



# National Task Force on Hepatitis B

www.hepbtaskforce.org

## Meeting Notes

Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 (every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month)

Time: 3PM ET / 2PM CT / 1PM MT / 12PM PT / 10 AM Hawaii

Email: [administrator@hepbtaskforce.org](mailto:administrator@hepbtaskforce.org)

### Join Zoom Meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84716815323?pwd=RWWJdUo4K0NmM1JCY0ZuYVBoWHBwQT09>

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: 20**

- ☑ Binh Tran, PharmD, APHF and Hep Free LA (Los Angeles, CA)
- ☑ Vivian Ching, CPACS (Atlanta, GA)
- ☑ Andrew Piotrowski, Health Program Manager, MAHA (Chicago, IL)
- ☑ Umaimah Khatun, NYC Health Department (New York, NY)
- ☑ Jeff Loi, Hepatitis B Coordinator, Santa Clara County (San Francisco, CA)
- ☑ Soo Yee, Korean American Outreach Group (DC metropolitan area)
- ☑ Dr. Howard Lee, MD, Baylor College of Medicine (Houston, TX)
- ☑ Lizzette Gutierrez, MPH, CHES, Common Spirit Health (Houston, TX)
- ☑ Dr. Suzanne Havican, MD, HOPE Clinic (Houston, TX)
- ☑ Mick Del Rosario, Program Manager, San Francisco Hep B Free – Bay Area (CA)
- ☑ Jacki Chen, PhD (New Jersey)
- ☑ Liz Tang, Viral Hepatitis Coordinator, DOHMH (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 (Catherine Freeland, Secretary)
- 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) ACIP meeting update (Catherine Freeland)
- 6) Hep B United and TB Elimination Alliance Summit (Catherine Freeland)
- 7) Regional Directors' Updates (all Regional Directors)
- 8) Other items (all members)

## Notes:

- 1) Welcome: Introduction / Roll Call of Officers and Regional Directors (Amy Trang)
  - a) Opening remarks made by Catherine Freeland
  - b) Members were asked to introduce themselves in the chat box
  - c) Recognize any new members on the call: (after Website Discussion so more people could be included)
    - i) Dr. Howard Lee is originally from Taiwan and it is where / how he grew his interest in hepatitis B; born and raised in Taiwan and completed medical school there; completed his post-graduate training at Duke University; and recently joined Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX where there's more opportunities to see and treat hepatitis B patients. Dr. Lee is also now involved with the new HBV ECHO project with Dr. Saira Khaderi.
    - ii) Lizzette Gutierrez is with Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center in Houston, TX. She's the Outreach Services Coordinator for Project ECHO. Baylor has had their ECHO program for about 8 years now; the hepatitis C ECHO program has been the most popular. There was a hepatitis B program in the past, but it wasn't as popular at the time; they are reviving the hepatitis B ECHO program and based on the kick-off, it seems to be gaining interest with nearly 30 people in attendance.
    - iii) Dr. Suzanne Havican is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year resident in the Family Medical program at HOPE Clinic in Houston, TX. She's joining the Task Force meeting today on behalf of Dr. Carol Gambrell. She's in the process of taking on some of Dr. Richard Andrew's former patients. She praised Dr. Andrew's for his leadership and enthusiasm to assist and train her and her colleagues and encourage them to see and treat hepatitis B patients. Although Dr. Andrews is no longer at HOPE Clinic, he's still keeping in touch and sharing resources.

Note: Dr. Andrews was trying to connect to the call earlier, but was experiencing technical difficulties connecting to the audio.

- iv) Jeff Loi is the Hepatitis B Coordinator at Santa Clara County Health Department in California; he's new to the position and they are currently picking up on their work in hepatitis B. They are currently working on their strategic plan and look forward to working with the Task Force for resources.

(1) Amy suggested reaching out to Thaddeus in Hawaii on ideas.

