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| **NVHR NEWSLETTER – *December, 2014*** |

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| **Hepatitis on the Hill**The [Hepatitis Appropriations Partnership](http://nastad.org/viral_hepatitis/default.aspx) (HAP), [Hep B United](http://hepbunited.org/) (HBU), and National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR) invite you to participate in *Hepatitis on the Hill* to be held in Washington, DC on March 9-10, 2015! *Hepatitis on the Hill* is a constituent-based advocacy event focused on hepatitis B and C federal policy issues and sharing the experiences of people living with hepatitis B and C.  Keep an eye out for more information and applications next week!**CMS Letter**On December 19, 2014 the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued and solicited comments on its Draft 2016 Letter to Issuers in the Federally-facilitated Marketplaces, containing operational and technical guidance for Federally-facilitated Marketplace payers offering qualified health plans.  NVHR [submitted comments](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/9dd22df1cf3a741391755d010/files/CMS_Letter_re_Discriminatory_Benefit_Design.pdf), urging CMS to include hepatitis C among the conditions used to assess QHP compliance with non-discrimination in benefit design.**Resolved for 2015: No More Hepatitis C**"Hepatitis C - screening for it, adopting public policies for it, finding even better cures for it - is a community enterprise." Please read NVHR Executive Director Ryan Clary's [blog post](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ryan-clary/resolved-for-2015-no-more_b_6438920.html?1420752403) in Huffington Post.**Save the Date March 18: Patient Support Webinar**Please save the date for our next NVHR webinar on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 11 am PST/2 pm EST. The webinar will cover the most important elements that patients and advocates need to know regarding screening, linkage to care, accessing and paying for treatment, and living with hepatitis C. This webinar will feature speakers from the [Hepatitis C Support Project,](http://www.hcvadvocate.org/) [Hepatitis C Mentor & Support Group](http://hepatitiscmsg.org), and [Help-for-Hep](http://help4hep.org/). More details coming soon! **New Resources from CDC's Know More Hepatitis campaign**In January, DVH released a new phase of the [Know More Hepatitis campaign](http://www.cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis/index.htm).  New resources including [video PSAs](http://www.cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis/media/videos.htm), an [infographic](http://www.cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis/media/infographics.htm), and [posters](http://www.cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis/media/posters.htm) are available for you to use in your work to encourage hepatitis C testing among baby boomers.   Spread the word about these new materials by sharing the link to the [campaign resources.](http://www.cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis/materials.htm) Here are [10 ways you can use the campaign materials](http://www.cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis/spreadtheword.htm) to encourage testing for Hepatitis C.  **New NVHR Resources: Treatment Access and State-Level HCV Data****1. Treatment Access**The National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR) supports the position that all people living with hepatitis C deserve lifesaving treatment, and calls for immediate action for significantly expanded access to address the largest blood borne viral epidemic in the United States. To see our official position statement and find examples of responses to state Medicaid policies, please visit our new webpage: <http://nvhr.org/content/hcv-treatment-access>. We will continue to update this page with additional resources as they become available. Please contact Christine Rodriguez, Public Policy Manager, at crodriguez@nvhr.org with questions or comments about this page.**2. State-Level HCV Data**We have created a program page that provides state-level hepatitis C data. These slides can be used for local education and advocacy. Your state or regional viral hepatitis coordinator can answer additional questions about your state's hepatitis C epidemiology. To see information about state-level estimates of persons living with hepatitis C and the number of patients per treater in each state, please visit our new webpage: <http://nvhr.org/content/nvhr-hepatitis-c-state-specific-resources-pages>. Please contact Tina Broder, Senior Program Manager, at tbroder@nvhr.org with questions or comments about this page. |

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