



Hepatitis C in Hawai'i

Provider Opportunities

January 27, 2025 • Hawai'i HCV ECHO



WE CAN SAVE LIVES

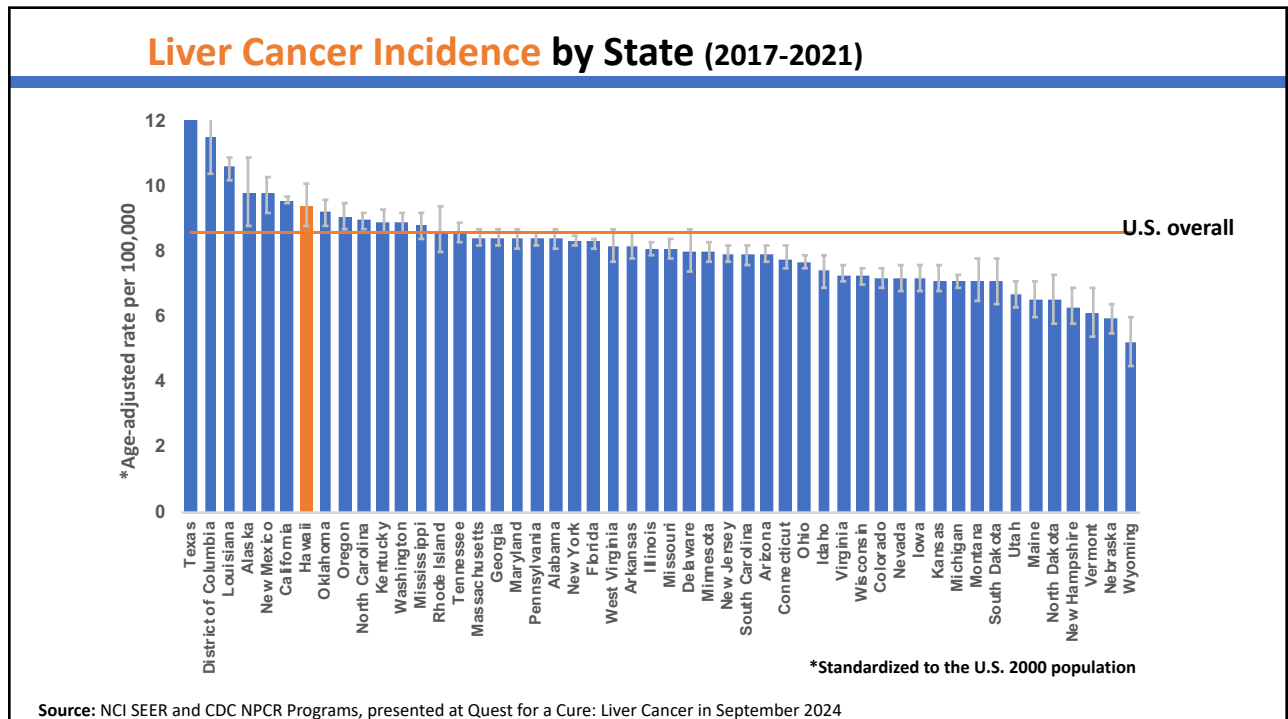


LIVER CANCER IN HAWAI'I

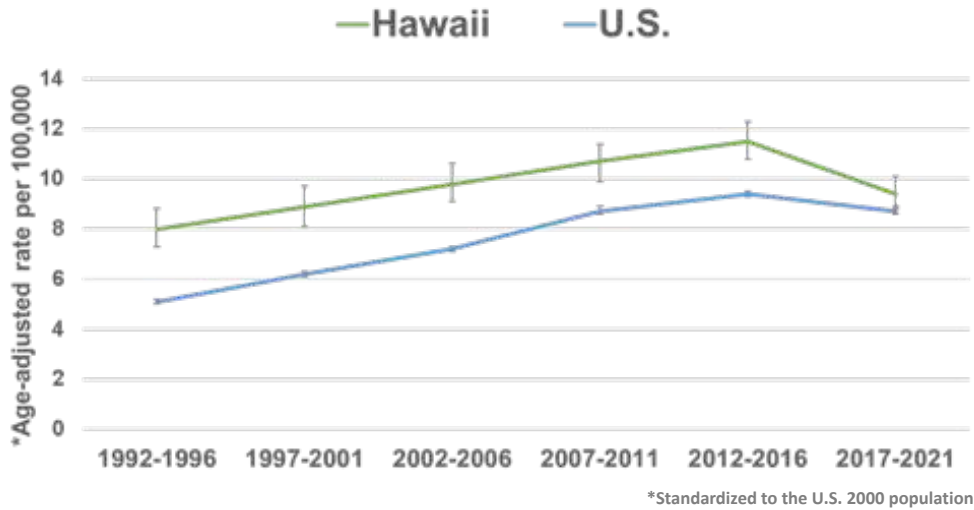
- 190 newly diagnosed each year
- 9th most common cancer - MEN
- 4th leading cancer death - MEN
- 5th leading cancer death - WOMEN

