

# HEP C U Later

*A Year of Review of Impact*

This report covers both Hep C U Later programmes from April 2025 - March 2026

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# Introduction

Hep C U Later, commissioned by the NHS England Hepatitis C Elimination Team, has two main programmes. However, both programmes have some overlap, which is why we have included both programme reports collectively.

## Our Aims, Objectives and Partners

### The Hep C U Later Engagement Programme

The Hep C U Later Engagement Programme is an additional Hep C U Later initiative provided by Inclusion (part of Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust) and is commissioned by NHS England's Hepatitis C Elimination Programme.

#### The aims of the Hep C U Later Engagement Programme are:

1. Improving education and awareness of hepatitis C amongst health and social care professionals
2. Improving engagement with the national hepatitis C elimination programme amongst professionals
3. Providing resources to professionals

#### Joint Working Partners:



# Our Aims, Objectives and Partners

## The Hep C U Later Drug and Alcohol Focussed Programme

Hep C U Later is an initiative of the NHS Addiction Providers Alliance ([www.nhsapa.com](http://www.nhsapa.com)), which is an alliance of NHS Trusts, providing community drug and alcohol treatment services across England, and is currently chaired by Inclusion (part of the Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust).

This reach currently extends to over **49,000** people who use community drug and alcohol treatment services, across 19 NHS Trusts, 35 community drug service contracts, aligning with 15 of the 23 Operational Delivery Networks (ODNs).

The NHS APA members provide community drug and alcohol services to approximately 35% of people engaged with community drug and alcohol services in the English treatment system. The system-wide partnership ensures providers collaborate closely, share learning and co-produce solutions to ultimately drive forward quality care.

### The aims of the Hep C U Later Drug and Alcohol Focused NHS APA Programme are:

1. Reaching hepatitis C micro-elimination across all NHS Addiction Provider Alliance member services
2. Improving the ability of the NHS APA services to sustain micro-elimination
3. Improving harm reduction in drug and alcohol services and widening opportunities to improve testing, treatment and awareness (outside of drug treatment services)

### The NHS APA member NHS Trusts are:



## *Executive Summary*

Over the past year, the Hep C U Later Engagement Programme has made significant progress in increasing knowledge and awareness for professionals, both with the continued delivery of training (online and face-to-face), but also with the release of the hepatitis C and stigma CPD-accredited online training module 'They said what?!'. This module has proven to be extremely popular with professionals and has seen organic engagement, but it also appears to have been successful in its original aim of prompting professionals to reflect on stigma and importantly, take action.

Other key efforts of the engagement programme have included developing a poster for tattoo shops, the development of the website to include harm reduction and hepatitis B and D information and resources, general practice search tool guidance, and the ongoing efforts to engage various workforces.

Our original work with community drug and alcohol treatment services has now helped 30 NHS community drug and alcohol treatment services reach hepatitis C micro-elimination, with many sustaining it, and many of these sustaining for over two years.

The NHS APA have continued to provide high numbers of testing and thousands of people have been treated for hepatitis C since the start of the Hep C U Later programme. This work is supported by our dashboards, analytics, training, and the use of Cepheid GeneXpert machines (funded by MSD as part of the Hepatitis C Elimination Tender with NHS England). The cartridge re-distribution pilot alone has saved the system thousands of pounds and impressive carbon savings.

Our work towards supporting services to sustain micro-elimination as an ongoing legacy is in full swing, with the release of the sustainability toolkit and the near launch of the portable data dashboard - enabling services to manage their own data as part of 'business as usual' processes moving forward.

We're proud of our progress and are grateful to all partners working with us toward one shared goal - to eliminate hepatitis C. Together, we are making this a reality - improving lives, saving lives, and saying "Hep C U Later".

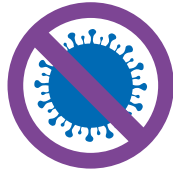
*- Deanne Burch, Programme Lead for Hep C U Later*

# Our Impact at a Glance

Analytical data received from NDTMS data set submissions to Hep C U Later from NHS APA member Trusts.



**45,139** hepatitis C tests across the NHS APA since 2020



**30** NHS APA services reached hepatitis C micro-elimination



Since 2023, **3,110** people have accessed the NHSE hepatitis C testing portal through Hep C U Later website and resources.



**Thousands** of printed resources distributed to hundreds of services



**1,373** resources downloaded in the last year alone.  
**3,932** downloads since 2023.



More than **700** professionals completed our CPD-accredited training



**498** nursing and midwifery university students have received bespoke hepatitis C training



Hep C U Later has supported hepatitis C treatment for **thousands** across the NHS APA

# The Hep C U Later Team

The joint working agreement with Gilead Sciences (ending 31/3/24) provided the following members of the Hep C U Later team<sup>1</sup>:



**Deanne Burch**  
Programme Lead for  
Hep C U Later



**Candie Lincoln**  
Hep C U Later  
Project Manager



**Louise Hansford**  
Hepatitis C Elimination  
Coordinator (South/London)



**Laura Hughes**  
Hepatitis C Elimination  
Coordinator (Midlands/North)



**Tony Mullaney**  
Training & Development  
Coordinator



**Edward Taylor**  
Engagement and  
Communications Officer



**Robert Fair**  
Hep C U Later  
Data Analyst



**Chris Heaps**  
Hep C U Later  
Data Analyst

Hep C U Later have also benefited from additional staff resources via Inclusion, part of Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust<sup>2</sup>:

**Danny Hames:** Head of Inclusion and Chair of the NHS APA

**Grace Masinuka:** Programmes and Communications Lead for Inclusion

**Emily Scott:** Marketing and Communications Team Manager

**Jonathon Platt:** Senior Financial Business Partner

**David Cupit:** Commercial and Information Lead for Inclusion

# *Data*

Pages 9-13

# Data

## Testing

It is important to note that overall hepatitis C testing numbers are much greater than shown, owing to the number of services who have transferred to non-NHS APA providers in the last year due to the inability to access parts of the data.

This data is taken from only current NHS APA member services, and does not take into account any tests taken from NHS APA members who are no longer part of the programme.

