

Universal Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Screening and Treatment Programs in Community Health Centers

Part 4: Utilizing the HCV Cost Benefit Calculator to
Evaluate Resources

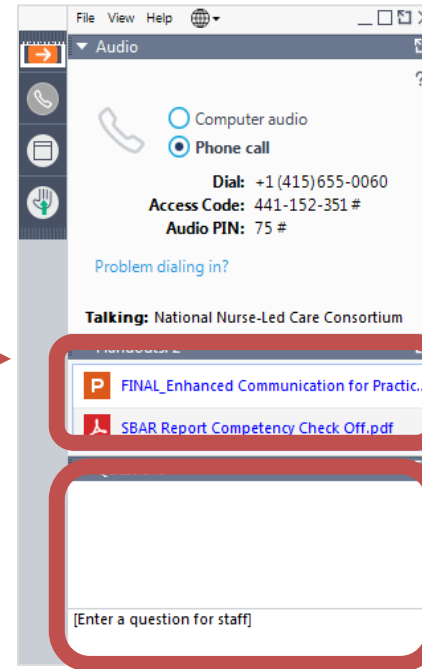
April 16, 2019 – 2:00 pm EST



Housekeeping Items

To **download materials**, go to the Handouts section on your GoToWebinar control panel.

To **ask a question**, type it into the Question pane in the GoToWebinar control panel and it will be relayed to the presenter.





National Nurse-Led Care Consortium

The **National Nurse-Led Care Consortium (NNCC)** is a membership organization that supports nurse-led care and nurses at the front lines of care.

NNCC provides expertise to support comprehensive, community-based primary care.

- Policy research and advocacy
- Technical assistance and support
- Direct, nurse-led healthcare services



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HCV Learning Collaborative Overview

Part 1 (3/5/19): [HCV Programming in Community Health Centers](#)

Part 2 (3/19/19): [HCV Care Team Formation and Linkage to Care](#)

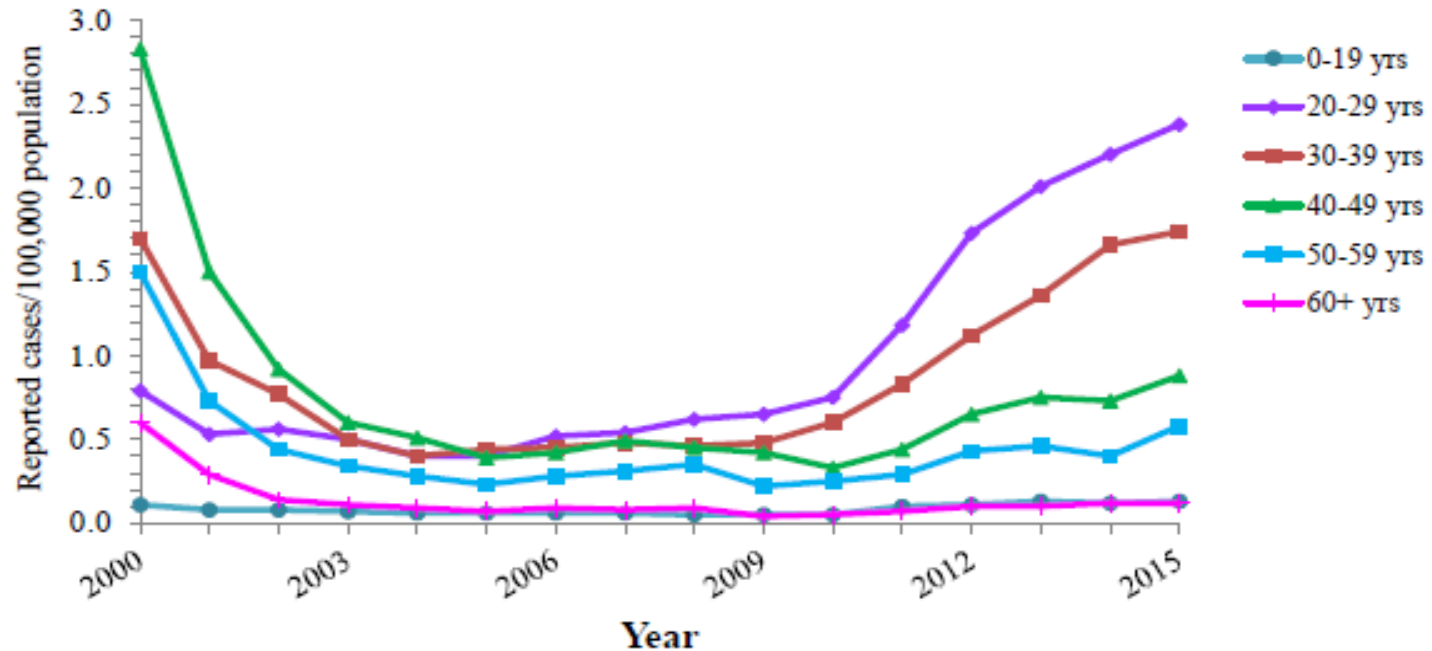
Part 3 (4/2/19): [Health Economics 101: Comparing Standard v. Enhanced HCV Screening and Treatment](#)

