



# National Task Force on Hepatitis B

www.hepbtaskforce.org

## Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 (generally, every other 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month)

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

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

Zoom Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89093917018?pwd=VUVlV1JCcVlDaW1lVWV3ejl6T0dxUT09>

Meeting ID: 890 9391 7018; Passcode: 508912

### **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 (Northern VA)

#### **Regional Directors:**

- Northeast Regional Director: Dr. Ponni Perumalswami, MD**, Associate Professor, University of Michigan and Director of the Liver Clinic VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System (Ann Arbor, MI)
- Southeast Regional Director: Vacant**
- North Central Regional Director: Vacant**
- South Central Regional Director: Tzu-Hao “Howard” Lee, MD**, Assistant Professor, Baylor College of Medicine (Houston, TX)
- Western Regional Director: Thaddeus Pham**, Viral Hepatitis Prevention Coordinator, Hawaii State Department of Health (Honolulu, HI)

#### **Student Representation**

- APAMSA students**

#### **Board Advisors:**

- Richard Andrews, MD, MPH, Board Advisor (Houston, TX)
- Moon Chen, PHD, MPH, Board Advisor; one of the original founders of the Task Force in 1997 (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 Jobu, 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: 16**

- ✓ Julia Freimund, University of Washington School of Medicine (Seattle, WA)
- ✓ Binh Tran, PharmD, APHF and Hep B Free LA (Los Angeles, CA)
- ✓ Angeline Nguyen, HBI (DC, MD, VA)
- ✓ Stephanie Campbell, Dynavax
- ✓ Scott Suckow (San Diego, CA)
- ✓ Jennifer Soung, MAHA (Chicago, IL)
- ✓ Christopher Doan, APAMSA (Houston, TX)
- ✓ Dung Hua, VACF (Fountain Valley, CA)

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

# Agenda:

- 1) Welcome Task Force members
- 2) Note any changes to previous meeting's notes
- 3) Program / Project updates from Hep B Task Force members across the country
- 4) Discussion:
  - a. Hawai'i Liver Summit
  - b. Restructuring the governing body of the National Task Force on Hepatitis B for strategic planning towards viral hepatitis elimination in 2030

# Meeting format:

- strategic discussions and resource sharing to assist members with their local work
- Note: majority of those on the call for this meeting was engaged in the collaborative discussions, so not everyone's name was specifically mentioned in the notes.

# Notes:

- 1) Welcome: Introductions / Roll Call of Officers and Regional Directors (Amy Trang)

Re-introductions were made for new members or members who have not been on the call for a while

- 2) Note any changes to previous meeting's notes:

a) None.

- 3) Program / Project updates from Hep B Task Force members across the country (notes taken by FATHOM, an AI technology; hyperlinks removed to respect members' privacy. Email Amy Trang directly for details.):

## [Upcoming Events and Initiatives @ 0:00](#)

The group discussed several upcoming events and initiatives for World Hepatitis Day on July 28th, including:

- Early Bird registration is now open for the Hawai'i Liver Summit and ends July 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Hep Free Hawai'i will also be holding their annual meeting for World Hepatitis Day on July 30<sup>th</sup> since July 28<sup>th</sup> is a Sunday.
- SF Hep B Free – Bay Area:
  - [World Hepatitis Day Free Happy Hour and City Hall Lights Photo](#) - Thursday, July 25th, 5-8:30 PM
    - 5pm at the [Gambit Lounge](#) in Hayes Valley, food and drink provided until where we will then walk over to city hall to be there around 8pm to take the amazing photo in front of city hall lit up in red, yellow and green for hepatitis awareness.
  - [SF Hep B Free Fun Run/Walk \(5k\)](#) - Sunday, July 27th, 10am Crissy Field in SF
    - Come out to beautiful Crissy field and get some easy exercise for a great cause. Registration is just \$30 and comes with a free bucket hat and socks. Create a team and raise funds for this critical issue in our community.