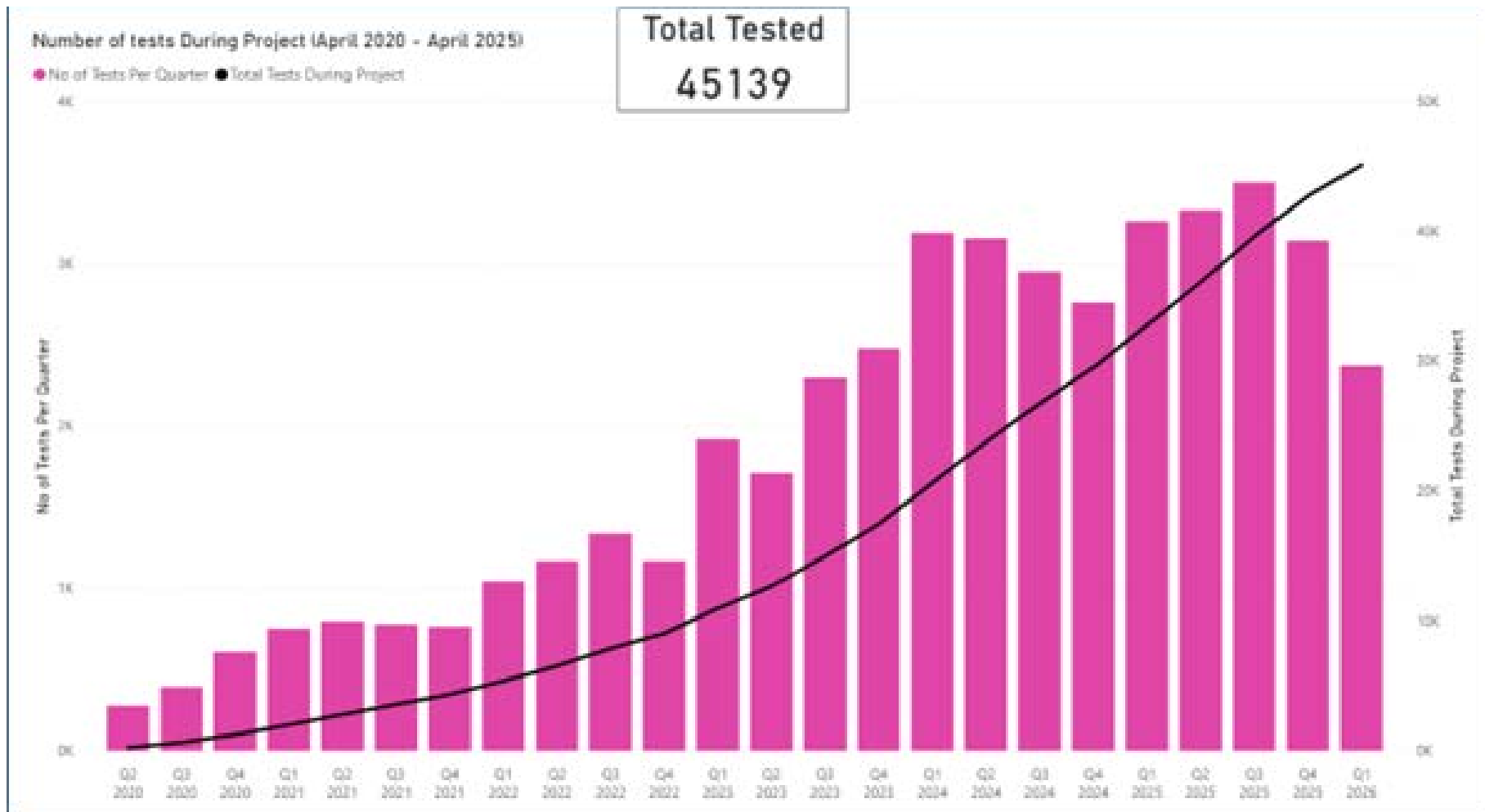
Over **12,344** hepatitis C tests have been completed in the last year

**45,139** hepatitis C tests have been taken over the course of the Hep C U Later project between March 2020 and March 2026

# Data

## Testing

Hepatitis C testing numbers per quarter (March 2020 to March 2026):



# Data

## Treatment

Across the NHS APA, a steady number of people continue to receive hepatitis C treatment. Although 453 people have had their status changed to *cleared by treatment* in the last year, this number is higher due to not taking into account the number of people currently on treatment or awaiting an SVR. It also does not take into account the data of services which have transferred out of the NHS APA.

The current total number of people who have had their status changed to 'cleared by treatment' (with the aforementioned caveats) is **2,777**.

The number of people receiving hepatitis C treatment continues to increase, whilst the number of people with an active hepatitis C infection declines.

Over the last year **453** people had their status changed to 'cleared by treatment' across the NHS APA.

## Portable Dashboard

Over the past year, Chris and Rob have been developing the portable dashboard.

The intention for the portable dashboard is to give NHS community drug and alcohol treatment services the ability to run the dashboards themselves, and is part of the legacy of supporting services to sustain hepatitis C micro-elimination.

## Progress to hepatitis C micro-elimination

As of the end of March 2026...

**The NHS APA have reached *micro-elimination* in 30 community drug and alcohol services**

Many NHS APA services have also re-declared hepatitis C micro-elimination at 6, 12, 18 and 24 months of maintaining it.

