

A Perfect Storm & A Perfect Opportunity:

The Story of an Innovative HCV/HIV Screening and LTC Program for Substance Users in Georgia, USA

Authors:

Sutton, M¹, Holloway W², McCorkle A³,
Loudermilk J⁴, Imagine Hope¹,
The Athens Clinic², The Pittard Clinic

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Addressing the Impact of the American Opioid Epidemic



Next to track marks, Katie H. wears a tattoo which represents her goal to break free from drugs.
Photo: NY Times

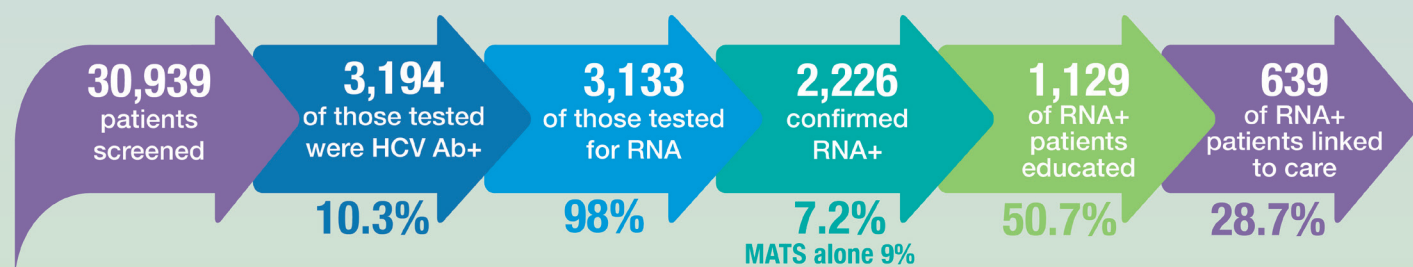
Model of Care

- Building HCV services on top of existing robust HIV screening programs in traditional and medication assisted treatment programs (MAT)
- 3 dedicated linkage coordinators statewide working to navigate options for care for a mostly uninsured population
- Building capacity for treating HCV *in-house* at 4 MAT clinics

Number of Partner Agencies



Efforts & Effectiveness



Since April 2015 **30,939** patients were screened for HCV at **31** clinics in Georgia, **14** of which are MAT (data 4/1/2015 - 3/30/2019)

Conclusion

- Routine HCV screening is feasible, replicable, and scalable
- Embedding HCV treatment in medication assisted treatment programs is effective in removing multiple barriers to care
- Followed 151 clients who have obtained Viral Load Suppression, 17 currently on treatment



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www.ImagineHope.com
marie@imaginehope.com
Phone: 404.606.1728
227 Sandy Springs PI • Suite 379-D, Atlanta, GA 30328

Gilead Sciences FOCUS program limits its support to testing and linkage to care. FOCUS does not support treatment and remains agnostic partners' in treatment decisions.