



National Task Force on Hepatitis B

www.hepbtaskforce.org

Meeting Notes

Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 (every 4th Tuesday of the month)

Time: 3PM ET / 2PM CT / 1PM MT / 12PM PT / 9 AM Hawaii

Email: administrator@hepbtaskforce.org

Join Zoom Meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84716815323?pwd=RWVjdUo4K0NmM1JCY0ZuYVBoWHBWQT09>

Meeting ID: 847 1681 5323

Passcode: 039758

One tap mobile:

+13017158592,,84716815323#,,,,*039758# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,84716815323#,,,,*039758# US (Chicago)

Attendance (at or after 3:05PM) are as follows:

Executive Board Members (Officers):

- Co-Chair: Danh Truong, MD, MPH**, Chair, Asian Pacific Health Foundation (San Diego, CA)
- Co-Chair: Richard So, MPH**, Executive Director, SF Hep B Free – Bay Area (San Francisco, CA)
- Secretary: Catherine Freeland, MPH**, Public Health Program Director, Hepatitis B Foundation (Doylestown, PA)
- Administrator (and notetaker): Amy Trang, PhD, MEd**, Founder and CEO, Social Capital Solutions (Chantilly, VA)

Regional Directors:

- Northeast Regional Director: Ruth Brogden, MPH**, Grants Manager, Center for Asian Health at Saint Barnabas Medical Center (Livingston, NJ)
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Director: Kate Lu, MSW, LCSW-C**, Clinic Director, CCACC-Pan Asian Volunteer Health Clinic (Gaithersburg, MD)
- Southeast Regional Director: Christina Meyers, MPH**, ORISE Fellow, CDC Division of Overdose Prevention (Atlanta, GA)
- Midwest Regional Director: Oyu Tumurtuya, PharmD**, Founder & President, Mongolian Community Health Network (Chicago, IL)
- South Midwest Regional Director: Stephen Fakoyejo, MD, MPH** Medical Resident, HCA Houston Healthcare West (Houston, TX)
- Western Regional Director: Thaddeus Pham**, Viral Hepatitis Prevention Coordinator, Hawaii State Department of Health (Honolulu, HI)

Student Representation

- Sandra Kong**, Stanford Team HBV (Stanford, California)

Board Advisors:

- Richard Andrews, MD, MPH, Board Advisor (Houston, TX)
- Moon Chen, PHD, MPH, Board Advisor (UC Davis; Sacramento, CA)
- Chari Cohen, DrPH, MPH, Board Advisor (Hep B Foundation; Doylestown, PA)
- Robert Gish, MD, Board Advisor (Robert G. Gish Consultants; San Diego, CA)
- Lu-yu Hwang, MD, Board Advisory (Department of Epidemiology, University of Texas HSC; Houston, TX)
- Karen Jiobu, Board Advisor (Asian American Community Services; Columbus, OH)
- Amy Tang, MD, Board Advisor (North East Medical Services; San Francisco, CA)

General Members (open to all on listserv; please excuse any typos):

Total Number of attendees: 21

- ☑ Alondra M., Health Program Specialist for Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program with San Antonio Metro Health (Texas)
- ☑ Heather Kawpunna, CPACS (Atlanta, GA)
- ☑ Maggie Li, Midwest Asian Health Association (MAHA) (Chicago, IL)
- ☑ Vivian Ching, CPACS (Atlanta, GA)
- ☑ Joy C., Empire Liver Foundation (New York, NY)
- ☑ Binh Tran, PharmD, APHF and Hep Free LA (Los Angeles, CA)
- ☑ Jacki Chen, PhD (NJ)
- ☑ Dr. Carol Brosgart, MD (Berkeley, CA)
- ☑ Becky Nguyen, Vietnam Cancer Foundation (Fountain Valley, CA)
- ☑ Dr. Vivian Huang, MD, Regional Medical Director, Dynavax (New York, NY)

Note: There may be some members missing from this list of attendees; please excuse any omission.

