



www.hepbtaskforce.org

Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 (every 1st Wednesday of the month)

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

Email: administrator@hepbtaskforce.org

Zoom Meeting registration link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkumtrTwqE9RkoJ1dyu9n7DUuTWD6mSvf>

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

Executive Board Members (Officers):

- Co-Chair: Carol Brosgart, MD** (San Francisco, 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**, Medical Student at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD)

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

- Binh Tran, PharmD, APHF and Hep Free LA (Los Angeles, CA)
- Lizette Gutierrez, Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center (Houston, TX)
- Nancy Fenlon, Hepatitis B Prevention Coordinator, CDC (Atlanta, GA)
- Maggi Li, Hepatitis B Program Coordinator, MAHA (Chicago, IL)
- Andrew Piotrowski, Health Program Manager, MAHA (Chicago, IL)
- Andrew Reynolds, San Francisco Department of Public Health (San Francisco, CA)
- Rene St. Vrain, Perinatal Hepatitis B Nurse Manager, City of St. Louis Department of Health (St. Louis, MO)
- Rosie Glenn-Finer, Epidemiologist, CA Department of Public Health
- Lauren Stockman, CA Department of Public Health
- Umaimah Khatun, Program Manager, NYC Health Department (New York, NY)
- Vivian Ching, Health Program Specialist, CPACS (Atlanta, GA)
- Mutasem Shopon, Health Program Coordinator, CPACS (Atlanta, GA)
- Kelvin McKoy, Medical Affairs Department, 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 (Dr. Carol Brosgart)
- 2) Note any changes to previous meeting's notes
- 3) Project updates:
 - a. HBV universal vaccination guidance promotion among providers
 - b. HBV ECHO program expansion
 - c. HBV workforce development projects
 - d. HBV elimination plan best practices among state Viral Hepatitis Coordinators
 - e. HBV work group on updating screening guidance
 - f. Upcoming trainings or resources
- 4) Action Plan discussion: Next steps?
- 5) Regional Updates (all Regional Directors)
- 6) Other items (all members)

Meeting format:

- strategic discussions and resource sharing to assist members with their local work

Notes:

- 1) Welcome: Introduction / Roll Call of Officers and Regional Directors (Amy Trang)
 - a) Opening remarks made by Dr. Carol Brosgart
 - b) Members were asked to introduce themselves in the chat box
 - c) Recognize any new members on the call: see list of attendees above
- 2) Note any changes to previous meeting's notes: The date should have been Wednesday and not Tuesday.
- 3) Project Updates
 - a) HBV universal vaccination guidance promotion among providers (Dr. Carol Brosgart)
 - i) Even though the ACIP has approved recommendations for universal hepatitis B vaccination among adults ages 19 to 59, we still need to bring to people's attentions that the population over 59 is still at risk for hepatitis B because they still engage in sexual activities and may also still be subject to drug injections.
 - ii) In addition, people over the age of 59 are also at the predominant age in congregate living situations like assisted living skilled nursing facilities where the chances of blood exposure may be high for example if you live next to someone who has diabetes and are testing their blood every day.
 - iii) We also need to make sure that we screen people before we immunize them for hepatitis B because we don't want to give them a false sense of protection from hepatitis B vaccination when they may actually already have chronic hepatitis B infection.
 - iv) The challenge we are facing is that we don't have a national health service that coordinates all health providers. We have to work with different providers, 3rd party payers, integrated health systems, community health centers, professional associations who care for adults, hospitals, etc.
 - v) Organizations like the Hep B Task Force is going to have to coordinate with our partners to share educational resources, advocate for affordable screening, treatment, and vaccination.
 - vi) Thoughts from our community-based partnering organizations, CPACS (Atlanta, GA) and MAHA (Chicago, IL):