2) Note any changes to previous meeting's notes: none

3) Website Discussion (Amy Trang)

a) Amy presented the progress of the websites, including screenshots of the different pages.

b) Link to Prototype Presentation: <https://invis.io/VT11RYBB6MSK> (Note: This link will expire.)

c) Highlights of the landing page:

01 - 1-4 - Home Page Image slideshow - The first four screenshots show the Home page with four slides as circular images that fade from one image to the next.

02 - Our Coalition example page (Our Officers)

03 - Resources example page (News to Share)

04 - 1 - Meetings Main Page

04 - 2 - Meeting Notes Main Page

04 - 3 - Meeting Notes Detail Example Page

05 - 1 - Events & Activities Main Page

05 - 2 - Events & Activities Detail Example Page

05 - 3 - Meetings & Events List Page (All Events)

05 - 4 - Meetings & Events Calendar Page (All Events)

07 - Join the Coalition Form page

d) Feedback from members on the call:

i) Dr. Hwang praised the new look and feel of the website as being very organized and can imagine that it would be easy to navigate. Others agreed.

ii) Amy commented that the process of putting together this website has been reflective of all the ideas shared through the strategic planning discussions over the past few months.

iii) Dr. Binh Tran asked if organization members should send the same monthly news that they provide to Hep B United to be featured on this website.

(1) Amy clarified that the Hep B Task Force's website would be to facilitate resources and information and promote our member organizations; links to our member's website will be posted so individuals who are searching the internet would be directed or redirected to our Task Force members' websites. Therefore, the detailed information might not be on the Task Force website, but there will be links to our members' websites for more information. We want to continue to promote all of our member's activities and encourage people to visit their websites too.

(2) As a volunteer-based national coalition, we will serve as a hub for hepatitis B related information and resources and continue to support all of our members' activities related to hepatitis B.

iv) Richard So would like a link to the interactive site when it's ready; it would be easier to see it more in-depth and play around with the functionality to provide additional feedback once we can interact with it.

e) Amy will work with the web designer to complete the project before the next meeting.

4) Hepatitis B ECHO Updates

a) West Coast hepatitis B ECHO Hub (Richard So)

i) Still going strong, although attendance is now around 23 individuals (instead of around 30 individuals) attending monthly meetings.

- ii) Last session was on the Delta virus discussion led by Dr. Robert Gish.
  - iii) Next session will be in November; no session in December.
  - iv) Post session surveys are required for someone to claim CME credit; in post session surveys, participants are asked to suggest topics for the next session; this has been helpful for the planning committee.
  - v) Still struggling with individuals turning in cases; looking into providing individuals who submit cases with some sort of incentive (like the East Coast program is offering).
- b) East Coast hepatitis B ECHO Hub (Catherine Freeland)
- i) Also, chugging along strong; attendance has consistently been about 30 individuals.
  - ii) Next session is this Thursday at 12 noon; more details towards the end of these notes; the topic will be perinatal prevention.
  - iii) No November session; there will be a session on December 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - iv) Incentives such as a stipend for didactic presenters and case study presenters have been helpful because we're recognizing the time that these individuals have to put out to prepare for their presentations.
- c) Renewing CME offerings; exploring CE and CNE
- i) Amy asked Richard and Catherine if they wanted the Task Force to go ahead and renew CME credits with AAFP; both Richard and Catherine confirmed yes. Amy will renew.
  - ii) We need to explore CE offerings for pharmacists
    - (1) Amy will discuss with Dr. Binh Tran offline on potential collaborations with UCSD's School of Pharmacy
      - (a) Dr. Tran will check to see if the CE offered by UCSD is applicable to all states outside of California
      - (2) Thaddeus would also be interested since Hawaii is planning to start a hepatitis B ECHO program as well
  - iii) Lizette asked what continuing education credits have been offered aside from CME
    - (1) Amy shared that we have only been able to offer CME and have been exploring CE for pharmacist and CNE for nurses
    - (2) Lizette commented that the CNE process is more tedious since the paperwork has to be completed immediately after each session so it's only work offering if you actually have RNs in the program who need the credit.
    - (3) Thaddeus agrees with Lizette's comments; he also shared that for other trainings in Hawaii, they have offered credits for Addictions Counselors and Social Workers for harm reduction work; it may be an opportunity to also look into offering credit for those professions as well if suitable.
- d) Case presentation best practices
- i) Thaddeus asked for feedback on considerations for changing the case study forms from Word document to PowerPoint to make it easier for the presenters and getting "student scribes" to assist with taking down information and assisting the presenter; this is something that Hawaii is considering.
  - ii) Lizette shared that providers in their other ECHO programs are used to the case study Word format worksheet. They also utilize RedCap to capture data because it's more versatile to use and is HIPPA compliant.
  - iii) We'll continue to brainstorm best practices for encouraging case study presentations and how to manage them.

