

**Butte County Hepatitis C Task Force
Minutes
September 14, 2005, Chico**

Greetings and Introductions - Welcome Nancy Merrifield, RN, DON, Del Norte Clinics

Educational Moment: Information from HepSquads newsletter; genetic testing study of HCV pts was used as markers for likelihood of response to treatment. Shorter treatment regimens for type 2 and 3 successful.

Old Business:

Aims:

HCV classes; no response. Suggestions—

- 1) Jeannie call providers to remind re classes,
- 2) change phone # to 800# on invitations,
- 3) If someone calls for reservation, Jeannie call to remind. Jeannie will check with media re class announcements.

Evaluation: Dr. Al-Dwairi and Dr. Lundberg will e mail ea other re: Developing/ choosing an evaluation tool to send to providers to evaluate.

Screening: All four providers who did not screen for hepatitis on new pt. HX forms have added 2 screening questions (Blood transfusion, drug use) to their new pt. HX forms!!! Jeannie will collect new pt HX forms from them in 6 months for our records.

New Aims (suggestions):

- 1) Nadeen will check to see if large HCV classes could occur in jail (ed is now being done 1 to 1.
- 2) Testing; ck to see re no cost/low cost testing.

Things to consider re jail testing; Nadeen; State and soon in Butte County do HIV testing using OroQuick (deliver results at time of test). HCV Orosure is coming. (Oral HCV test). BCHD Health Ed will consider testing for HCV with HIV tests when Oral test available. Jail testing now is on voluntary basis.

Comments re jail testing: One state tests as the inmate leaves prison then refers to care.

If treat in jail-pt assured of completing treatment.

If treat after released-shows a commitment by the person.

After leave jail after treatment, may restart IV drugs and get HCV again.

Managing grants: Suggestions included

Ed material, jail testing, dev a curriculum including referral info (3 or 4 classes) for jail large group, HCV AB testing, promote the HCV classes (transportation, incentives and enablers), education i.e., community outreach at stores.

Roche has suggested we have a Town Hall meeting at which they would provide the speaker, etc.-however they want 200 participants.

Pond Tour Report; pictures circulated, 15 participants, made \$150.00. Total available to us: \$1,050.00.

BCHD web site: To have our own web site would be very expensive and have ongoing costs. "Ask Dr. Al-Dwairi " web cite discussed. BCHD has no interactive process. "Profile of GIs treating", "Testing sites", "HCV classes" suggested. Frequently asked questions draft circulated; comments to Jeannie

Needle Exchange - Katherine

Suggestion; SB1159 forum. How does the community feel about implementing the SB (people can purchase up to 10 syringes with needles from a pharmacy if the Board of Supervisors in the county or City Officials agree).

Dave Montoya, pastor, Paradise Alliance Church will participate.

Nadeen will ask one from law enforcement to participate.

Sherry will ask a pharmacist and Katherine will ask Ken Harlin from Roberts Drugs.

Katherine will review the WHO report of studies and give a synopsis.

This will occur at our Task Force meeting November 9, 2005.

Purpose: To discuss the informed pros and cons.

New Business:

Orasure HCV test: The company does not know when it will be available-but it is being developed.

Jeannie to call Kim Nixon re Oroville Hospital HCV clinic planning. Dr. Lundberg suggested an Aim; to assist the clinic to open.

Next meeting
October 12, 2005
11 to 12:30 CFHC
680 Cohasset Road

PLEASE COME TO THIS IMPORTANT
HCV TASK FORCE MEETING
THANK YOU