- A B-Informed patient conference in Philadelphia on July 27th hosted by the Hepatitis B Foundation (see flyer attached)
- Hepatitis B education webinars and community events in Orange County, California hosted by the Vital Access Care Foundation The group agreed to help promote these events through the meeting notes and posted on the National Task Force on Hepatitis B website.
- Karen Jiobu from Columbus, OH specifically asked if other Task Force members are experiencing any challenges / barriers to free hep B vaccinations from their local health departments.
  - Amy Trang shared that DC has also experienced limitations.
  - This may be something to ask AAPCHO

### [Restructuring the National Task Force @ 25:00](#)

The group discussed the future structure and governance of the National Task Force on Hepatitis B. There was consensus to move away from a formal elected governing board structure, and instead have a more informal, volunteer-based coalition focused on specific projects and initiatives. The group agreed to maintain regular meetings, but with a flexible format that accommodates the busy schedules of the clinical members. Any funds or grants received will be overseen by a committee, but the group will otherwise operate in a grassroots, collaborative manner.

### [Global Hepatitis Efforts and Partnerships @ 35:00](#)

The group discussed the importance of taking a global perspective on hepatitis elimination, and highlighted several international initiatives and guidelines that the task force should be aware of and potentially help disseminate, such as the new WHO guidelines on mother-to-child hepatitis B transmission. There was emphasis on the need to support efforts in low-resource countries, as well as engage diaspora communities in the US who may have originated from high-burden regions. The group agreed to continue leveraging partnerships with organizations like the Hepatitis B Foundation to coordinate global efforts.

### [Recap and Next Steps @ 1:05:00](#)

The meeting concluded with a recap of the key discussion points and action items, including:

- Promoting the upcoming events and initiatives on the task force website
- Exploring research on hepatitis B and TB co-morbidity
- Maintaining the informal, collaborative structure of the task force moving forward
  - Send Google Form survey for other members to provide feedback: <https://forms.gle/SatTFUvrFshmjSm17>
- Continuing to leverage partnerships and share resources across the group The group agreed to adjourn and encouraged members to register for the upcoming Hawai'i Liver Summit in November.

The National Task Force on Hepatitis B is a volunteer-based national coalition and is independent from the state and local Task Forces or coalitions. Everyone is welcome to join the National Task Force on Hepatitis B by registering through our website. [Newsletter - The National Task Force on Hepatitis B \(hepbtaskforce.org\)](#) or emailing [administrator@hepbtaskforce.org](mailto:administrator@hepbtaskforce.org). Promotion of the National Task Force on Hepatitis B is primarily through “word-of-mouth” and personal communication.

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

### **Upcoming HBV ECHO sessions:** Free CME

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

- Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month
- 12:00PM to 1:00PM Central Time
- To register: [Project ECHO Interest Form \(bcm.edu\)](#)

East Coast (Hep B United Philadelphia): Hepatitis B ECHO Meeting

- Jul 18, 2024 12:00 PM to 1PM Eastern Time
- Aug 15, 2024 12:00 PM to 1PM Eastern Time
- Sep 19, 2024 12:00 PM to 1PM Eastern Time
- To register: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Other ECHO programs with HBV:

- The University of Washington Project ECHO Viral Hepatitis meets every Tuesday, 12 – 1:30 PM Pacific Time.
- To discuss if this ECHO program would be a good fit or if other training or consult options would better suit your interests/schedules, please email Pam Landinez, [landinez@uw.edu](mailto:landinez@uw.edu).
- The sessions are geared towards individuals in the state of Washington and focus on hepatitis B or C is driven by the program participants.

**Upcoming international conferences relating to HBV and other liver diseases:**

- EASL SLD Summit 2024
  - Geneva, Switzerland
  - September 19 – 21, 2024
  - No registration link yet.

**Items shared via email:**

# **Informed**

## **Hep B Patient Conference**



The Hepatitis B Foundation is proud to co-host the hepatitis B B Informed Patient Conference with Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center to provide a chance for people with lived experience and providers to share insights and engage in meaningful collaboration.

Thomas Jefferson University  
Bluemle Life Sciences Building  
233 S. 10th Street Room 101  
Philadelphia, PA 19107



9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
FREE LUNCH !!



July 27, 2024



Learn about the latest treatment updates, clinical trials, and healthy lifestyle tips, and have a chance to ask questions and talk with provider experts.

This is a free event! Lunch and breakfast will be served. There will be many opportunities for networking and meeting providers.

Secure your spot by registering for the event using the QR code, contacting [Catherine.Freeland@hepb.org](mailto:Catherine.Freeland@hepb.org) or calling 215-489-4900.

**Register**  
**Here!**



For more information, to register or questions, please contact 215-489-4900  
[catherine.freeland@hepb.org](mailto:catherine.freeland@hepb.org)