- e) Updates on HBV ECHO in Texas (Lizzette Gutierrez)
  - i) Dr. Saira Khaderi and Dr. Howard Lee at Baylor College of Medicine led the kickoff session on Wednesday, **October 20, 2021 at 12PM Central Time.**
  - ii) Nearly 30 individuals attended the call.
  - iii) Attendees were polled for future date/time. Moving forward, we'll have the session the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 12PM Central Time. Next session will be Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - iv) For more information on upcoming session, registration is required.  
 To register to attend Project ECHO sessions, go to:  
<https://redcap.research.bcm.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=TCJ7WC74A7>
  - v) Lizzette commented that attendance and case study submission to the hepatitis C ECHO has slowed down since the pandemic; something to be aware of for our hepatitis B ECHO programs moving forward
    - (1) We're very excited and optimistic about the hepatitis B program and the interest people have shared so far.
    - (2) Amy is encouraging all Task Force members to also join if they can; it's a great opportunity to meet and work with new people

- 5) ACIP meeting update (as shared by Michaela via email; Catherine Freeland led discussion):
  - i) The October ACIP vote for a recommendation for universal adult hepatitis B vaccinated has been rescheduled for the November 2 – 3, 2021 meeting, as per the [Federal Register](#).
  - ii) **If the recommendation does not pass, there will NOT be another opportunity to achieve universal adult hepatitis B vaccination for several years.**
  - iii) Michaela Jackson, Prevention Policy Manager at Hepatitis B Foundation, is coordinating efforts for support. **If your organization has not done so, please [sign on to this letter](#) by this Friday, October 29th and share widely with your networks!** A full list of organizations that have already signed can be found [here](#).
  - iv) Additionally, Task Force members are encouraged to submit written comments and a request for oral comments once available. We will send around an email once the portal to submit/request comments is open. Please feel free to use our [template and guide](#) to develop your comments.
  - v) After the September's ACIP discussion on hepatitis B, there is significant concern that the Committee will not vote in favor of all adults being vaccinated against hepatitis B. Failure by the Committee to recommend universal adult hepatitis B vaccination for all adults is a missed opportunity to stem the tide of spikes in hepatitis B infections across the country and will be detrimental to the elimination of viral hepatitis inequities in the United States.
  - vi) For questions or more information, please reach out to [Michaela.Jackson@hepb.org](mailto:Michaela.Jackson@hepb.org). Thank you for your continued support and efforts!

- 6) Hep B United and TB Elimination Alliance Summit (Catherine Freeland)
  - a) The first joint [Hep B United](#) and the [Tuberculosis \(TB\) Elimination Alliance](#) virtual summit will occur from **November 2-3, 2021 from 7:30am - 11:15am HT / 10:30am - 2:15pm PT / 1:30pm - 5:15pm ET each day.**
  - b) Please register at: <https://www.runtheworld.today/app/invitation/35877> no later than Friday, October 29, 2021.
  - c) The theme of this year's summit is *Centering Community to Advance Health Equity*. The event will include exciting sessions on community engagement and education strategies, data, parallel strategies for screening and testing, impacts of COVID-19, lived experiences, and advocacy efforts for both hepatitis B and TB elimination. Opportunities for networking and engaging with poster presenters and exhibitor booths will also be available.
  - d) Amy commented that last year's virtual event was really well put together; it's an interactive virtual event and great way to stay connected with your colleagues from across the country.