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome Task Force members (Amy Trang on behalf of Dr. Danh Truong and Richard So, Co-Chairs)
- 2) Note any changes to previous meeting's notes
- 3) Website discussion (Amy Trang)
- 4) Hepatitis B ECHO Updates (Richard So and Catherine Freeland)
- 5) Regional Directors' Updates (all Regional Directors)
- 6) Other items (all members)

Notes:

- 1) Welcome: Introduction / Roll Call of Officers and Regional Directors (Amy Trang)
 - a) Members were asked to introduce themselves in the chat box
 - b) Recognize any new members on the call:
 - i) Dr. Vivian Huang, MD, Regional Medical Director, Dynavax (not new to the Task Force, but has a new job position)
 - ii) Maggie Li, Program Coordinator, Midwest Asian Health Association (MAHA) in Chicago, IL
 - iii) Vivian Ching, CPACS (Atlanta, GA)
 - iv) Alondra M., Health Program Specialist for Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program with San Antonio Metro Health (Texas)
 - c) Opening remarks made by Richard So and Catherine Freeland.
- 2) Note any changes to previous meeting's notes: correction to Becky Nguyen's last name.
- 3) Website Discussion (Amy Trang)
 - a) We had a working session to discuss and outline what the website should look like.
 - b) See notes and DRAFT web content outline at the end of the meeting notes.
 - c) The website should be like a "clearinghouse" for resources to share.
 - d) Progress of the website (screenshots) will be shared with members along the way since we don't have a meeting until September.

- 4) Hepatitis B ECHO Updates (Richard So and Catherine Freeland)
 - a) West Coast hepatitis B ECHO Hub
 - i) The program is progressing strong with average of 30 participants each session.
 - ii) Adjustments and tweaks to the program delivery have been made each month to fit the needs of participants, especially when reviewing case studies.
 - iii) Regular participants are encouraged to share cases and have priority to present their cases at the monthly session.
 - iv) This is a program that SF Hep B Free intends to keep long-term and is actively seeking funds to sustain beyond the project year that ends in September.
 - b) East Coast hepatitis B ECHO Hub
 - i) The program is about halfway through its 12-month program period.
 - ii) The organizing committee will be meeting in August to evaluate the program and discuss sustainability. Hepatitis B Foundation is committed to seeing this program be successful long-term.
 - iii) So far, there's been a strong group of engaged participants.
 - iv) Looking ahead for next year, we're welcoming additional experts who may be interested in joining the panel to alleviate schedule conflicts and other commitments among our team of experts.
 - c) Updates on initiatives in Texas
 - i) Dr. Stephen Fakoyejo and Dr. Richard Andrews have been looking into recruiting individuals who may be interested in participating in a hepatitis B ECHO program in Texas that would be led by Baylor University. There were some delays because Dr. Andrews has been transitioning into his new position at a methadone clinic. They will be refocusing to recruit again and reach out to Baylor on when to start the pilot session.
 - d) Question(s) from Dr. Lu-yu Hwang regarding the ECHO program model: Is there a required cost (obligation) in using special equipment to set-up an ECHO program? Since there's been a lot of virtual trainings and meetings during the pandemic, what differentiates an ECHO program with other virtual meetings?
 - i) There is not a required cost in setting-up an ECHO program, but there is a required training to learn how to successfully start an ECHO program. More information can be found here: <https://hsc.unm.edu/echo/get-involved/start-a-hub>.
 - ii) What differentiates an ECHO program with other virtual meetings is understanding the ECHO model. ECHO sessions are designed around case-based learning and mentorship. The intention is to create a sustainable learning community, not just an information session. More information can be found here: <https://hsc.unm.edu/echo/get-involved>.
 - iii) There's a format for the ECHO sessions and CMEs can be offered.
 - iv) There is no required special infrastructure or equipment to set-up an ECHO program.
- 5) Regional Directors' Updates
 - a) Western Region (Thaddeus Pham):
 - i) In Hawaii, we'll be working with legislative champions to recognize World Hepatitis Day in July. There were hepatitis awareness activities throughout the month of May (and shared via social media).
 - ii) In California, Dr. Sam So shared via email that the hepatitis B and C screening and linkage to care bill has passed the CA state assembly. He sends his appreciation to task force members who have summited letters to support the bill.
 - (1) Health committee with a vote of 15-0
 - (2) Appropriations committee with a vote of 16-0
 - (3) Assembly floor with a vote of 78-0