Source: Hawaii Tumor Registry, presented at Quest for a Cure: Liver Cancer in September 2024

HepFree 2030

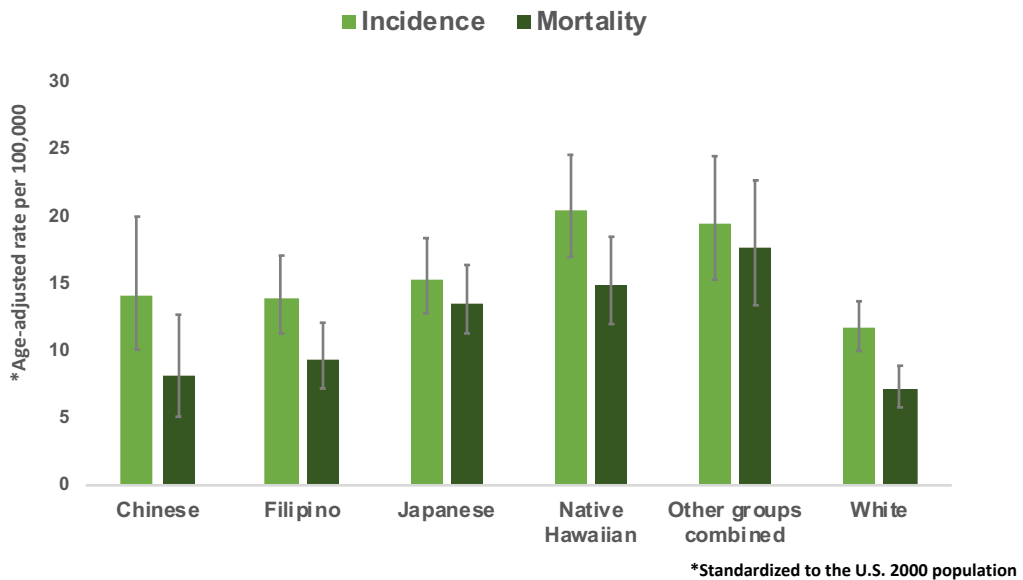


Liver Cancer Incidence, Hawai'i & U.S. (1992-2021)



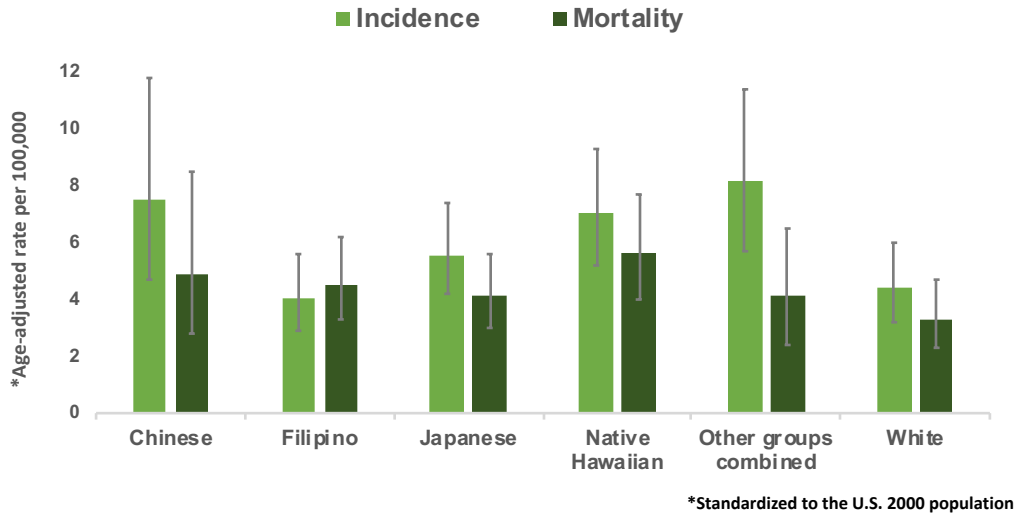
Source: Hawai'i Tumor Registry, NCI SEER Programs, presented at Quest for a Cure: Liver Cancer in September 2024

Liver Cancer Incidence & Mortality, Male, Hawai'i (2014-2018)