- (1) Funding is always an issue for community-based clinics and organizations; lack of funding in hepatitis B means that other disease burdens are going to be prioritized
 - (2) A best practice to increasing community screenings is to have a public private partnership, i.e., 1) a community-based organization that could do effective outreach and education to targeted at-risk community members, 2) local health department that could assist with screening/testing and hep B vaccination, 3) primary care providers that will accept and treat patients that are linked to care and/or treatment services, and 4) a local university to assist with additional linkage to care treatment and resources, [performance measures, and publications]. This is happening in Chicago.
 - (3) It's important for the local health departments to recognize that hepatitis B infection cases need to be addressed and are willing to establish formal partnerships with community-based organizations (CBOs)
- vii) Thoughts from those who are working in the perinatal programs at the different health departments:
- (1) The approved California state bill AB 789 signed by the Governor has started this year encourages hepatitis B and C screenings in primary care settings; this is exciting because we're seeing it start to get implemented.
 - (2) How do you enforce recommendations? (Question from St. Louis)
 - (a) Good question; there's not a way to enforce recommendations at this point. It's our job to coordinate public private partnerships.
 - (b) Having a grant may help with this initiative.
 - (c) Expanding outreach and education, especially for perinatal hepatitis B is a good start for the "cascade of care" initiatives.
 - (3) A lot of the hepatitis B work in many states are decentralized from the State Department of Health and is up to the local Health Departments to set their priorities and coordinate their programs.
 - (4) Amy offered to help connect any local state or local health departments to community-based organizations that are within the Task Force's hepatitis B networks to build those public private partnerships discussed above.
- b) HBV ECHO program expansion (Lizette Gutierrez)
- i) The last session in Texas last month went well; there was less attendance in December because of the holidays, but the January session picked up participants. Dr. Howard Lee and Dr. Saira Khaderi have been leading the sessions and things are going really well.
 - ii) We're still trying to push on getting more cases or finding providers who may feel comfortable sharing cases.
 - iii) Amy mentioned that Richard So had shared that San Francisco HBV ECHO program has started to offer \$50 gift cards to providers to recognize them for their time and efforts for preparing cases.
 - iv) Dr. Richard Andrews suggested another approach where residents may submit their cases to him in Texas and he could be their spokesperson if they have schedule conflicts or don't feel comfortable sharing (public speaking); they could get feedback from experts or more experienced practitioners and then those feedback would be relayed back to the residents. It's an indirect approach, but it provides flexibility for residents who (and providers) who might not be able to attend the sessions.
 - v) Anyone in the central region, i.e. Chicago, IL and Columbus, OH are also encouraged to attend the Texas HBV ECHO program every 3rd Wednesday of the month.
- c) HBV workforce development projects (Sandra Kong)
- i) Some APAMSA members have participated in the surveys and shared their interests and needs; the national group is having a meeting later this month. So far, there's interests in advocacy, community service, research. We'll discuss this more on another call offline (with Thaddeus) on how to move forward.
 - ii) Team HBV is also interested in this and the mentorship opportunities with physicians.
 - iii) Most popular subject areas from survey results:
 - (1) Medical health disparities
 - (2) Immigrant health / social justice
 - (3) Maternal health and data science
 - (4) Human environmental health
 - iv) Most popular programming from survey results:
 - (1) Research internships and community health internships

- (2) 1:1 mentorship
 - (3) Professional development work and case studies
 - (4) Webinars
 - v) Other areas of interest: Shadowing
 - d) HBV elimination plan best practices among state Viral Hepatitis Coordinators (Amy Trang)
 - i) No new updates
 - e) HBV work group on updating screening guidance (Dr. Richard Andrews)
 - i) No new updates
 - f) Upcoming trainings or resources (Amy Trang)
 - i) These were shared via email to all Task Force members in the meeting reminder a few days ago:
 - (1) HepBMoms.org is a nonprofit organization dedicated to Hep B resources for pregnant moms. This is a project founded in 2010 as part of the US Centers for Disease and Prevention grant entitled Translating Research into the Jade Ribbon Campaign for Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention (1R18PS000830) that was awarded to the Asian Liver Center at Stanford University, Sept 2007-Aug 2010.
 - (2) Empire Liver Foundations' [Hepatitis B and Pregnancy Training](#) for Thursday, February 3rd is on the Task Force website.
- 4) Action Plan discussion: Next steps?
- a) Ruth shared more information about her medical center's automated hepatitis screening process using their Electronic Medical Records system, "EPIC." They used to screen about 3,000 patients a year, but with the automated screening method, they have screened 22,000 patients for hepatitis B in the past 3 years. The automated screening process is triggered by patients' information in the registration process and if they are deemed "at-risk," they would be screened for hepatitis B and C.
 - i) Karen inquired whether there is any data on how many hospitals nationwide that are using EPIC and have screened for hepatitis B. This is something to explore.
 - ii) Amy suggested that she could start by surveying our Task Force members to see if they are using EPIC and have requested the installation of the automated hepatitis screening process.
 - iii) Dr. Andrews suggested to also inquire about other electronic medical record systems and if they have the same function or capability to utilize the automated hepatitis B screening process
 - iv) This is something that we could further discuss, but it's a starting point on how to address and encourage more screenings nationwide, which is what we started today's session discussing. This may be a start to a formalizing a solution for increasing universal screening.
- 5) Regional Updates
- a) Student Representative (Sandra Kong): provided above
 - b) Western Region (Thaddeus Pham): via email
 - i) Hawaii is working on submitting testimonies for HB1677, a bill aimed at defining "clinical laboratory director" to include certain physicians, licensed laboratory scientists, and pharmacists-in-charge of pharmacies. It amends the definition of "practice of pharmacy" to include the ordering of performing of certain Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments waived tests.
 - c) Midwest Region (Oyu Tumurtuya): no updates
 - d) South Midwest Region (Stephen Fakoyejo): provided above with HBV ECHO program
 - e) Northeast Region (Ruth Brogden): provided above in discussion about automated screening system
 - f) Mid-Atlantic Region (Kate Lu): no updates
 - g) Southeast Region (Christina Meyers): no updates
- 6) Other items: (not discussed in the meeting)
- a) The National Task Force on Hepatitis B still does not have any new source of funding or support for 2022 activities; all initiatives are currently on a voluntary basis by all members.