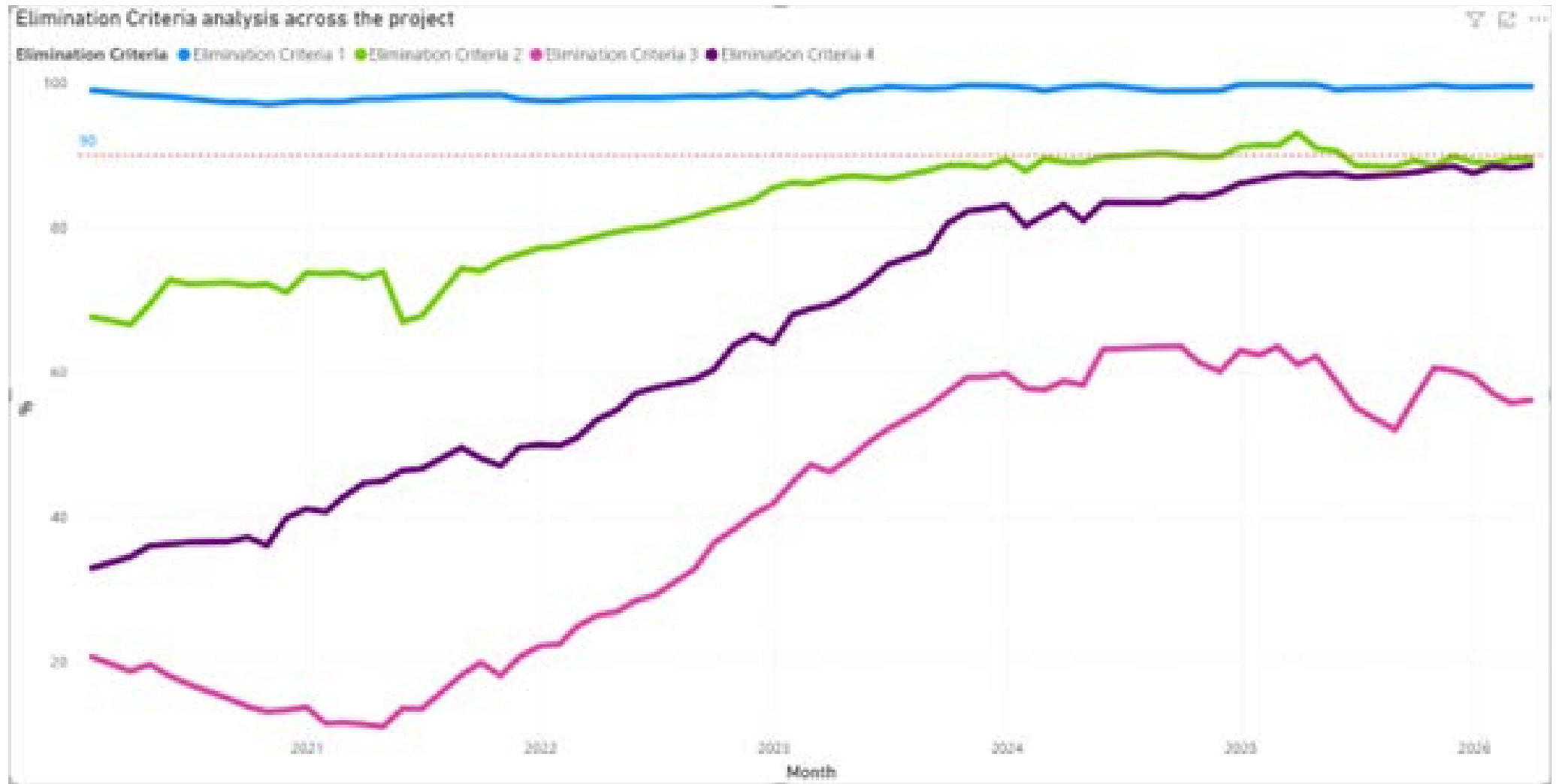
### NHS APA member NHS Trust services who have reached hepatitis C micro-elimination

1. Inclusion Visions Thurrock - 2/6/22
2. Notts Clean Slate - 28/4/23
3. CNWL Hounslow - 28/4/23
4. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (Fareham) - 5/5/23
5. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (Gosport) - 5/5/23
6. Mersey Care Brook Place - 13/6/23
7. Telford STaRS (Inclusion) - 29/6/23
8. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (Eastleigh) - 2/8/23
9. One Recovery Bucks (Inclusion) - 21/8/23
10. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (Aldershot) - 4/9/23
11. CNWL Hillingdon - 11/9/23
12. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (Andover) - 20/9/23
13. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (Havant) - 20/9/23
14. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (New Forest) - 20/9/23
15. BSMHFT SIAS Solihull - 27/9/23
16. Inclusion Isle of Wight - 26/10/23
17. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (Basingstoke) - 26/10/23
18. Inclusion Recovery Hampshire (Winchester) - 26/10/23
19. AWP BaNES - 21/2/24
20. Pennine Care Stockport - 22/2/24
21. Achieve Bury (GMMH) - 12/7/24
22. Notts Shared Care - 30/7/24
23. Richmond (SLaM) - 4/10/24
24. Milton Keynes (CNWL) - 7/10/24
25. Bristol ROADS (AWP) - 15/10/24
26. Trafford (GMMH) - 19/2/25
27. Nottingham Recovery Network - 1/5/25
28. Recovery Near You Wolverhampton (BSMHT) - 11/11/25
29. East Riding, Goole (Humber) - 13/1/26
30. Salford (GMMH) - 30/1/26

The NHS APA has continued to work towards micro-elimination and is increasingly getting closer to meeting these measurements in all its services.

## Progress to hepatitis C micro-elimination

Trajectory of each micro-elimination criteria for the whole of the NHS APA over the period of the project:



# *NHS APA Service Activity*

## Midlands and North

Laura Hughes oversees the Midlands and the North NHS APA services.

Pages 15-22 share an insight into the progress over the last year.

## NHS APA Service Activity

### Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust - Achieve Services: Bolton, Bury, Salford & Trafford

- GMMH held testing events for World Hepatitis Day.
- GMMH were the first NHS Trust to take part in the NHS Addictions Provider Alliance Needle and Syringe Provision Quality Review, a review of all harm reduction services across the NHS community drug and alcohol treatment services.
- GMMH have remained committed to improving harm reduction across their services and within the community. Hep C U Later recently wrote a case study on the posters they have developed to reduce the risk of harm and BBV transmission from snorting cocaine in the night-time economy.
- The Bolton service transferred to another provider in April 2026 but prior to this was very close to reaching micro-elimination.