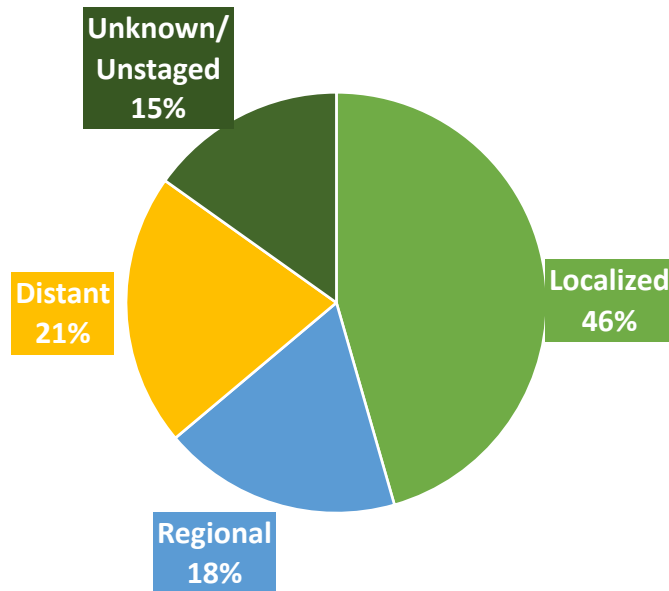
Source: Hawai'i Tumor Registry, presented at Quest for a Cure: Liver Cancer in September 2024

Liver Cancer Incidence & Mortality, Female, Hawai'i (2014-2018)



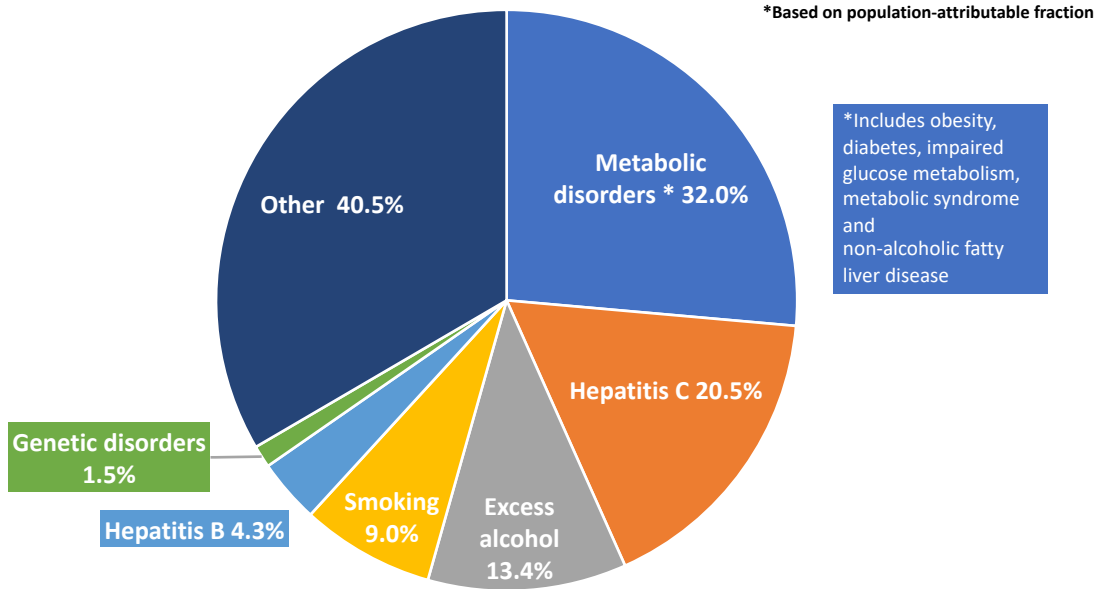
Source: Hawai'i Tumor Registry, presented at Quest for a Cure: Liver Cancer in September 2024

Liver Cancer Diagnosis Stage, Hawai'i (2017-2021)



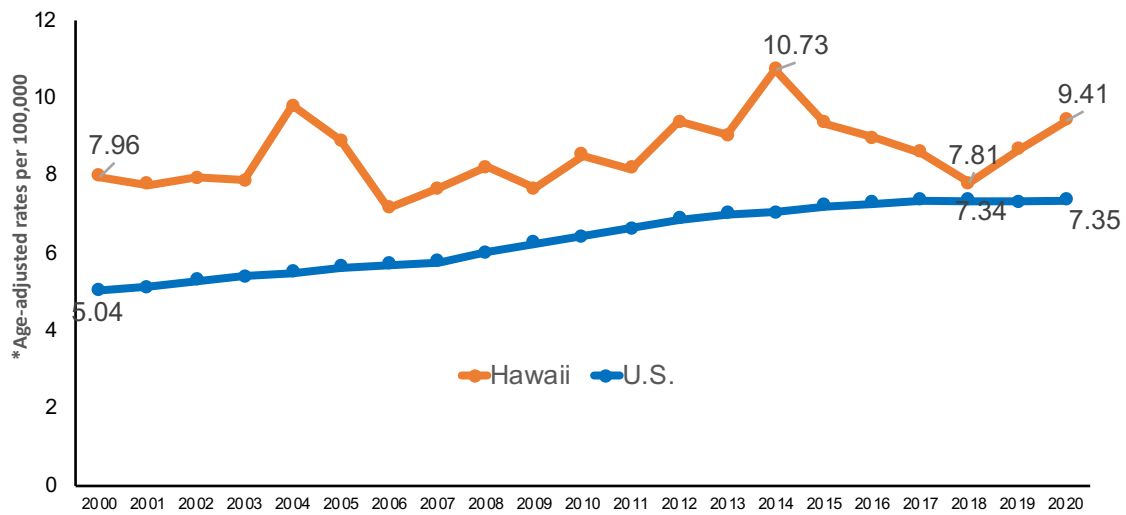
Source: Hawai'i Tumor Registry, presented at Quest for a Cure: Liver Cancer in September 2024

