

## **NewYork-Presbyterian Queens 2016-2018 Community Service Plan Amendment**

### **Priority #2 Prevent HIV, STDs, Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Healthcare-Associated Infections**

In 2017, we have made great strides in HCV screenings at emergency department. The success was in part due to a grant funded patient navigator who provided follow up and connecting to care services to HCV positive patients. However, the funding ended in Oct. 2017. Without a designated patient navigator, we will not be able to continue the large volume HCV screening in the ED

In 2018, we will modify our focus to increase HCV screening at NYP Queens two primary care clinics as well as in west Queens and LGBT communities. The revised work plans are

#### #2.1 increase HCV screening at primary care clinics:

HCV screening is one of the quality measurements listed in our EMR system. All primary physicians and GI specialists will be encouraged to satisfy this measurement that is “the patient who born between 1945-1965 has one time hepatitis C virus screening”.

Starting Apr. 2018, all new adult patients, born between 1946-1964, will be offered hepC tests at both primary clinics. If patient agrees, primary physician will order hepC tests as part of new visit. All information will be recorded on EMR. Clinic staff will call patients with active hepC infection (HCV RNA positive) for follow up visits.

All information will be recorded in EMR and data will be collected monthly to monitor the hepC offering and screening rates among providers and eligible new patients, at each site, and to resolve issues which might hinder the progress.

#### #2.2 increase HCV screening in west Queens neighborhood and LGBT community

LGBT community and west Queens residents (such as Jackson Heights and Elmhurst) are most at-risk for HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C infection, but have less access to the health care system and can easily be lost due to lack of follow-up care. Co-occurrence of HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis increases the risk of death from liver and non-liver related diseases.

NYPQ community Health Initiatives (CHI) will partner with community organizations to offer free hepatitis C screening at community events. All tests will be reviewed by NYP Queens liver specialists, and results will be mailed to screening participants. CHI event coordinator will contact HCV positive patients and assist them to schedule follow up appointment at our clinics. The coordinator will also make follow up call to make sure patients adhere to their treatment plans.