**GMMH have micro-eliminated  
in three of their services,  
Bury, Trafford and Salford!**

“Laura and Hep C U Later have been brilliant giving instant information and tips and tricks to reach elimination which we did in 3 areas.”

*- Denise Valentine, Harm Reduction  
Co-Ordinator, GMMH*



### NHS APA Service Activity

#### Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust - Stockport:

- Pennine continue to maintain hepatitis C micro-elimination.
- Laura has delivered hepatitis C and micro-elimination criteria refresher training to staff at the service.



Pennine Care declared micro-elimination in January 2024 and continue to re-declare micro-elimination!

“Laura has been really helpful in assisting me to understand the Hep C data, having recently taken over the project in Stockport Drug & Alcohol Services. She explained the data in a really easy to understand format. She has been available whenever I’ve needed support.”

*- Karen Whitehead, Lead Nurse Team Manager,  
Pennine Care*

## NHS APA Service Activity

### Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust - Nottingham Health Shop - Nottingham Recovery Network, Clean Slate & Shared Care:

- The Nottinghamshire services continue to sustain hepatitis C micro-elimination in their services and deliver dynamic approaches to testing, treatment, and harm reduction.
- The Health Shop took part in the NHS Addictions Provider Alliance Needle and Syringe Provision Quality Review, a review of all harm reduction services across the NHS community drug and alcohol treatment services.
- **They were the first full service to declare micro-elimination across all of their services in the ODN.**



Nottingham have declared micro-elimination in all three of their services - Shared Care, Clean Slate and the Nottingham Recovery Network! They continue to re-declare micro-elimination.



## NHS APA Service Activity

### Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust – Wolverhampton (RNY) & Solihull (SIAS):

#### Solihull:

- The service are aiming to confirm they have re-declared micro-elimination for two years.
- The service is committed to testing and finding people that may have hepatitis C as part of their continued commitment towards micro-elimination.



SIAS achieved micro-elimination in September 2023 and continue to re-declare!

#### Wolverhampton:

- Laura has supported the team with educational sessions.
- The service continues to maintain hepatitis C micro-elimination.



Wolverhampton achieved micro-elimination in November 2025!



## NHS APA Service Activity

### East Riding, Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust:

- Laura led a BBV minimum standards meeting across the East Riding Partnership services.
- Laura also attended the celebration event to mark the achievement.
- The Goole service achieved hepatitis C micro-elimination and the remaining services are on track to achieve this milestone.



The Goole service achieved  
micro-elimination in January  
2026!



“The service we receive from all the team at Hep C U Later is great. Without their support we would not be able to interpret the data so efficiently and it would take an awful lot of precious clinical time. With the clear, understandable data provided by Hep C U Later we can present our progress towards micro-elimination to our team members and service commissioners. Laura is our main link worker; she is always there with a friendly smile to answer questions, queries and provide support. Thank you Hep CU Later.”

*- Sian Copeland, East Riding, Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust*

## NHS APA Service Activity

### Inclusion - Staffordshire and Telford

(part of Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust, MPFT):

#### Staffordshire Treatment and Recovery System (STaRS):

- The Hep C U Later team have undertaken extensive data analysis improvement work across the 6 Staffordshire services. Laura has met with key workers across the services to individually review caseloads, actions needed to reach micro-elimination, re-iterate processes around risk reviews, and ensured that staff know exactly how to record data correctly.
- Laura and Tony have also supported with education sessions, testing events, and placed a Cepheid GeneXpert machine at the service.
- A significant operational management plan has been put in place to ensure that the whole system is working toward not only micro-elimination, but also improving access to testing and treatment in the community.
- Staffordshire have started utilising Hepatitis C Trust Peers to distribute needle and syringe provision in the community using stock from the community drug and alcohol treatment service.



#### Telford STaRS:

- Telford held a testing event in their service for World Hepatitis Day.
- Telford took part in the NHS Addictions Provider Alliance Needle and Syringe Provision Quality Review, a review of all harm reduction services across the NHS community drug and alcohol treatment services.
- The Telford service continue to be committed to maintaining hepatitis C micro-elimination.



The Telford service achieved hepatitis C micro-elimination in June 2023 and have re-declared for 2 years!

### *NHS APA Service Activity*

#### **Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (CNTW):**

*The CNTW portfolio is overseen by Louise Hansford*

- Louise presented at the ODN meeting in July 2025.
- Louise and colleagues held a face-to-face BBV minimum standards workshop across CNTW services. With presentations from North East and North Cumbria ODN, UKHSA and The Hepatitis C Trust.
- Louise works closely with The Hepatitis C Trust peers across the region, supporting the recruitment and induction of a dedicated peer for Northumberland and North Tyneside.
- Louise continues to support the development of the Harm Reduction North-East Forum which is led by Mark Roberts from The Hepatitis C Trust. She is now part of the Steering Committee for the North East and North Cumbria Harm Reduction Forum along with representatives from OHID, The Hepatitis C Trust, Hepatology, Newcastle Council and Change Grow Live. There have been 3 very successful forums with around 65-100 people attending online each time. There are now 200 members of the forum.
- Significant data work has taken place across the CNTW patch, this includes cross referencing treatment information from HepCare with the service quarterly.
- Six-weekly senior leadership multi-disciplinary team meetings have been taking place.
- Continued to support the Clinical Van business case and planning with the ODN and key stakeholders. This included sharing Standard Operating Procedures and supporting the implementation of the Cepheid GeneXpert machine. The van arrived in January 2026.
- Delivered 'The Role of Harm Reduction in Reviewing the Risk of Blood Borne Virus Transmission' forums to the whole system in conjunction with another NHS APA member service (Portsmouth).

“On behalf of the Physical Health Team at Plummer Court, we are so thankful for Hep C U Later. They are extremely helpful in our aim to target vulnerable people, give them treatment and provide harm minimisation advice to prevent re-infection.”

*- Katie Butler, Specialist Nurse,  
Newcastle, CNTW*

## *NHS APA Service Activity*

### Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (CNTW):

#### Newcastle:

- The service continue to offer treatment on site and have treated over 45 people this year.
- Deep data work completed, particularly for criteria 4 of the hepatitis C micro-elimination criteria.
- Implemented new processes and close to reaching micro-elimination.