## 7) Regional Directors' Updates

### a) Western Region (Thaddeus Pham):

- i) Most updates have already been covered under other topics, such as the very inspiring AB 789 CA bill.
- ii) Still exploring how to promote HBV vaccination in pharmacy settings so that it's promoted more
- iii) There will also be a legislative hearing in Hawaii next month to highlight hepatitis elimination and set the stage for future legislation; looking to use California as a model
- iv) SF Hep B Free had a fundraising event recently (150 individuals on a rooftop with a view of the Bay Bridge)
  - (1) They had a great guest speaker who lost a sibling to hepatitis B
  - (2) Started with an hour reception; an hour for the program; and another hour for guests to mingle
  - (3) Lessons learned / best practices (Richard So and Mick Del Rosario):
    - (a) Silent auctions online provided for a wider participation and support among those who can't attend in-person; many partnering organizations has commented that while attendance for their virtual events might have decreased, the funds they have raised has increased through silent auctions.
      - (i) Thaddeus commented that he has heard similar things from his networks as well.
    - (b) Separate the auction items, i.e. virtual only items and in-person items, as they are relevant
    - (c) If doing a virtual event, use a vendor that has experience utilizing software and technology to do so
    - (d) Be very clear with your guest speakers on the program time to help keep everyone on schedule; you don't want to cut off your speakers because they are talking about a good thing or cause; specifically, be clear with elected officials because you don't want to be rude, but it will lengthen your program; when the program is extended unexpectedly, it could make your silent auction check-out a bit chaotic
    - (e) Didn't have the same sponsorship support as in previous years, but managed to raise more funds than expected... most from individual sponsors.
  - (4) If there are any Task Force member organizations who would like some help with organizing a virtual fundraiser, please feel free to reach out to Richard So who could provide guidance
- v) Dr. Binh Tran shared updates from San Diego (and followed-up by email for details):
  - (1) 10-19-21: APHF attended Hep B ECHO West Live webinar. Dr. Robert Gish presented the didactic part on Hepatitis Delta virus. The clinical case was also on HDV.
  - (2) 10-20-21: Binh attended the kick-off Hep B ECHO Texas (10-21-21)
  - (3) APHF is submitting two posters to the TBE-Hep B 2021 Summit:
    - (a) *"Implementing D.O.T.S. to Raise Awareness of LTBI and TB in the Vietnamese Community in San Diego"*; and
    - (b) *"APHF Pilot Train-the-Trainer Program to increase Hepatitis B Awareness in San Diego Community During the COVID-19 Pandemic."*
  - (4) For November, APHF will join Champions for Health – a rename of San Diego County Medical Foundation – in two events to provide education on Tuberculosis and Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) to attendees.:
    - (a) at King Chavez Prep Academy (11/6/21) and
    - (b) at Mira Mesa Senior Center in San Diego (11/13/21)

### b) Southeast Region (Christina Meyers): No new updates this month.

### c) Mid-Atlantic Region (Kate Lu):

- i) CCACC Health Clinic continues to provide hepatitis B services at their clinic in addition to the current dominating project of COVID-19 vaccination for those who need it in the area.
  - (1) Everyone who CCACC serves is among the at-risk population for hepatitis B and are all encouraged to get screened and tested. If needed, they will also be given HBV vaccination. For those who test positive, they are linked to care services.
  - (2) Their focus has been on COVID-19 outreach, but as they are reaching the "hard to reach" population, they are also linking them to other services in their clinic, including to providers.
  - (3) HBI-DC and KAOG also collaborates with CCACC Health Clinic to refer patients for HBV vaccination.