Part 4 (Today): Utilizing the HCV Cost Benefit Calculator to Evaluate Resources

You will receive a link for the survey from CDN for credentialing with the NNCC post webinar email within 1-2 days.

Reported number of acute HCV cases

Figure 4.2. Incidence of acute hepatitis C, by age group — United States, 2000–2015



Source: CDC, National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System.



Presenter



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Quick Summary: Health Economic Analyses for Community Health Centers



Michael Halpern, MD, PhD, MPH
April 16, 2019

Need to Consider Costs in Health Care



- With limited resources, health care organizations can't provide all types of health care services.
- Community health centers need to determine costs and benefits of current and possible future health care service offerings to:
 - Evaluate the “value” of the service currently provided;
 - Prioritize the most important services; and
 - Determine the health and economic impacts of changing or expanding health care programs and services.

- Cost-benefit (return-on-investment)
 - *Difference in costs* between two health care interventions or services relative to the *difference in savings (or revenue)* between the two

$$\text{Benefit-Cost Ratio} = \frac{\$ \text{Savings from a health care intervention}}{\$ \text{Cost of the health care intervention}}$$

- Cost-effectiveness
 - Compares change in cost to change in outcomes between two interventions:

$$\text{Cost-Effectiveness Ratio} = \frac{\text{Difference in Costs of Interventions}}{\text{Difference Outcome of Interventions}}$$

- Analyses are important to assess the benefits of health care services and programs relative to their costs
- Analyses compare costs and benefits of two alternative services/programs/initiatives.
- Benefit-cost analysis determines the \$ saved per \$ spend on a program
- Cost-effectiveness analysis determines the cost per increased health outcome
- Health care economic analyses provide information for making decisions – they don't make the make the decisions.

Why Should Health Centers Think about Enhancing their HCV Services?



- Many infected individuals are 18-54, younger than the CDC-recommended target agents for HCV screening.
 - This is a key group served by CHC.
- Complex medical and insurance systems may make getting all the care needed difficult
 - Confirmation of initial HCV screening results.
 - Behavioral health counseling and substance use services.
 - Prior authorization and other state-level Medicaid requirements before the start of treatment.
- Health center populations may have barriers to receiving needed HCV screening and treatment.
 - Time to come to health centers for multiple visits.
 - Transportation and childcare issues.



Poll:

Are you considering expanding HCV health care services at your health center?

- A. Yes, Enhanced Screening**
- B. Yes, Enhanced Treatment**
- C. Yes, Enhanced Screening and Treatment**
- D. Not at this time**





Poll:

To expand HCV services at your health center, do you think about the cost of those services and the revenue they generate?