#### North Tyneside:

- Hep C U Later met with senior management in June 2025 to discuss the new service model and establish roles and responsibilities for BBVs.
- Met with Waythrough staff and conducted deep data work.
- Carried out Hep C U Later 'magic data' training with the data team.
- Tony Mullaney delivered training to the staff in June 2025.

#### Northumberland:

- Met with the Public Health Commissioner in Northumberland to discuss needle syringe provision.
- Met with the new treatment nurse for Northumberland and completed deep data work which resulted in them meeting criteria 4 of the micro-elimination criteria for the first time.



# *NHS APA Service Activity*

## **South and London**

Louise Hansford oversees the South and London NHS APA services.

Pages 24-35 share an insight into the progress over the last year.

### *NHS APA Service Activity*

**Inclusion - part of Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT) - Hampshire, Isle of Wight (IOW), Wessex ODN Clinical Van, Buckinghamshire and Portsmouth:**



**Inclusion achieved hepatitis C micro-elimination in all of their services at the time in November 2023! Since then, many services have continued to re-declare!**

“Hep C U Later has been instrumental in supporting Inclusion Recovery Hampshire to maintain Hep C micro-elimination for the last 3 consecutive years. The dashboards and underpinning data that Hep C U Later provide give a clear overview and a clear understanding of what is required at any given time to ensure ME is maintained. Hep C U Later forums, training, resources and on hand support provide a wealth of insight and resource to our services, having a positive impact on patient care.

Implementing the use of FibroScans within Inclusion Hampshire has been another area where Hep C U Later have come into their own. They have provided guidance and direction, supporting FibroScan clinics commencing across some of the Inclusion Hants Services. The continued support and resource that Hep C U Later provide is something that has, and continues to be something that has increased awareness, supported development of processes and most importantly, improved patient care. On a more personal note – I would like to thank Hep C U Later for their support in my own personal and professional development. I have been encouraged and pushed to do things outside of my comfort zone which have given me increased confidence and experience within my role.”

*- Alan Howard, Hants P2P Coordinator, Inclusion Hampshire (MPFT)*

### NHS APA Service Activity

#### Buckinghamshire:

- Delivered micro-elimination update training with the ODN.
- Working closely with the ODN Clinical Van.
- Re-declared micro-elimination after sustaining it for 2 years.
- Met with the ODN to discuss Primary Care work.
- Met with Thames Valley Secure Data environment.



The Buckinghamshire service achieved hepatitis C micro-elimination in August 2023 and have now sustained it for 2 years!

“Louise from Hep C U Later is very responsive and collaborative. She is always happy to be contacted and very helpful, including facilitating sharing the Cepheid GeneXpert machine to enable effective joint working. Her approach to the elimination programme is very much person centred and her passion and care for people is evident.”

*- Lizi Sims, Hepatology Community Nurse Manager*



### *NHS APA Service Activity*

#### Portsmouth:

- Inclusion (MPFT) are subcontractors to the Society of St James (SSJ) in Portsmouth. Hep C U Later have been working with them on their commissioned BBV offer and ways to enhance it.
- Hep C U Later introduced a monthly stakeholder meeting with Local Authority Commissioners, The Hepatitis C Trust, the Wessex Clinical Van and Hepatology.
- Hep C U Later ran a training session with UKHSA for the Portsmouth SSJ Community Team, giving an overview of the history and importance of the UKHSA Unlinked Anonymous Survey of People Who Inject Drugs, and delivering a practical session on how to fill the survey and complete the dry blood spot test. Following this around 40 people were tested, and 17 samples were also sent to UKHSA for the 2026 Unlinked Anonymous Survey of People Who Inject Drugs.
- A significant drive in testing has resulted in Portsmouth being very close to reaching hepatitis C micro-elimination.
- High intensity test and treat weeks undertaken every quarter.
- The service and key stakeholders have been Identifying people who are on the UKHSA Return to Care database and engaging them.
- Pathway development work has taken place with HMP Winchester and HMP Bronzefield.
- A Cepheid GeneXpert machine remains on site, and regular training/confidence building sessions have been provided.
- Dedicated support for women with testing and awareness sessions at Project W.
- INHSU poster presented “One Source of The Truth.”



## NHS APA Service Activity

### Hampshire:

The following Inclusion Hampshire services achieved hepatitis C micro-elimination:

- Andover - September 2023
- Aldershot - September 2023
- Basingstoke - October 2023
- Fareham - May 2023
- Gosport - May 2023
- Havant - September 2023
- Winchester - October 2023
- New Forest - September 2023
- Eastleigh - August 2023



**All of the Inclusion Hampshire services have re-declared hepatitis C micro-elimination after sustaining it for two years!**

- Hep C U Later have been working very closely with the Hep C Hants P2P team.
- The services have been identifying people who are on the UKHSA Return to Care database and engaging them in testing and treatment.
- A FibroScan pilot is being supported by Louise
- An initial meeting has been held to explore how a more formal liver health pathway might support individuals who are going to rehab across the Hampshire area. This pilot will involve working across multiple partners.
- All Inclusion Recovery Hampshire services, including the harm reduction van took part in the NHS Addictions Provider Alliance Needle and Syringe Provision Quality Review, a review of all harm reduction services across the NHS APA member community drug and alcohol treatment services.
- An INHSU abstract was submitted and accepted in partnership with Sheffield Pathology Laboratory on the hepatitis B anomalies in July 2024.

### *NHS APA Service Activity*

#### Isle of Wight (IOW):

- New community pathways developed.
- Regular visits and meetings held.
- Work has taken place on contact tracing for new infections and for people who have been reinfected with the virus.
- The service have been identifying people who are on the UKHSA Return to Care database and engaging them.
- Louise has been working with the service to explore developing the FibroScan and liver health monitoring offer. Work is underway to explore whether a further offer can be given to those at risk of liver disease through alcohol dependence and high alcohol consumption. This offer will include enhanced health and psychosocial work in the IOW.



