

## PRESCRIBER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Louisiana Department of Health is committed to eliminating HCV in our state. To accomplish this goal, we need your help! In order to improve access to patients state wide, we have removed restrictions surrounding who can prescribe HCV medications and want to train more primary care providers to cure Hepatitis C in persons living with the disease. Our free trainings are intended for all prescribers (MD's, DOs, NPs, PAs), and other staff who would like to be a part of our elimination efforts.

As you may be aware, the Louisiana Department of Health's (LDH) Office of Public Health (OPH) and the Louisiana Department of Corrections (DOC) has launched a comprehensive, evidence-based, and action-oriented plan to achieve elimination of hepatitis C (HCV) as a public health threat in Louisiana by the end of 2024. The plan is composed of seven strategies leveraging mutually reinforcing efforts across public health, health care, industry and community partners throughout the state working towards the common goal of statewide elimination of hepatitis C infection, defined by the World Health Organization as diagnosing 90% and treating 80% of Louisiana residents. Our vision is a "Hep C Free Louisiana" where Hepatitis C is no longer a threat to public health, the quality of life for our citizens is improved and health inequities related to hepatitis C are eliminated. This vision is only possible with the expansion of our provider network through the effort and collaboration of individuals, agencies, organizations, and health systems at all levels in each of Louisiana's 64 parishes.

### ONE-HOUR HCV TREATMENT PRESCRIBER TRAINING

Our first step in training consists of a single, one-hour, HCV Provider Training aimed at preparing prescribers to identify and treat people living with HCV. These trainings are designed to provide a background on the Hepatitis C epidemic facing our community, an introduction to the Hep C Free Louisiana plan, and a walk through of the streamlined screening and treatment algorithm so all prescribers can feel confident in providing the cure for Hepatitis C to their clients.

HCV Prescriber Training is available to any medical provider in the state of Louisiana, and can be scheduled with our team academic detailing team at your convenience. The trainings are ideal for one on one or small groups so that we can directly address individual questions or concerns from prescribers. Please just reach out to Dr. McCall, or Dr. Mizroch to schedule your HCV provider training!

If you would like to participate in the training via our pre-recorded webinar, you can access the one-hour video online. You'll need to fill out the form on this page: <https://www.louisianahealthhub.org/hcv-algorithm-webinar/> to be directed to the webinar.

These trainings are eligible for CME's.

### HCV PROJECT ECHO SERIES

In addition to the onsite trainings offered by our provider network coordinators, there is the HCV Project Echo series. These sessions will be a short 15-minute didactic lesson followed by clinical case discussions. The majority of time is really for YOU! Please come with cases you would like to discuss and questions we can answer for you. Anyone can join the Project Echo meeting, but remember if you want to be an HCV Champion you MUST attend one of the HCV Champions half-day trainings (additional dates will be provided soon), attend 8 of these Project Echo sessions (presenting at least 5 cases) and complete a culminating exam. Then you will be supplied with a certificate acknowledging your hard work to become a proficient HCV provider.

These lunch and learn sessions are eligible for CME's.

### HCV CHAMPIONS TRAINING

For those that would like to become more experienced providers, we have a more intensive class called HCV Champions Training. This provides a more in- depth analysis of more complicated HCV care and consists of a half day didactic, followed by weekly online case review sessions (typically at lunch) to improve provider comfort in treating more advanced cases. These trainings will be held throughout the state in the coming months and allow for a deeper dive into the principles behind the states streamlined HCV treatment algorithm. These training sessions are eligible for 3.75 CME hours.

### HCV CHAMPION RECOGNITION

For those that would like to be recognized as an HCV Champion Prescriber in Louisiana, we offer a combined course of study and collaboration with prescribers throughout the state through a combined HCV Champion Training and the 12-week HCV Project Echo Series. To be recognized as an HCV Champion Prescriber in Louisiana, attend an HCV Champion Training, at least 8 out of 12 HCV Project Echo Series, present at least five clinical cases for discussion, and pass a culminating examination to demonstrate mastery of HCV screening and treatment topics. Upon successful completion of the program, prescribers will be recognized by the Louisiana Department of Health as a Champion Prescriber in the State's HCV Elimination efforts.

### TO LEARN MORE

If you are a prescriber and are interested additional trainings to add screening, linkage to care, and/or treatment for Hepatitis C to your clinical services, or expanding your current services please reach out to, Dr. Frederic McCall via email, [Frederic.McCall@LA.gov](mailto:Frederic.McCall@LA.gov) or via cell phone: (919) 920-6707. You can also contact Dr. Mizroch via email, [Brandon.Mizroch@LA.gov](mailto:Brandon.Mizroch@LA.gov), or Dr. Gia Tyson via email, [GTyson@Ochsner.org](mailto:GTyson@Ochsner.org). If you are interested in custom training opportunities for yourself or your colleagues, please reach to our team with your specific training needs.