- b) Amy plans to attend the AASLD Patient Advisory Group meeting later this month; date and time TBD.
- c) Amy is also participating in the Gilead's U.S. Hepatitis Community Advisory Group; the aim is to collaborate with liver disease experts across community health, advocacy, research, care provision, and policy to inform Gilead's efforts to address key issues related to hepatitis, with a specific focus on Hepatitis Delta (HDV). Their kickoff meeting is March 2-3, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10PM Eastern Time.

- Next Hep B Task Force Zoom meeting date: **Wednesday, March 2, 2021 at 3PM Eastern Time / 2PM Central / 1PM Mountain / 12PM Pacific / 10 AM Hawaii (1st Wednesday of each month).**
 - Other dates in 2022: Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, (no regular meetings in Jul and Aug), Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7
- Suggestions for the next agenda:
 - i) Follow-up on Action Plan discussed and progress of provider outreach efforts.

Upcoming HBV ECHO sessions: Free CME

West Coast (SF Hep B Free Bay Area): [Hepatitis B ECHO Program \(sfhepbfree.org\)](https://sfhepbfree.org)

- Every 3rd Tuesday of the month
 - 2022: Feb 15, Mar 15, Apr 19, May 17, Jun 21, Jul 19, Aug 16, Sep 20, Oct 18, Nov 15
- 12:30PM – 1:30PM PDT / 3:30PM – 4:30PM EDT / 9:30AM – 10:30AM HST
- To register, email: ECHO@sfhepbfree-bayarea.org

Gulf Coast (Texas Heart Institute with Baylor St. Luke Medical Center): [Project ECHO Interest Form \(bcm.edu\)](https://bcm.edu)

- 3rd Wednesday of the month
 - 2022: Feb 16, Mar 16, Apr 20, May 18, Jun 22, Jul 20, Aug 17, Sep 21, Oct 19, Nov 16
- 12:00PM to 1:00PM Central Time
- To register: [Project ECHO Interest Form \(bcm.edu\)](https://bcm.edu)

East Coast (Hep B United Philadelphia): Hepatitis B ECHO [Meeting Registration - Zoom](https://meetingregistration-zoom.com)

- Every 4th Thursday of the month
 - 2022: Feb 24, Mar 24, Apr 28, May 26, Jun 23, Jul 28, Aug 25, Sep 22, Oct 27
- 12:00PM – 1:00PM Eastern Time
- To register: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](https://meetingregistration-zoom.com)

Items shared via email:

- Asian Pacific Health Foundation will be having their Lunar New Year Health Program event on **Sunday, February 13, 2022 at Nhu Lai Temple (3340 Central Ave., San Diego, CA 92105 from 9AM to 2PM)**. There will be screening for hepatitis B and hepatitis C, hypertension, HbA1c in the blood. Survey on Tuberculosis with Pre-test, education, and post-test. Flyer attached.



Asian Pacific Health Foundation
Presents

Lunar New Year Health Program

Saturday February 5, 2022
At **Mira Mesa Tết Festival**
8575 New Salem St,
San Diego, CA 92126
11:00 AM – 6 PM

Information on Health Screening Services
provided by Asian Pacific Health Foundation.
Survey on Tuberculosis with Pre-test,
Education, and Post-test.

Sunday February 13, 2022
At **Nhu Lai Temple**
3340 Central Ave,
San Diego, CA 92105
9:00 AM – 2 PM

Screening for Hepatitis B & C,
Hypertension, HbA1c in the blood.
Survey on Tuberculosis with Pre-test,
Education, and Post-test.



Hepatitis B is a serious disease for Asians.
The disease often gives no symptoms.
One in 12 persons is affected by the disease.

- In the U.S., 2.2 million people have the disease
- Get tested to prevent scarring of the liver, and liver cancer.

Tuberculosis germs are spread from person to person through the air. Anyone can be affected.

- Up to 13 million people in the U.S. have Latent Tuberculosis Infection. More than 80% people become sick after living with LTBI for years.
- Get blood test or skin test to know, and be treated early.

Organized by: Asian Pacific Health Foundation, UCSD medical and pharmacy students.
For more information, please contact Hoàng Nguyễn (858) 257-9825; Nhi Lang: (619) 718-1143