- d) Midwest Region (Dr. Oyu Tumurtuya via email): No new updates this month.
- e) South Midwest Region (Dr. Stephen Fakoyejo via email): see updates in the HBV ECHO updates
  - i) In addition, Dr. Richard Andrews emailed the following updates:
    - (1) The **Houston Viral Hepatitis Task Force** has a new president, i.e., Dr. Richard Andrews. They've historically focused on hep C, but Dr. Andrews intends to balance it with hepatitis B
    - (2) On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dr. Andrews will give a talk on hep B to a local college student organization, at the University of Houston. This group has been doing a hep B initiative once a year for the last 2-3 years.
  - ii) Dr. Lu-yu Hwang will also be giving a talk on hepatitis B for a local group as well; she will also connect Dr. Howard Lee to the Taiwanese association in Houston as well to get him familiar with the local networks.
- f) Northeast Region (Ruth Brogden via email):
  - i) At Center for Asian Health at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, they have been expanding their “automated hepatitis screening program” (see more details at the end of the notes) as a part of the integration of their new electronic medical records system, “EPIC.” The automated hepatitis screening program has been going on at St. Barnabas for the past 3.5 years and is expanding to a “sister” hospital and others locally. Through the program, St. Barnabas has screened over 27,000 individuals for HBV and have found a 1% positivity rate in their area. They have been able to link at least 85% of the patients who tested positive to identified care. About 50% of those who are identified as testing positive are “newly identified” HBV positive individuals.
  - ii) Liver Cancer webinar with Dr. Su Wang went very well; this was an event that Amy had sent to everyone via email.
  - iii) At the state level in New Jersey, the Viral Hepatitis Elimination plan group is reconvening to work on the elimination plan.
  - iv) New York has also been working on their Viral Hepatitis Elimination plan and is close to being completed; that will be shared with everyone when the link is available. The plan is aimed to be published by December 31<sup>st</sup>. The annual report on hepatitis A, B, and C will also be released soon.
  - v) The New York Department of Health is also working with Empire Liver Foundation to start the hepatitis B training series in January; more details will be shared as they are available.
  - vi) They are also looking to sign on to ACIP petition, but waiting for approval to do so.
  - vii) The New Hampshire Viral Hepatitis Coordinator also expressed interest in joining the Task Force meeting, but was not able to attend today.

8) Other items: (not discussed on the call, but is an important issue from last month’s call)

- a) No other candidates have been nominated for the Co-Chair position. Below, please see Dr. Carol Brosgart’s short bio.
  - i) Dr. Brosgart serves as an independent director on the Boards of both public and privately-held biotechnology companies (Galmed, Abivax, Enochian, Intrivo Diagnostics, and Mirum Pharmaceuticals ) and previously served on the Boards of Juvaris (now Bayer) and Tobira (now Allergan, then AbbVie) until they were acquired; as a consultant to global biopharmaceutical companies (currently Dynavax, Hepion, Moderna, and Pardes Biosciences); as a member of the United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC)/Health and Human Services (HHS) Advisory Committee on HIV, Viral Hepatitis, and STD Prevention and Treatment, and was the Senior Advisor on Science and Policy to the Division of Viral Hepatitis at the CDC. She has held numerous senior management positions within biotechnology and health care. Dr. Brosgart was the Chief Medical Officer for Alios BioPharma (now Johnson & Johnson), a biotech company developing therapies to treat viral diseases. Dr. Brosgart joined Alios from UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital & Research Center in Oakland, California, where she served as Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer. For eleven years Dr. Brosgart held a number of senior management positions at Gilead Sciences (Vice President, Clinical Research; Vice President, Medical Affairs; and Vice President, Public Health and Policy). While Vice President of Clinical Research at Gilead she was responsible for the clinical development and approval by the FDA and by regulatory authorities worldwide of two antiviral therapies: Viread® for the treatment of HIV, and Hepsera® for the treatment of Chronic Hepatitis B.