- (4) The bill will be heard by the state senate health committee and judiciary committee within the next two weeks.
- (5) Amy and Thaddeus noted that this has served as a model for other states; Thaddeus is looking into doing something similar in Hawaii.
- iii) In San Diego, Dr. Binh Tran wants to recognize Dr. Richard Andrews for “joining” APHF and providing a presentation to members and students as well as being a resource for them.
- iv) In San Francisco, Richard So shared that:
 - (1) they have had some success in working with some of the tech companies to encourage their staff to get screened and tested for hepatitis B. It was a joint effort with some of the other Asian American advocacy groups. This is a new venue for SF Hep B Free and their looking forward to a positive collaboration.
 - (2) They have also been reaching out to some small businesses that are owned by AAPI to have a chance to talk to the owners, employees, and their customers.
 - (3) There was a lunch and learn event for life sciences companies that put out hepatitis B or liver cancer products; they brought a patient speaker to the event; it was a morale boost for the company’s employee as well as a small donation for the organization.
 - (4) SF Hep B Free is also soon embarking on strategic planning and will keep everyone updated on their progress and results.
- b) Southeast Region (Christina Meyers): No new updates this month.
- c) Mid-Atlantic Region (Kate Lu via email): No new updates this month.
- d) Midwest Region (Dr. Oyu Tumurtuya via email): No new updates this month.
- e) South Midwest Region (Dr. Stephen Fakoyejo):
 - i) Will be working with Dr. Richard Andrews on recruiting for the hepatitis B ECHO program with Baylor University.
 - ii) Dr. Richard Andrews will be hosting a small informal discussion group tomorrow (June 23rd) on sub-Saharan hepatitis B health disparities. The discussion started as a small group in Houston, but is open to anyone who is interested in participating in the discussion. The intention was to discuss, find, and share resources for liver cancer prevention among the target population who may be at risk if they have hepatitis B or C infection(s). The link will be emailed to everyone who may be interested.
 - (1) Catherine mentioned that Hepatitis B Foundation also runs an African-focused coalition similar to HBU called CHIPO (<https://www.hepb.org/research-and-programs/chipo/chipo-overview>).
- f) Northeast Region (Ruth Brogden via email): No new updates this month.
- g) Student Representation (Sandra Kong):
 - i) Will be following up with students from Team HBV and APAMSA on their workforce development interest and needs; last month was “finals” so it was not a good time to engage students.
 - ii) Team HBV helped the Task Force with social media activities in May for Hepatitis Awareness Month.
- 6) Other items:
 - a) Any updates from Dynavax for the vaccination campaign proposal?
 - i) Dr. Carol Brosgart previously shared via email with Amy that the proposal is still being considered for funding.
 - b) July 28th is World Hepatitis Day.
 - i) The Task Force will promote activities and events shared by members throughout the month of July.
 - c) ACIP meeting update
 - i) Dr. Carol Brosgart and Dr. Vivian Huang helped clarify that the universal adult vaccination for hepatitis B is not on the agenda for discussion this week (June 23 -25). It was originally on the schedule for discussion, but June 19th was a holiday so there were other items that have been pushed back for this week’s meeting.
 - ii) The hepatitis B universal vaccination session is rescheduled to be heard at the August meeting. Safety data and recommendation process will be discussed. Recommendations will be made in October.

- iii) Dr. Brosgart reminded everyone that the Task Force's position is still in support of screening, testing, and diagnosing first before hepatitis B vaccination. Amy added that this was the consensus from many past Hep B Task Force meetings and discussions by members (the majority being primary care providers on the Task Force).
- iv) Information on how to submit oral or written comments are provided at the end of the meeting notes; this was prepared by Hep B United.

7) Reminders for HBV ECHO program:

- i) West Coast hub: **Tuesday, July 20, 2021 (August 17, 2021 and September 21, 2021) at 12:30PM – 1:30PM Pacific Time** (every 3rd Tuesday of the month). Email: echo@sfhepbfree-bayarea.org
- ii) East Coast hub: **Thursday, June 24, 2021 (July 22, 2021 and August 26, 2021) at 12PM – 1PM Eastern Time** (generally, every last Thursday of each month). Register in advance for this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsc-mrqjMjEtZaabsz-qr5iRYvVjKq75ec>
- iii) Note: We are actively encouraging hepatitis ECHO participants to continue to share your real cases to engage others in the learning opportunity. All cases are welcome.
- iv) Please continue to share resources, especially Hep B training opportunities, by emailing administrator@hepbtaskforce.org.

8) Meeting adjourned at 4:00PM Eastern Time.

9) Next Hep B Task Force Zoom meeting date: **Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 3PM Eastern Time / 2PM Central / 1PM Mountain / 12PM Pacific / 9AM Hawaii** (4th Tuesday of each month)

- i) Suggestions for the next agenda:
 - (1) New Website demo
 - (2) Updates on the hepatitis B ECHO program
 - (3) Updates on other provider education opportunities

Note: no meetings in July and August; summer break.

Items shared via email:

- 1) ***From Hep B United:*** The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has opened submission requests for oral and written comments for this week's meeting (June 23rd - June 25th). This is a great opportunity for the hepatitis B community to share why a universal recommendation for adult hepatitis B vaccination is important! **We encourage all of our partners to submit a request for oral comments and a written comment [here](#). Below are helpful links and tips.** *Please note that while the page indicates that oral requests are closed, they are still accepting submissions today, so we encourage you to try!*

If you are submitting written comments, please use **Docket No. CDC–2021–0034** in your comment (example in the attached template).