Risk Factors* for Hepatocellular Carcinoma, U.S. (2000-2011)



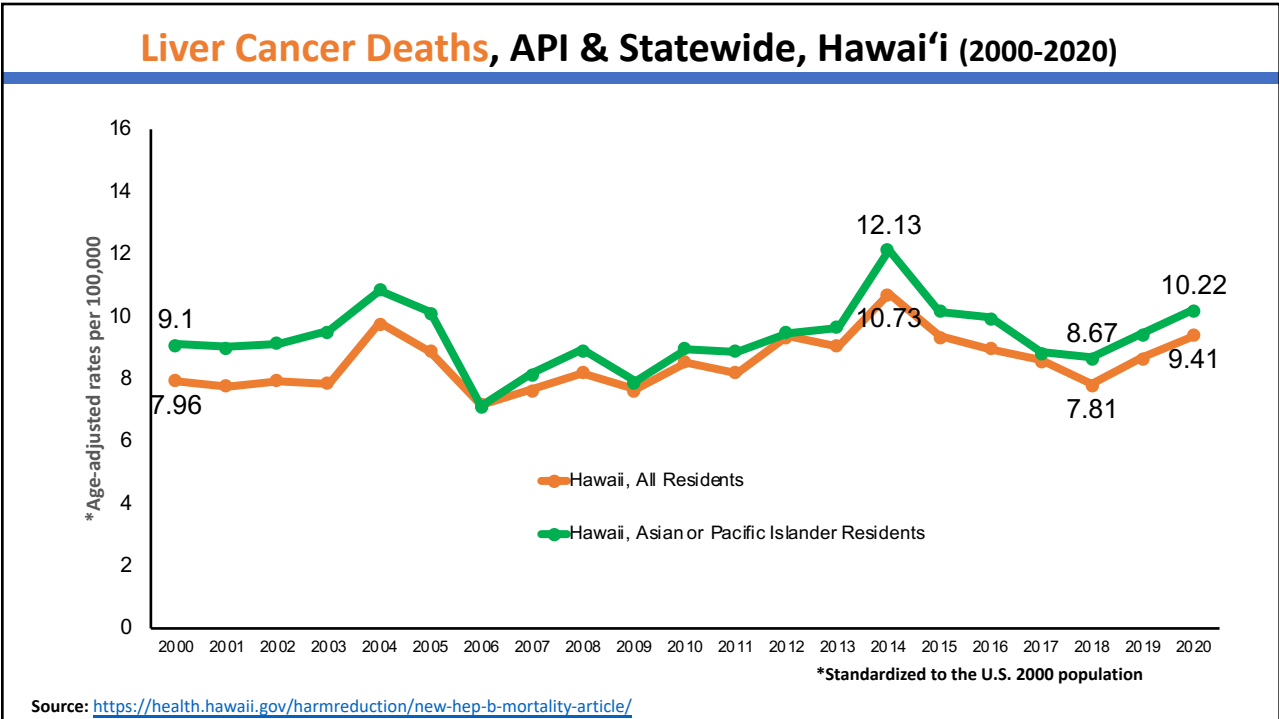
Source: Adapted from Makarova-Rusher et al, Cancer 2016, presented at Quest for a Cure: Liver Cancer in September 2024

Liver Cancer Deaths, Hawai'i & U.S. (2000-2020)



*Standardized to the U.S. 2000 population

Source: <https://health.hawaii.gov/harmreduction/new-hep-b-mortality-article/>

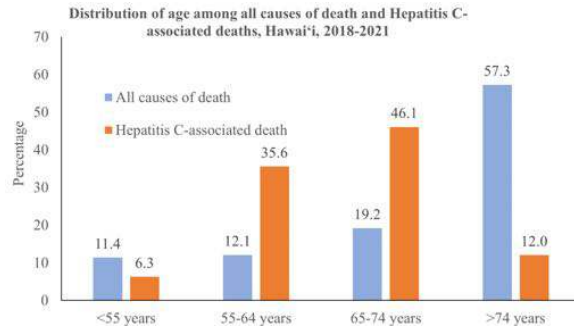


TURNING POINTS

VIRAL HEPATITIS

HepFree 2030

Most (88%) residents with hepatitis C **died earlier** than rest of state



Source: <https://health.hawaii.gov/harmreduction/data-highlight-premature-deaths-and-hepatitis-c-in-hawai%ca%bbi/>



Hawai'i residents with hepatitis C **died 17 years earlier**, compared to average life expectancy in Hawai'i.

