

October 2016

*HCV Action brings together hepatitis C health professionals from across the patient pathway with the pharmaceutical industry and patient representatives to share expertise and good practice.*

### News & reports...

\* **NICE** has published draft guidance approving the use of Epclusa for people with all genotypes. The guidance can be read in full [here](#).

\* **HCV Action** attended the **RCGP** Annual Primary Care Conference in Harrogate last week. It was great to engage with so many GPs about hepatitis C and their role in eliminating it, as well as highlight the resources that **HCV Action** can offer to GPs.

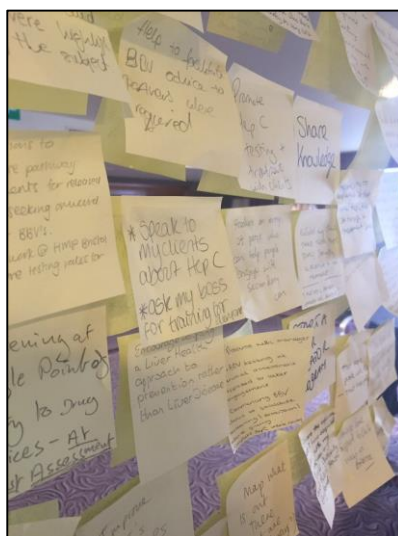
\* **EASL** has released its *Recommendations on Treatment of Hepatitis C*, which outlines the current optimal management of patients with acute and chronic HCV infections. The document is available in the Resource Library section of the **HCV Action** website [here](#).

\* The **Scottish Government** has launched an awareness raising campaign alerting anyone who had a blood transfusion in Scotland before September 1991 to their potential risk of hepatitis C. You can read more about the campaign [here](#).

\* The **International Network for Hepatitis C in Substance Users (INHSU)** has called for the removal of restrictions preventing people who use drugs from accessing new hepatitis C cures. INHSU President Jason Grebely said: "To delay further is unethical and undermines public health". Read more [here](#).

## HCV Action & PHE hold good practice roadshow in Bristol

**HCV Action** and **Public Health England (PHE)** staged the second hepatitis C good practice roadshow of the year in Bristol last month, with attendees including clinicians, nurses, drug service professionals, commissioners and others from across the South West of England.



Speakers included Debbie Stark (Deputy Director, **PHE** South West), Professor Matthew Hickman (Professor of Public Health and Epidemiology, **University of Bristol**), Dr Fiona Gordon (Consultant Hepatologist, **Bristol Royal Infirmary**) and more. Afternoon workshops focused on the work of the new Operational Delivery Network in the area, awareness and testing in drug services, and testing and treatment in prisons.

A summary report of the day will be published soon which will provide details on the key discussions of the day. The final roadshow of the year will be held in Manchester on 13<sup>th</sup> December.

## LJWG Conference to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> November

The **London Joint Working Group on Substance Use and Hepatitis C (LJWG)** are partnering with **PHE** and the **London Drug & Alcohol Policy Forum** to stage a conference on 7<sup>th</sup> November titled 'Hepatitis C in PWIDs London: Partnership Towards Elimination of a Major Public Health Threat by 2030'.



The conference, which is being held at Guildhall, London features an exciting line-up of speakers including **Victoria Borwick MP**, Professor

Graham Foster (Professor of Hepatology, **Queen Mary University of London**), and David Stuart (Substance Use Lead & GUM/HIV Wellbeing Programme Manager, 56 Dean Street).

Further details on the event, including the full programme and details on how to register your free place, can be found [here](#).

\* Treating inmates with hepatitis C would significantly boost **WHO's** goal of eliminating viral hepatitis worldwide by 2030, according to presentations at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Hepatitis Care in Substance Users, with incarceration driving transmission of hepatitis C. Read more [here](#).

Share your good practice...

*If you would like your service to be featured as a good practice case study on the HCV Action website, please send an email to [hcvaction@hepctrust.org.uk](mailto:hcvaction@hepctrust.org.uk).*

We want to keep HCV Action's membership updated on news and events from across the country.

If you have any news you would like to share with colleagues or would like to publicise an event please email details to [hcvaction@hepctrust.org.uk](mailto:hcvaction@hepctrust.org.uk).

## HCV Action launch online forum

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HCV Action are launching an online forum this month, intended to provide a discussion place

for health professionals, drug service professionals, commissioners, nurses, clinicians and others to share ideas and best practice related to hepatitis C.

The forum, which is hosted on the [HCV Action](#) website and can be accessed [here](#), is free to use with only a simple registration process.

Users can respond to topics raised by others or start their own. As the forum develops, we hope it will be an invaluable resource for finding information, accessing answers to questions from fellow professionals and sharing ideas and best practice.

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The Hepatitis C Trust provides secretariat support to HCV Action*

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Please encourage colleagues to join HCV Action for free hepatitis C related updates and tools by emailing their full contact details to [hcvaction@hepctrust.org.uk](mailto:hcvaction@hepctrust.org.uk).