She is a member of the Boards of Directors of the Hepatitis B Foundation, the AP Giannini Foundation and the Berkeley Community Scholars. She also serves on the Steering Committee of the HBV Cure Forum of the Forum for Collaborative Research (FCR) at UC Berkeley School of Public Health.

Prior to Gilead, Dr. Brosgart worked for more than 20 years in public health, clinical care, research, and teaching. She was among the first physicians in the United States to recognize and treat patients with HIV/AIDS. Dr. Brosgart was the founding Medical Director of the East Bay AIDS Center at Alta Bates Medical Center in Berkeley, California. She led NIH clinical trials as a member of the Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS (CPCRA), chaired the CPCRA Scientific Advisory Committee, and contributed to HIV antiretroviral drug development, and to the development of prophylactic and treatment agents for opportunistic and malignant complications of HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Brosgart received her B.S. in Community Medicine from the University of California, Berkeley (UCB), her M.D. from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), and her residency training in Pediatrics (UCSF) and Public Health and Preventive Medicine (UCB). She has published extensively in the areas of infectious diseases, focusing on antiviral therapy for HIV, HBV, CMV, and related public health policy. She is an active member of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), the HIV Medical Association (HIVMA) and the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease (AASLD). She is Clinical Professor of Medicine, Biostatistics and Epidemiology at UCSF.

a) Election procedure, based on Bylaws:

*Section 5 – Election procedures:* Executive Board candidates shall be nominated by Task Force members at the beginning of the end of the third quarter of the fiscal year, i.e. in September. A short bio will be collected as a part of the nomination process. If two or more candidates are nominated, a virtual election will take place via an electronic surveying tool to determine the outcome of the election.

If only one candidate is nominated and he or she accepts the nomination, then Task Force members have up to 1 week to email the Administrator or Secretary to voice any concerns or objections. After the 1-week time limit expires, then the nominated candidate will be elected. A formal announcement will be made via the Task Force email list and website. A photo of the new Executive Board member(s) should be collected and posted with the short bio on the website.

New Executive Board members shall be elected via electronic surveying tool by a majority vote from Executive Board members, Regional Directors, Student Representative, and general members. The elected Executive Board member(s) shall serve a term beginning on the first day of the next fiscal year.

Existing Executive Board members or Regional Directors may vote for themselves if they are renewing a term or seeking a new position on the operational Task Force team.

b) The new Co-Chair will begin her term in January 2022.

2) Reminders for HBV ECHO program:

- i) West Coast hub: **Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 12:30PM – 1:30PM Pacific Time** (every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month). Register: <https://www.sfhepbfree.org/echo-program>; Note: No December session.
- ii) East Coast hub: **Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 12PM – 1PM Eastern Time** and **Thursday, December 16, 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) HBV ECHO in Texas: every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month starting on **November 17, 2021 at 12PM Central Time**. Register in advance for this meeting: <https://redcap.research.bcm.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=TCJ7WC74A7>
- iv) 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.
- v) Please continue to share resources, especially Hep B training opportunities, by emailing [administrator@hepbtaskforce.org](mailto:administrator@hepbtaskforce.org).

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

4) Next Hep B Task Force Zoom meeting date: **Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 3PM Eastern Time / 2PM Central / 1PM Mountain / 12PM Pacific / 10 AM Hawaii** (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month); Daylight Savings Time change is Sunday, November 7, 2021.

- i) Suggestions for the next agenda:



- (1) New Website launch
- (2) Updates on the hepatitis B ECHO program
- (3) Highlights from Hep B United and TB Elimination Alliance Summit (November 2 – 3, 2021)
- (4) Highlights from AASLD (November 12 – 16, 2021)

**Items shared via email:**

**October 22, 2021: AB 789 on KQED Forum**

We would like to share with you KQED's Forum, a live call-in program, hosted by **Mina Kim**, discussing AB 789 and the new law with **Dr. Samuel So, Aileen Casanave** (President, California Association of Black Lawyers), and **Camille C.** (7th grader from Palo Alto, CA and AB 789 advocate).

