CLINICAL PROVIDERS
COVID-19 has forced clinics to limit HIV and STD testing, hepatitis vaccinations, and hepatitis treatment, jeopardizing access to care.

Nearly 2/3 of Community-Based Organizations providing viral hepatitis services have received inadequate or no funding to adapt services during COVID-19.

92% Nearly all participating clinicians report that they expect telehealth services for Hepatitis B and C care. Challenges include:

- Patient access to internet
- Workflow adaptation
- Patient hesitancy
- Incorrect contact information
- Fewer billable claims

The top 3 barriers to providing Hepatitis B and C care during COVID-19 are:

- Interruptions to bloodwork
- Limited access to telehealth technology
- Staffing shortages

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Half of clinical providers reported challenges with providing telehealth services for Hepatitis B and C care. Challenges include:

- HBV/HCV TESTING
- Decreased to 80%
- HIV TESTING
- Decreased to 65%
- STD TESTING AND TREATMENT
- Decreased to 75%

Nearly 2/3 of Community-Based Organizations had to furlough or lay off staff or reduce operations due to COVID-19.

More than half of Community-Based Organizations have received inadequate or no funding to adapt services during COVID-19.

Top resources needed to support viral hepatitis programs during COVID-19:

1. Additional funding to support viral hepatitis team staff capacity
2. Best practices and/or guidance for implementing viral hepatitis services in the setting of COVID-19
3. Technical assistance for adapting education and outreach to an online or remote setting

COVID-19 has severely reduced viral hepatitis testing, vaccination, and outreach by community-based organizations.

HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Top resources needed to support viral hepatitis programs during COVID-19:

1. Additional funding to support viral hepatitis team staff capacity
2. Best practices and/or guidance for implementing viral hepatitis services in the setting of COVID-19
3. Technical assistance for adapting education and outreach to an online or remote setting

A majority of health departments report viral hepatitis activities were substantially impacted due to COVID-19.

SUBSTANTIALLY IMPACTED 62%
MODERATELY IMPACTED 18%
COMPLETELY STOPPED 15%
MINIMALLY IMPACTED 5%

The top 5 viral hepatitis services limited by COVID-19 from health departments are:

- Community outreach
- Testing
- Linkage to care

Health departments reported the top 5 populations disparately impacted by COVID-19 are:

- Racial and/or ethnic minorities
- Persons without access to routine medical care
- People who use drugs
- Incarcerated persons
- Houseless persons

Sources: Responses sourced from the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR) online survey launched in partnership with the Hepatitis Education Project, NASTAD, Hep B United, and HepVu on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on hepatitis prevention and care. The survey was open for public response from Jun. 22 to Sept. 10, 2020, and gathered 161 responses overall.