A template and guide to the meeting are attached. Please feel free to use this as you develop comments. If you need assistance or have any questions, please reach out to michaela.jackson@hepb.org

- 2) **From Dr. Amy Tang, MD, Director of Immigrant Health at North East Medical Services:** Job Opportunity for a Immigrant Health Program Associate to support HBV and TB programs (link <https://bit.ly/3wRsAb0>).

Immigrant Health Program Associate
North East Medical Services
1520 Stockton, San Francisco, CA, US

The Immigrant Health Program Associate will support the Director of Immigrant Health in managing hepatitis B (HBV), tuberculosis (TB) and other immigrant health programs; support HBV/TB population health data collection, analysis, and research; and participate in HBV/TB coalition and advocacy efforts.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:

- Manage existing and prospective HBV, TB, and other immigrant health grant programs and reports
- Organize and facilitate internal HBV/TB meetings
- Work with Informatics team to build population health data reports
- Proactively assess progress and effectiveness of projects and clinical programs using data analysis
- Work with local and regional departments of health, academic and community partners, and other stakeholders on collaborative projects, grant programs, or community outreach
- Support dissemination efforts (e.g. oral presentations, conference abstracts, peer-reviewed publications) of NEMS' HBV/TB work
- Participate in HBV/TB regional and national coalition calls/meetings
- Participate in HBV/TB outreach and advocacy with regional and national scope
- Assist with preparing and writing of new grant and/or research proposals and applications
- Performs other job duties or projects as required by manager/supervisor

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree in Public Health, Health Science or other relevant degree
- Master's degree preferred
- Previous experience in a healthcare setting and basic understanding of medical terminology is a plus
- Previous experience with Asian immigrant health disparities such as hepatitis B or tuberculosis is a plus
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Strong writing skills, including experience with grant-writing and research is a plus
- Motivated, self-directed individual, able to work with all levels of staff including health professionals and non-medical personnel
- Strong knowledge of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)
- Statistical analysis experience with SPSS, STATA, etc. is a plus
- Ability to multi-task, organize and prioritize work
- Detail oriented and thorough
- Team oriented

LANGUAGE:

- Must be able to fluently speak, read and write English
- Bilingual in Chinese (Cantonese or Mandarin) is a plus



Website Content

Home

- “News to Share” (this would be recent publications and resources shared by Task Force members; headlines shared here and linked to Resources Page)
 - Hepatitis B ECHO Program
 - 2020 Physicians’ Guide to Hepatitis B
 - HBV Primary Care Guidance (Simplified Algorithm)
 - H.E.L.P. CME/ CE Training Curriculum 2017 – 2018
 - Other Resources to Share
- Upcoming Activities & Events (such as trainings and conferences)
- What is Hepatitis B? (link to CDC’s information on hepatitis B)
- Viral Hepatitis National Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025 (link to site: <https://www.hhs.gov/hepatitis/viral-hepatitis-national-strategic-plan/index.html>)

Our Coalition (instead of “Our Team”)

- Vision
- Mission
- History of the Task Force (est. 1997)
- What we’re doing now
 - Meetings (and notes)
- National Task Force on Hepatitis B Strategic Plan (2021 – 2023) (link to document)
- Nomination and Election Process (add link to copy of Bylaws)
 - Roles and Responsibilities
- Our Officers
- Our Regional Directors
- Our Advisors
- Our Past Team Members (Link to another page)
- Partners & Sponsors
 - (Note: List divided by Universities, Hospitals / Clinics, Nonprofit CBOs / FBOs, Government Agencies, Corporate Sponsors)

Resources

- Hepatitis B ECHO Program
- 2020 Physicians’ Guide to Hepatitis B
- HBV Primary Care Guidance (Simplified Algorithm)
- H.E.L.P. CME/ CE Training Curriculum 2017 – 2018
- Other Resources to Share

Contact Us

- [Contact form & mailing list registration]

Notes from Task Force members:

- There will be four navigation bars: Home, Our Coalition, Resources, and Contact Us
- Highlight activities by region to share with members; add pictures and/or link to members' page
- Have links to documents and not a page of text
- Make Resources the main part of the Home Page; keep in mind the audience and what they want or need when they visit the site
- Audience: primary care providers and public health professionals
- Highlight the Cascade of Care model: Preventative, Outreach, Education, Screening, Testing, Linkage to Care, etc. and resources that support each stage
- Update "News to Share" with recent publications and resources as they are available