Click [here](#): California Pioneers Mandatory Testing for Hepatitis B and C - KQED, Thursday, October 21, 2021.

Please reach out to us if you have any media inquiries or opportunities, we may be able to support. Thank you.

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More information on the **Automated Hepatitis Screening Program** at the Center for Asian Health at Saint Barnabas Medical Center.

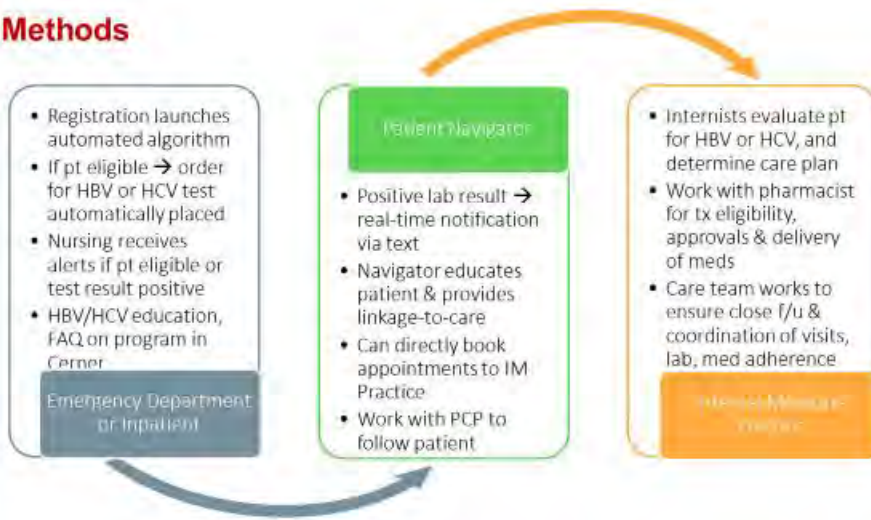
- This program is a part of the patient registration process
- The Automated Hepatitis Screening Program follows a computer algorithm
- The Automated Hepatitis Screening Program is triggered by information collected at the time of registration, i.e. country of birth and race for HBV; and date of birth for HCV.
- In addition, patients (18 years and older) have to have bloodwork ordered
- When all the criteria have been met, an automated order is launched.
- Also, an expanded criteria refers to patient 18 yo, bloodwork ordered and either has a peer recovery consult ordered or a urine or serum toxicology ordered then that will fire a HBV and HCV order.
- Below are some slides that offer more information about the program.

**Introduction**

□ Liver cancer rates continue to rise nationally, approximately 65% of liver cancer cases are related to viral hepatitis (VH). Screening is a critical prevention strategy that identifies predisposing conditions.

Mar 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Began automated Hep B &amp; C screening in the ED</li> <li>• patient (age 18 yrs+) has HBV-endemic <b>country of birth</b> → HBV test</li> <li>• patient <b>born between 1945-1965</b> (Baby Boomers) → HCV test</li> </ul>
Aug 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening eligibility criteria expanded to capture more at-risk patients</li> <li>• patient's <b>race</b> (HBV-endemic country) → HBV test</li> <li>• <b>urine/serum toxicology</b> or <b>peer recovery consult ordered</b> → HBV &amp; HCV test</li> </ul>
Jan 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand automated Hepatitis B/C screening to inpatient floors</li> <li>• Expand automated <b>Hepatitis C screening to universal screening, 1 time test for anybody 18 and over</b></li> </ul>

## Methods



## Results

	Tested	HCV Exposed HCV Ab + %	HCV Current Infection HCV RNA + %	HBV Infection HBsAg + %	Linkage to Care	Newly Diagnosed
Hep C	61,914	1,153 (1.9%)	302 (0.5%)		262 (86.3%)	147 (48.7%)
Hep B	27,701			266 (0.9%)	226 (84.6%)	122 (53.5%)

- ❖ Over 89,000 tested in 3.5 years
- ❖ Linkage to Care rate over 85%
- ❖ Close to half are newly diagnosed