A. Yes,

B. No

C. Unsure





Cost-Benefit Analysis of Enhanced HCV Screening and Treatment Services at CHCs



- Costs and benefits (health and economic) of enhanced HCV care vs. standard HCV care are unknown
 - Increased need for CHCs to justify value of new programming, demonstrate return on investment of expanded service lines
- Collaboration with the National Nurse-Led Care Consortium to develop a **model to assess costs and benefits of enhanced vs. standard HCV care**
- Development of a user-friendly and flexible tool to allow other CHCs to project their own costs and benefits of providing enhanced HCV services – the **HCV Cost Benefit Calculator**

Comparing Models HCV Care

- Standard:
 - CDC “Standard” Screening Recommendations
 - Rapid HCV tests
 - Additional appointment for confirmatory RNA test
 - Provider orders tests
 - Referral to Outside Organization for Treatment
- Enhanced:
 - Universal Screening
 - Reflex HCV tests
 - Care Coordination
 - Link to Primary Care
 - Onsite Behavioral Health Consultation
 - Onsite treatment

Information Needed for the Calculator

- HCV Prevalence
 - Low (1%), medium (3%) or high (5%) risk at designated health center location
- Patient Population
 - Number of patients age 18 and older
 - Number of patients ages 55-74 (born between 1945-1965)
- Insurance Breakdown (set to national averages)
 - Medicaid (50%)
 - Medicare or Private Insurance (30%)
 - Uninsured (20%)

Services and Salaries

- Current and/or Enhanced Services Provided
 - Screening
 - HCV Tests
 - Behavioral Health
 - Primary Care
 - Treatment
- Salaries for positions involved in HCV Care
 - Estimated annual salary for positions will be used to calculate health center costs for HCV care

State Medicaid Treatment Restrictions

- Fibrosis Score
 - F0-F4
 - PA has eliminated this restriction, so any patient can be approved for treatment, regardless of their Fscore
 - Sobriety
 - None → abstinent for more than 3 months
 - Prescriber
 - Some states need to either consult with a specialist or the specialist must prescribe the medication
 - Infectious disease or hepatology

Results: Standard v. Enhanced

- Calculator will input what you entered as “current” services and evaluate what it would look like if you added “enhanced” services to your HCV programming
 - Patients screened and potential increase with Universal Screening
 - Number of identified HCV positives and potential increase, varies with risk
 - Standard Costs and Revenue for Screening and Treatment
 - Enhanced Costs and Revenue for Screening and Treatment
 - Margin for Enhanced Programming and Potential Increase
 - Benefit Cost Ratio and Return on Investment

Things to Consider

- These are ESTIMATES
 - i.e., we are using national averages, but Medicaid amounts are state-based for reimbursements
- If you have specific health center information and want to use more detailed financials and values...
 - We can provide the comprehensive version of the HCV cost-benefit calculator
- Lastly, we are still testing the calculator
 - So we could use your feedback!

Example:

Public Health Management Corporation



- In 2012, Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) community health centers in Philadelphia instituted enhanced care for HCV screening and treatment:
 - Opt-out screening: universal, age 18+ screened unless refuse
 - Medical Assistant initiated testing
 - Reflex (automatic) RNA screening for HCV Ab-positive patients
 - Care coordination for prior authorization
 - Patient navigation throughout treatment
 - Integrated behavioral health and substance use counseling
 - Training for providers for treatment onsite



NNCC Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Cost Calculator

Welcome to version 0.7

NNCC's HCV Cost Calculator is an interactive tool designed to evaluate the costs and benefits of Standard vs Enhanced HCV Care. The HCV Cost Calculator uses a numerical value-based model of health center staff training, screening, and treatment regimen to output comparisons in cost, revenue, and cost-benefit return on investment (ROI).

The HCV Cost Calculator is populated with default values based on national averages.

<http://nncc-hcv-calc.org/simple/>



Poll:

Are you interested in testing the HCV Cost Benefit Calculator?

A. Yes

B. No

C. Not sure





Questions

National Nurse-Led Care Consortium

Upcoming Webinar May 7, 2019 at 3:00 pm EST

Webinar

Addressing the Emerging HCV and Opioid Use Disorder Epidemics

Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 3:00 pm ET



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Register [here](#)
1 CME or CNE available



A few final reminders!

1. NNCC survey if you want to join our newsletter
2. Link with survey from CDN for 1 CNE or CME credit

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