The Isle of Wight service achieved hepatitis C micro-elimination in October 2023 and have sustained this for 2 years!

#### Wessex Clinical Van:

The Wessex clinical van is a Wessex ODN initiative which supports outreach hepatitis C testing and treatment across the region. The staff team operating the van are managed by Inclusion with operational oversight from Louise, therefore, it has been included in this report.

- Hep C U Later continued to provide strategic and operational support to the Wessex Clinical Van.
- Ran new GP projects in Portsmouth and Southampton to find people coded as 'hep C +' - to date over 75 people have been started on treatment - some of whom would not have been found otherwise. Dr Nick Ballyatyne, Wessex ODN GP Champion, has developed a programme for the GP Trainees in the area which has been very successful.
- Chris Heaps has also been working on making regular reports much more automated, so that the data analyst from the Wessex Clinical Van team can produce the van team reports.
- The Wessex Clinical Van team provided an awareness and education session at the Southampton Civic Centre for World Health Day in April 2025.
- The Wessex Clinical Van released their 24/25 impact report in January 2025. It can be viewed here: [Wessex-Clinical-Van-Annual-Report-2024-2025.pdf](#)

### *NHS APA Service Activity*

#### Central & North West London NHS Foundation Trust (CNWL) – Hounslow, Ealing, Hillingdon, Brent, Milton Keynes

- Hep C U Later coordinate the dashboards for Hillingdon, Hounslow and Milton Keynes and have supported Via with Brent and CGL with Ealing.
- Supported Ealing to declare hepatitis C micro-elimination.
- Louise attended Senior Management Meetings to update and agree strategies.
- ‘Cost of Elimination Model’ developed by Gilead Sciences using Hounslow to do the modelling.

#### Hounslow:

- Maintained micro-elimination for 2 years.
- Poster presented at INHSU on the ‘Cost of Elimination Model’.
- Regular meetings with Data Lead and service.
- Bespoke training sessions were delivered.
- Hep C U Later linked the Find and Treat Team with the service.
- Quarterly Hounslow & Hillingdon Individualised Care Plans multi stakeholder meetings with ODN for the people with complex needs.



Hillingdon achieved micro-elimination in September 2023 and have maintained this for 2 years! Milton Keynes achieved hepatitis C micro-elimination in October 2024 and have re-declared for a year! The CNWL services in their entirety have micro-eliminated hepatitis C!

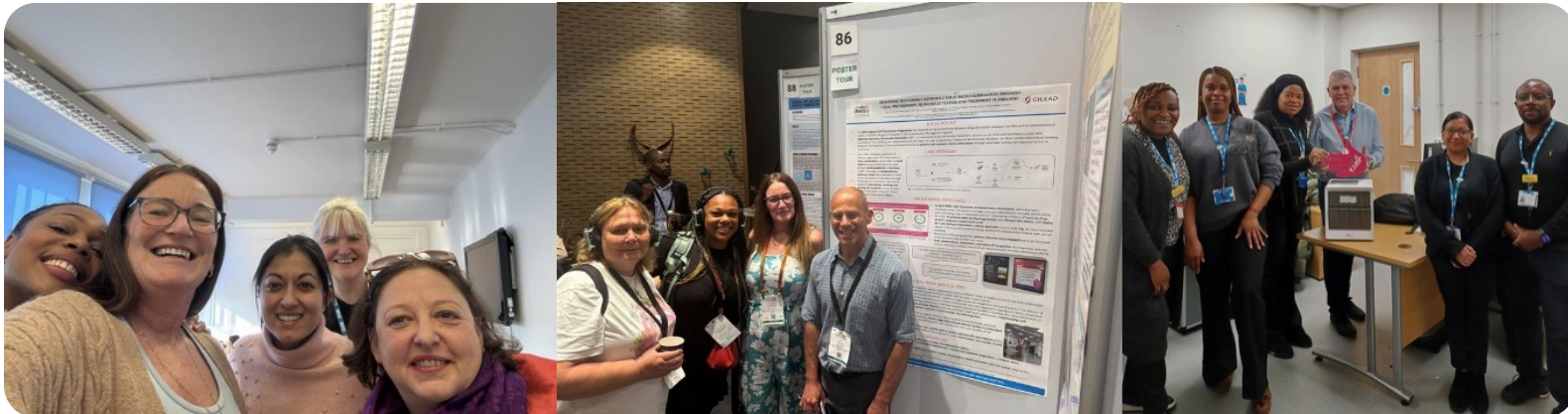
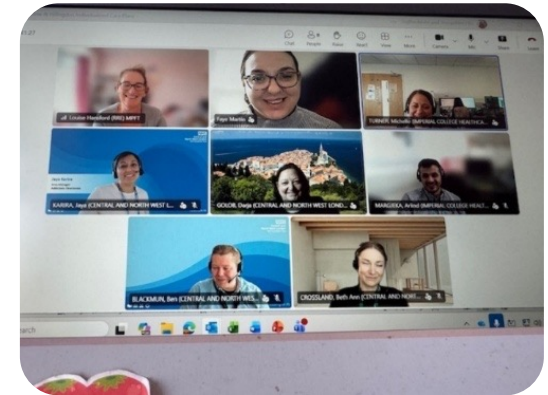
## NHS APA Service Activity

### Hillingdon:

- Redeclared hepatitis C micro-elimination for 2 years and processes were put in place to sustain this.
- Regular stakeholder meetings held.

### Milton Keynes:

- Project board continues to be held.
- New roles and responsibilities developed due to a new contract at Milton Keynes.
- System development put in place to re-declare hepatitis C micro-elimination.
- Utilisation of the ODN Clinical Van.
- Milton Keynes used the Cepheid GeneXpert machine.
- The service is working closely with the ODN.



### *NHS APA Service Activity*

#### **South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust - Richmond, Wandsworth, Lambeth, Bexley (SLaM):**

Louise has worked with the SLaM senior management to improve outcomes across all of the SLaM services, having presented on progress to micro-elimination at their senior management team meeting in January 2026.