Sources: <https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/71/5/1149/5581721>;
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/life_expectancy/life_expectancy.htm



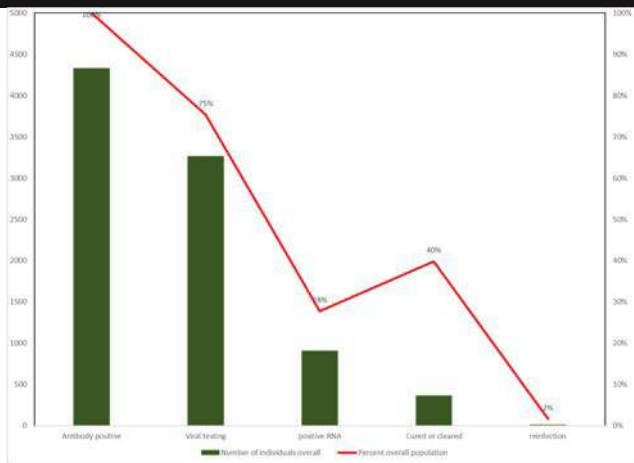


Hawai'i has the **highest proportion of Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Asian deaths** among HCV-listed deaths (2016-2017), compared to other states.

Source: Ly, et al. 2020. CID. <https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/71/5/1149/5581721>

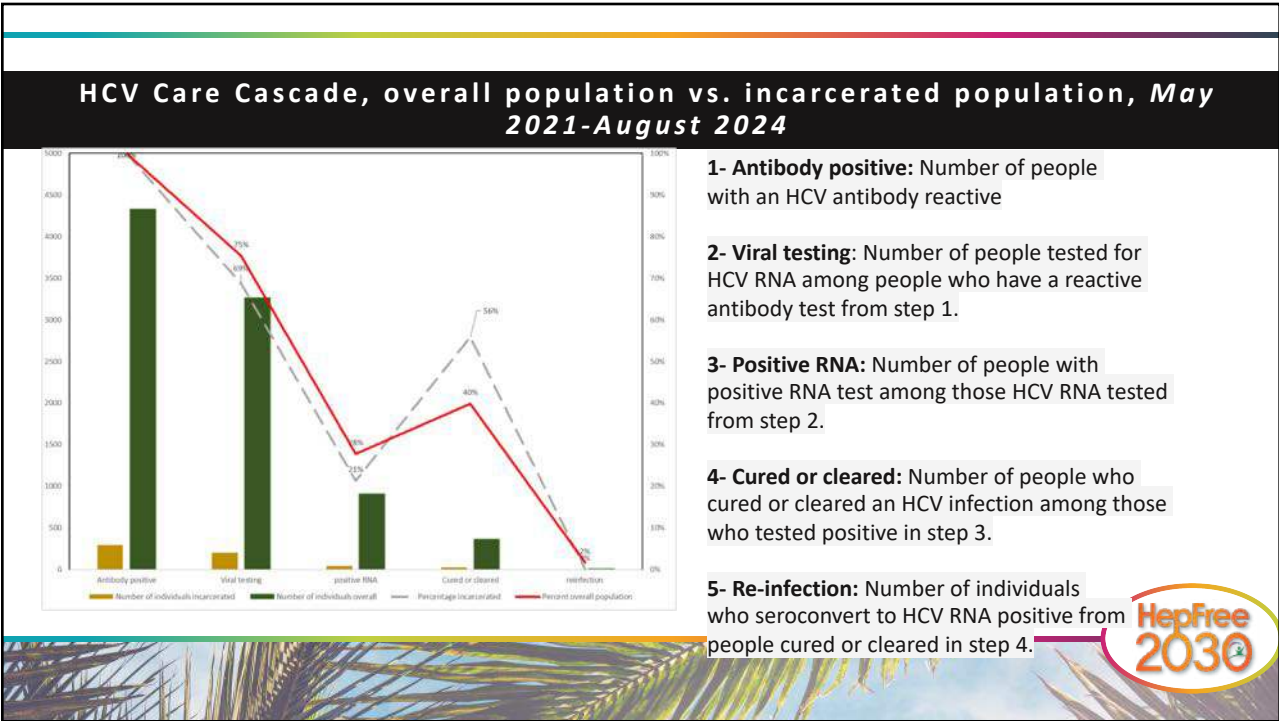


**HCV Care Cascade
May 2021-May 2024**



- 1- Antibody positive:** Number of people with an HCV antibody reactive
- 2- Viral testing:** Number of people tested for HCV RNA among people who have a reactive antibody test from step 1.
- 3- Positive RNA:** Number of people with positive RNA test among those HCV RNA tested from step 2.
- 4- Cured or cleared:** Number of people who cured or cleared an HCV infection among those who tested positive in step 3.
- 5- Re-infection:** Number of individuals who seroconvert to HCV RNA positive from people cured or cleared in step 4.







COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORT
Use this form to report Hepatitis C to the DOH office in your County.

	DATE OF REPORT (MMDDYYYY)	PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A MINOR				
DEMOGRAPHIC DATA	LAST NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	SEX <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Other
	ADDRESS (STREET)		CITY		ZIP CODE ISLAND	
	RACE	HISPANIC <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> RESIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> TOURIST <input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANT <input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS <input type="checkbox"/> INCARCERATED			
	PATIENT'S PHONE NO. (REF.)	PATIENT'S PHONE NO. (CFI.)	SCHOOL / DAY CARE / WORKPLACE			

<p>Current gender:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender woman/trans woman <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender man/trans man <input type="checkbox"/> Gender nonconforming/non-binary <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p> <p>Risk factors: Has/was the patient:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Born to an HCV case? <input type="checkbox"/> Ever injected drugs (not prescribed)? <input type="checkbox"/> Ever shared injection drug use equipment? <input type="checkbox"/> Ever used/reused drugs (not prescribed)? <input type="checkbox"/> Ever shared non injection drug use equipment? <input type="checkbox"/> Ever had a sexual partner infected with HCV? <input type="checkbox"/> Ever been exposed to someone else's blood? <input type="checkbox"/> Ever had sex in exchange for drugs, money or housing?</p>	<p>CLINICAL INFORMATION</p> <p>Did the provider diagnose the patient with HCV? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Was an alternative diagnosis provided? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please specify: _____</p> <p>Did the patient present with acute HCV symptoms such as jaundice, elevated bilirubin or ALT? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Jaundice <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Bilirubin (mg/dL) _____ ALT (IU/L) _____</p> <p>Possible risk factors:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Self-inflicted <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosed with other infection <input type="checkbox"/> Asymptomatic <input type="checkbox"/> Elevated liver enzymes <input type="checkbox"/> Possible exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Screening at commercial facility <input type="checkbox"/> Recent exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Blood donation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____</p>
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HCV reporting (con't)

REPORTING SOURCE	ATTENDING PHYSICIAN (Name): _____ ADDRESS: Street: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____ PHONE NO.: _____	PERSON OR AGENCY REPORTING (Name): _____ ADDRESS: Street: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____ PHONE NO.: _____	Please provide a list of all diagnosis (ICD10) codes associated with the visit. _____ _____ _____
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O'ahu P.O. Box 3378 Honolulu, HI 96801 Phone: (808) 586-4386 Fax: (808) 586-4595	MauI 54 High Street Wailuku, HI 96793 Phone: (808) 984-8213 Fax: (808) 984-8222	Hawai'i P.O. Box 916 Hilo, HI 96720 Phone: (808) 933-0912 Fax: (808) 933-0400	Kaua'i 3042 Umi Street Lihue, HI 96766 Phone: (808) 241-3563 Fax: (808) 241-3480
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<https://health.hawaii.gov/docd/for-healthcare-providers/reporting-an-illness-for-healthcare-providers/reportable-diseases/>





Mission and Vision

Mission

- To empower Hawai'i 'ohana to promote liver health and wellness
- To raise awareness and increase access for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of liver disease, especially viral hepatitis and related harms
- To erase stigma, social and racial inequity, and health disparities surrounding communities affected by liver disease

Vision

- To create a Hawai'i free of hepatitis and other liver disease
- To promote liver health by integrating culturally appropriate services within a comprehensive system of care



Values in Practice



Hep Free 2030 Priorities



Progress in 2023

2023 PROGRESS
HEPATITIS ELIMINATION EFFORTS IN HAWAII

AWARENESS & EDUCATION
Making Impact in Multiple Ways

- CASE-BASED LEARNING**
Provided 12 virtual Hep C (ECHO) sessions for 150 providers statewide, including nurses, doctors, and pharmacists
- SOCIAL MEDIA REACH**
Reached over 47,000 people and accounts across Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, YouTube
- IN-LANGUAGE SESSIONS**
Engaged over 3400 people in Hawaiian and Chinese at community spaces and sporting events

IMPROVING LOCAL POLICY: We partnered with MedQUEST to waive prior authorization for Hep C treatment by provider attestation.
Learn more: <https://hepfreenews.org/news/waiver-com-for-hepc-cure>

WHAT IS HEP FREE 2030?
Since July 2020, Hep Free 2030 has been the statewide strategy to address our hepatitis C epidemic in Hawaii. Awareness & Education, Access to Services, Advocacy at All Levels, Equity in Everything, and Data for Decision-Making.
Learn more at www.hepfreenews.org or hepfreenews@hawaii.gov

