

April 2015

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 & articles...

* Addaction and The Hepatitis C Trust are partnering in a [new pilot initiative in the South West](#) region, designed to widen HCV testing and offer additional support to access appropriate treatment for people who use drugs or who are in recovery. The pilot consists of three key interventions: workforce development, peer-to-peer education and a buddying scheme. It is hoped that the pilot will result in improved HCV diagnosis and treatment rates and will contribute towards the delivery of the ultimate aim of HCV elimination in the region – you can read the full story [here](#).

* Hepatitis Scotland are running a conference on alcohol and hepatitis C, [‘Brewing up a Perfect Storm’](#), on 24 June at the COSLA Conference Centre in Edinburgh. For more details, see their website [here](#).

* [Reuters reports](#) that Gilead Sciences is seeking to convince governments and multilateral agencies worldwide that hepatitis C can be eliminated with a demonstration project in Georgia offering free drugs to all those who need them. Georgia has the world's third highest prevalence of hepatitis C, after Egypt and Mongolia, with nearly 7 percent of adults carrying the virus. It also has a wide range of viral variations and different types of patients. You can read the full article [here](#).

Please tell us what you think...

We at HCV Action want to make sure we are providing all those who work in

RCGP & HCV Action launch film for GPs



A new film to raise awareness and increase knowledge of hepatitis C among GPs and other primary care practitioners has been launched by the [Royal College of GPs](#), the Hepatitis C Trust and HCV Action.

With 90% of all patient contacts in the NHS conducted by GPs and their teams, it is likely that people with hepatitis C will at some point be treated in general practice, yet guidance from both NICE and Public Health England suggest that more needs to be done to raise awareness levels among primary care professionals.

The open-access film aims to increase healthcare professionals' knowledge about the virus, build their confidence in diagnosing and supporting patients and inform them of the new and highly effective treatments available in primary care. Please watch and share the film, [Detecting and Managing Hepatitis C in Primary Care](#), with colleagues.

Quality in Care Awards are open for entry



The Quality in Care (QIC) Hepatitis C awards programme has opened for entries from all those working in the field of hepatitis C. There are four categories this year:

- Best prevention programme
- Best diagnosis & testing programme
- Best treatment pathway initiative
- Best patient support programme

The deadline for entries is 18th June and the awards will be presented at a ceremony in September. Every entry will be judged by a panel of high-level hepatitis C experts including nurses, commissioners, clinicians, patient representatives and leading industry professionals.

You can see a number of case studies from last year [here](#), each of which helped improve the quality of care for people with hepatitis C, while also recognising good health outcomes for patients.

More information and entry forms can be found at the QIC website [here](#).

the field of hepatitis C with useful resources and information. Please take part in a **very short, 5-minute survey** on our website, monthly e-updates and resources to make sure we are providing you with useful materials for your work. **Please take the survey by clicking [here](#).**

Share your good practice...

Please share your good practice by filling in the quick online form [here](#).

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.

PHE & HCV Action London roadshow announced



Following the success of last month's hepatitis C good practice roadshow which took place in Liverpool, the next HCV Action / Public Health England roadshow will be coming to London on 26th June, at the Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre, South Bank.

The second in our series of four roadshows across high prevalence areas of England, the London roadshow will showcase and share good practice and identify specific issues and potential solutions for tackling hepatitis C in the area. By bringing together drug professionals and primary and secondary care professionals with local decision-makers including commissioners, the roadshow will aim to instigate local action to eliminate hepatitis C as a serious public health concern in London, as an area home to a **[large proportion of England's hepatitis C cases](#)**.

An exciting **[programme](#)** of talks are planned for the roadshow, including from Professor William Rosenberg on the treatment of hepatitis C and possibilities for elimination, and from Will Huxter – Regional Director for Specialised Services at NHSE – on the commissioning landscape for hepatitis C. In the afternoon, professionals can choose from a number of workshops, including on addressing hepatitis C among at-risk immigrant communities.

If you are a health, drug service professional or commissioner working in the London area, find out more about the roadshow and book your place [here](#).

*HCV Action is co-funded by Abbvie, BMS, Gilead, Janssen and MSD.
The Hepatitis C Trust provides secretariat support to HCV Action*

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