#### **Richmond and Wandsworth:**

- The service and Hep C U Later are working with ODN and service to increase activity.
- Historic testing has been updated.
- Hep C U Later have delivered training to the teams.
- Supported the induction of the new nurse lead.
- Hep C U Later have been supporting the development of new testing contract.
- Deep data work and test updating has taken place.

#### **Bexley:**

- Presented at the Bexley Combatting Drugs Partnership meeting.
- Meetings held with Public Health and the GP Champion.
- Supported Primary Care work in the area.
- Very close to reaching hepatitis C micro-elimination.

#### **Lambeth:**

- Regular work on data anomalies carried out.
- Deep data work carried out to review people who have a positive antibody status.
- Plans to complete a large data cleanse, then a High Intensity Test and Treat event.



**Richmond micro-eliminated hepatitis C in October 2024!**

### *NHS APA Service Activity*

#### Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust – BaNES (Bath), Bristol Roads and Dorset (AWP):

- Louise presented the Hep C U Later journey of Bristol and Bath at the ODN meeting.
- The Bath service re-declared hepatitis C micro-elimination after sustaining it for 1 year.
- Louise handed over Bath and Bristol to Turning Point and had several meetings to ensure continuity of care for people and data integrity. Funding was also secured for a Hepatitis C Assertive Engagement Worker based at BDP.
- Louise continues to work with the Bristol ODN on Primary Care and Emergency Department Opt-Out Testing initiatives to reach people who are not in community drug and alcohol treatment services including CBT projects and development work.



#### Dorset:

- Hep C U Later handed over the monthly reporting to Waythrough (new lead provider), however, Hep C U Later provide ongoing support with ad-hoc data and their clinical system.
- Hep C U Later created a trend analysis presentation.
- Regular Pan Dorset stakeholder meetings held.
- Supporting with testing in rural areas.
- Identifying people who are on the UKHSA Return to Care database and engaging them in testing.
- Ran the GP records search tool in Weymouth surgery.

### *NHS APA Service Activity*

#### **Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust – i Access North West, i Access South West, i Access East (SaBP):**

- Monthly meetings held with the Clinical Lead and Data Leads.
- Deep data work carried out with criteria 4 of the hepatitis C micro-elimination criteria and supported changes to business as usual processes in the reporting of hepatitis C RNA results.
- Surrey are very close to achieving hepatitis C micro-elimination in one service, however the service want to declare micro-elimination across the whole portfolio.
- Rob and Louise have completed a data dive to explore data anomalies.



### *NHS APA Service Activity*

#### Essex Partnership University NHS Trust (EPUT):

- Hep C U Later welcomed Essex Partnership University NHS Trust in July 2025 and commenced working with them to understand the system and key partnership with Open Road Essex
- Worked with the whole system and commissioners to design a bespoke system dashboard on their data.
- Education and testing events have been carried out at the service.
- The Essex team got fully involved with promoting the NHS hepatitis C testing portal for World Hepatitis Day.
- Hep C U Later delivered hepatitis C elimination training to all of Essex STaRS and plan to deliver this to Open Road Essex teams.
- Hep C U Later have suggested changes to business as usual processes in relation to the approach to the 'Assessed as not appropriate to test/re-test' NDTMS status.

“The monthly updates are consistently clear, informative, and they are very helpful in keeping us up to date of progress and key developments. I particularly value the dashboards, which provide meaningful insight into the data, clearly highlighting discrepancies and helping to identify priority areas for focused action. This has been especially useful in supporting our contribution of data and aligning efforts towards micro-elimination goals.

I have met with the team several times over the past year, and I have always found these discussions to be open, constructive, and genuinely collaborative with the shared aim of achieving hepatitis C micro-elimination within the community.”

*- Georgia Bunn, Data & Performance Manager, Open Road Essex*

### NHS APA Service Activity

#### East London Foundation Trust (ELFT):

- Louise and Tony Mullaney delivered bespoke hepatitis C training to 67 staff across the ELFT services.
- Tony delivered Cepheid GeneXpert training to the team and machine placed in service.
- In February 2026 Tony and Louise spent two days with the staff at the Bedford service completing 29 tests and starting two people on treatment.
- Hep C U Later delivered Hep C U Later dashboard and 'magic data' training to staff.
- The teams have met with the ODN and Hepatitis C Trust Peer Support Lead.

“Hep C U Later has been an invaluable partner to P2R Drug and Alcohol Services helping us better engage our clients who may otherwise face barriers to care. The programme’s proactive and flexible approach has strengthened pathways into testing and treatment, improving outcomes for our service users.”

*- Lilian Rance, BBV and Physical Health Specialist Nurse, Path 2 Recovery (P2R) Bedford and Central Bedfordshire, ELFT*



# Cepheid GeneXpert Machines

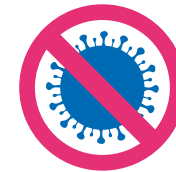
Hep C U Later's growing body of resources, learning and expertise in effectively using Cepheid GeneXpert machines (*funded by MSD as part of the Hepatitis C Elimination Tender with NHS England*) across England, led to the creation of the [Cepheid web page](#).



**3767** tests  
have been  
completed.



**483** HCV Positive results,  
of which **121** were  
confirmed as reinfections,  
with over **450** confirmed  
treatment starts.



**159** Spontaneous  
Clearance of the  
virus confirmed.



**758** SVR tests  
(sustained viral response  
to treatment).

*Please note some people will have  
had several tests completed.*



**29** different services  
have benefited from  
access to Hep C U Later's  
GeneXpert machine loan  
and support offer.

“We have found the Cartridge Waste Management Project extremely valuable. Just this week, we were able to share two boxes (20 cartridges) with the East Kent team, ensuring they could be used before expiry... This initiative has helped us avoid waste, support our ODN services, and contribute to cost savings and sustainability. Thank you once again for your support and for leading such an important initiative.”

*- Carlos Moro, ECHO and Engagement Manager, (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes),  
Liver - Viral Hepatitis, Kings College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust*

# Cepheid GenExpert Machines



# Cepheid GeneXpert Machines

## Cepheid GeneXpert Cartridge Re-distribution Pilot

Last year, Hep C U Later took the lead in re-distributing Cepheid GeneXpert cartridges which were due to expire across the national hepatitis C network.