Updated April 8, 2024

2023 PROGRESS
HEPATITIS ELIMINATION EFFORTS IN HAWAII (CONT'D)

POWER OF STORIES: OKPUN
"I want to let you know what I know... there are people that can help you."
Dora - 40th liver and lung

ACCESS IN JAILS & PRISONS
with Dept. of Corrections & Rehabilitation (DCR)

- TRAINING LOCAL STAFF**
Through Hep C ECHO, 18 new providers were trained to provide Hep C care and treatment at each DCR site.
- CREATING COST SAVINGS**
DCR worked with Dept. of Health on agreement to save money on cost of Hep C meds via federal 340B pricing.
- INCREASING HEP C CURES**
DCR started Hep C treatment for 47 patients and cured 34 patients between April and November 2023.

DATA Used for Action

What We Did	What We Know
Hepatitis C Interviews with spring exchange clients in March 2023 on perceptions of Hep C treatment	More on the treatment, single messages can help
Hepatitis B Deaths associated with Hep B among Hawaii residents from 2000 to 2020	High death rates for Asian, Pacific Islander people

Read full publications: www.hepfreenews.org/publications

Updated April 8, 2024

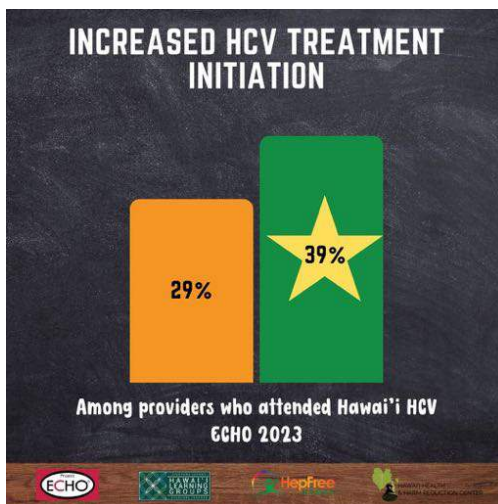


Priority 1: Awareness and Education



Hep C ECHO

- 12 virtual sessions for 150 providers statewide in fall 2023
- Increased ability and willingness to cure hep C
- Expanded network of care and support for providers



<https://www.hepfreehawaii.org/news/hep-c-echo-works>

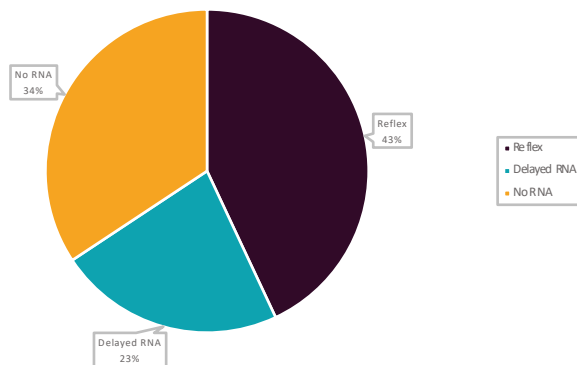


Priority 2: Access to Services



HCV Reflex at Labs

Persons Tested at Lab A (%)
January 1, 2022 - August 1, 2023



- ❖ DOH showed lack/delays in HCV reflex testing
- ❖ [Provider handout w lab codes](#) to promote HCV RNA reflex testing
- ❖ Promoting among commercial labs



Priority 3: Policy at All Levels

**HEALTH DEPT.
CAPACITY**

**POLICY
INTEGRATION**

**INSURANCE
COVERAGE**

**COMMUNITY
ADVOCACY**

**PROVIDER
ADVOCACY**



Hep C Prior Authorization Waiver

**HEPATITIS C DIRECT-ACTING ANTIVIRAL (DAA) THERAPY
PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER ATTESTATION**

 Phone # 925.973.4000 Website: www.alameda.ca.gov	 Phone # 808.546.8811 Website: www.hmsa.com	 Phone # 808.505.1200 Website: www.ohanahealth.com	 Phone # 808.530.1047 Website: www.uhc.com
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PURPOSE OF THIS FORM
To prove qualified primary care providers treating a patient with uncomplicated hepatitis C (documented in C-2271) to receive the DAA therapy that follows AASLD/CSA HCV Guidance without a prior authorization. Completion of a Hepatitis C managed education program and submission of the completed attestation form will allow these Q-CEST and HESA commercial plans to process you as a qualified provider.

"QUALIFIED PROVIDER" STATUS
Qualified providers must be actively practicing to receive qualified provider status. A provider fails to adhere to the C-2271 Guidelines for Hepatitis C Case Finding, or coverage periods for commercial plans.

