl 3):S90–8. doi: 10.2195/AJPH.2013.301645. Epub 2014 Apr 22.

## Identification of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among Persons Born During 1945–1965

**HEPATITIS C WHY BABY BOOMERS SHOULD GET TESTED**

Why do baby boomers have such high rates of Hepatitis C?  
 • Many people are unaware they have the virus.  
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 • Many people are unaware they have the virus.

“Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there”  
 —Will Rogers



## Best Practice 4



- Data loop to Area and Facility



## Best Practice 5 – Coming Soon

- PHR
- Personal health record to check on yourself and/or your family to ensure you are up to date



## Challenges

- Time is short during medical visits
- Competing priorities
- Reminder fatigue
- Patient has no information
- Screening costs
- Specimen collection for lab
- Limitations of EHR
- Clinical Capacity
- Concerns about cost of Treatment ...



“Hepatitis C is no longer a disease, it is an injustice”

– Jonathan Mermin, CDC's Public Health Grand Rounds “The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Discovery of the Hepatitis C Virus: Looking Back to Look Forward”



Schell et. al. (2013) Public health program capacity for sustainability: a new framework. Implementation Science. 8:15. Available at: <http://www.implementation-science.com/content/8/1/15>



## Never tell me the odds



“Never tell me the odds!”





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Indian Health*

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