Familial Restrictions
Being a "qualified provider" does not eliminate formulary restrictions for prescribers. All Q-CEST plans are required to cover a recommended treatment regimen by AASLD/CSA HCV Guidance per C-2271. Cover that these guidelines may provide more than one treatment regimen. Q-CEST plans may offer different formulary coverage that will not apply when for prescribers from "qualified providers".

INSTRUCTIONS
1) Review and complete ALL sections of this form.
2) File form separately for each plan you are applying to be a Hepatitis C DAA Therapy "Qualified Provider".

ATTESTATION
I, the undersigned, am a provider in accordance with guidelines for Hepatitis C Direct-Acting Antiviral (DAA) Therapy provided by the American Association of Liver Physicians (AASLD) and Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA).
I have completed the following educational program in the management of Hepatitis C developed in consultation with a Hepatitis C specialist (such as hepatologist, gastroenterologist, infectious disease and/or HIV specialist):
 I have Hepatitis C "Echo Series" video
 Other: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____

A. Provider information

Provider Name: _____ Provider ID/ID#(s): _____
 Address: _____
 Contact Name: _____ Phone No.: _____ Fax No.: _____

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 HAWAIIAN HEPATITIS C EDUCATION CENTER

"Gold Card" attestation

- ❖ Use drugs on formulary
- ❖ Follow AASLD guidance
- ❖ Complete HCV education

<https://www.hepfreehawaii.org/news/waiver-form-for-hep-c-meds>



Priority 4: Equity in Everything



Micronesian Hep B Talks



- ❖ In Marshallese and Chuukese languages
- ❖ Culturally relevant and placed (eg, sporting events)
- ❖ In 2023, over 2400 people engaged

<https://www.hepfreehawaii.org/micronesian-education-program>



Priority 5: Data for Decision-Making



Voices of PWUD

- ❖ Interviewed syringe exchange clients on perceptions of HCV:
 - ❖ Stigma is barrier to care
 - ❖ Need for short, impactful messaging
 - ❖ Syringe exchange as trusted health hub



"I WANNA LIVE A FULL LIFE"
WHAT PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS SAY ABOUT HEP C CURE

In June 2023, the Hawai'i Department of Health released a landmark report that highlighted insights from people who use drugs to guide hepatitis C elimination programs. Such qualitative research aligns with "Equity in Everything", a lived priority of the Hep Free 2030 strategy. <https://health.hawaii.org/hepfree2030>

VOICES OF LOCAL PEOPLE
On Meaningful Hepatitis C Treatment

<p>USE SYRINGE EXCHANGES</p> <p>Syringe exchanges are essential hubs for hepatitis C treatment and other related services.</p> <p>"Just come to the same spot where the van is. There could be a doctor here who could prescribe."</p>	<p>PROVIDE INFO, REDUCE STIGMA</p> <p>People who use drugs are concerned about their health, although stigma and misinformation persist.</p> <p>"I feel like they think that like people that have it are like, dirty."</p>	<p>SHORT, DIRECT MESSAGES</p> <p>People prefer visual, directive messaging, especially poster materials at syringe exchanges.</p> <p>"Listen...Hep C is curable!"; "Things have changed. Read this!"; "Look, it's curable!"</p>
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FOR MORE VOICES, SEE THE FULL REPORT
<https://health.hawaii.org/hepfree2030/people-who-use-drugs-talk-about-hep-c/>

Updated July 01, 2023

<https://www.hepfreehawaii.org/news/hep-c-voices-report>






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@hepfreehawaii on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube



YOU SAVE LIVES
AND YOU CAN SAVE MORE





CALLS TO ACTION
PROVIDER OPPORTUNITIES

HepFree 2030

This slide features a central graphic of three green hands of varying heights, with the tallest hand in the center. The hands are set against a background of palm fronds and a blue sky. The text 'CALLS TO ACTION' is in large orange letters, and 'PROVIDER OPPORTUNITIES' is in smaller blue letters below it. The HepFree 2030 logo is in the bottom right corner.



WE CAN DO THIS

SCREEN ALL ADULTS

VACCINATE ALL ADULTS

TREAT AND CURE

LEARN AND COLLABORATE

CENTER PATIENT VOICES

HepFree 2030

This slide features a central graphic of three green hands of varying heights, with the tallest hand in the center. The hands are set against a background of palm fronds and a blue sky. The text 'WE CAN DO THIS' is in large orange letters at the top. Below the hands are five colored boxes containing the following text: 'SCREEN ALL ADULTS' (purple), 'VACCINATE ALL ADULTS' (green), 'TREAT AND CURE' (pink), 'LEARN AND COLLABORATE' (blue), and 'CENTER PATIENT VOICES' (teal). The HepFree 2030 logo is in the bottom right corner.

HEP C DATA SURVEY

Hepatitis C 2024 data assessment



<https://forms.office.com/g/s20zxi1as>

Help strengthen public health planning! Complete this quick four-question survey on hepatitis C data. Mahalo!