- **240** cartridges re-distributed and saved from going to waste
- **£7,200** of cost savings to system
- **10.267kg** of carbon savings

Through leading this project, Hep C U Later are actively reducing the cost burden on the NHS and other organisations, and are reducing unnecessary waste alongside our green sustainability principles.

Hep C U Later presented this work at the Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust Sustainability Event in October 2025, and have written a national learning pilot report which can be viewed by clicking the link below.

 [Cepheid-Cartridge-Waste-Management-Project-Pilot.pdf](#)

## Cepheid Cartridge GeneXpert Machine Placements

Over the last year the Cepheid GeneXpert machine has been placed in **5** community drug and alcohol treatment services.

# Partnerships

Reaching hepatitis C elimination in England requires a whole system approach. We are proud to collaborate and work alongside multiple partners.

“I’d like to highlight the fantastic support you’ve given the Cheshire and Merseyside ODN. Your commitment has made a real difference, especially in guiding sites towards achieving micro-elimination in our addiction services. The encouragement and expertise you’ve offered across hepatitis C education have been invaluable specifically with point of care, helping the team feel empowered and well-informed. Your positive approach and dedication continue to support our progress and collaboration throughout the network as we try to meet the WHO targets.”

*- David Byrne, Programme Manager,  
Cheshire & Merseyside Hepatitis ODN*

“Laura has been super helpful in providing practical cepheid training & support for the team at HMP Birmingham and plans to revisit to train more members of staff and answer any questions. The feedback from the team at HMP Birmingham was that the session was well received and Laura’s flexibility and expertise was much appreciated.”

*- Faith Cullen, Birmingham ODN*

“The South Yorkshire HCV ODN has really appreciated the support of Laura Hughes and the wider Hep C U Later programme and their contributions to the elimination programme in South Yorkshire. We have particularly valued their expertise in supporting drug recovery services with organisational training and data monitoring and especially for their efforts with services in Doncaster. We have also benefited from their accumulated learning as a national programme that they have generously shared at our local ODN meetings as well as their contributions to national meetings and webinars.”

*- Anthony Bains, Hepatitis C ODN Manager, South  
Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and North Derbyshire*

“Louise from Hep C U Later is very responsive and collaborative. She is always happy to be contacted and very helpful, including facilitating sharing the Cepheid machine to enable effective joint working. Her approach to the elimination programme is very much person centred and her passion and care for people is evident.”

*- Elizabeth Sims, Hepatology Community Nurse Manager,  
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*

# Partnerships

Reaching hepatitis C elimination in England requires a whole system approach. We are proud to collaborate and work alongside multiple partners.

“Hep C U Later have been imperative in our ODN’s work towards micro-elimination. Laura’s outstanding work at coordinating meetings and collaborating with other organisations has made a massive difference within our local Addiction Services and how they now implement the OHID BBV minimum standards., something the ODN definitely could not have rolled out so effectively without the support and direction from Hep C U Later. We have also seen value in smaller initiatives, such as reducing wastage of expiring Cepheid cartridges by setting up national communications to share stock.”

*- Kasey, Service Manager,  
Hepatitis C Humberside and North Yorkshire ODN*



“It was a pleasure working with the Wessex Clinical Van team on our qualitative interview study with patients focused on hepatitis C re engagement with care. The team’s substantial involvement in recruitment and interviewing was instrumental in gaining rich insights into the barriers and facilitators to re engagement. I learned a great deal from this collaboration and would welcome the opportunity to work together again in the future.”

*- Carina Hoerst, Senior Behavioural Scientist  
at UKHSA*



“The Hep C U Later programme is an outstanding example of quality improvement done well, combining a clear and compelling vision with strong identity, values-based working and a genuine commitment to co-production and relationships. Its ability to build momentum, share and spread learning, use meaningful measurement, and pair thoughtful communications and marketing with practical improvement approaches is impressive. Delivered with enthusiasm in bucketloads, Hep C U Later shows how purposeful, people centred QI can change lives, support staff and accelerate progress towards eliminating hepatitis C as a public health threat.”

*- John Costello, Head of Continuous Quality Improvement, Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust, and  
Staffordshire/Stoke-on-Trent and Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin joint Integrated Care System Quality Improvement Network*



# Partnerships

Reaching hepatitis C elimination in England requires a whole system approach. We are proud to collaborate and work alongside multiple partners.

“As Peer Support Lead for Wessex, collaboration and teamwork sit at the heart of everything we do to find, test and support people living with hepatitis C. Our work is built on strong relationships between peer supporters, clinical partners, outreach teams, host services and commissioners, all working together with a shared commitment to eliminating Hep C and reducing health inequalities.

Peer support plays a vital role in reaching people who are often least likely to engage with traditional services. By working alongside outreach teams, drug and alcohol services, homelessness services, prisons and community settings, we are able to meet people where they are, build trust through shared lived experience, and support conversations about testing and treatment in a way that feels safe and non judgemental. This collaborative approach helps to break down fear, stigma and misinformation, making testing more accessible and acceptable.

Once someone is diagnosed, teamwork becomes even more important. Peer supporters work closely with clinical teams to provide practical and emotional support throughout the treatment journey. This includes attending appointments when needed, helping people understand their treatment, supporting adherence, and staying connected during what can be a challenging time. Having consistent peer support alongside responsive clinical care greatly increases confidence, engagement and completion of treatment.

The strength of the programme lies in how well partners work together. Open communication, mutual respect and shared problem solving ensure that no one falls through the gaps. Whether it's coordinating outreach testing, fast tracking referrals or responding flexibly to individual needs, this joined up way of working has enabled many people to start and complete treatment who may otherwise have been lost to follow up.

Through partnership and peer led support, Wessex continues to play a key role in supporting the Hep C U Later programme's goals. Together, we are not only finding and treating hepatitis C, but also empowering people, rebuilding trust in services and supporting long term engagement with health and wellbeing.”

- Clive Williams, Peer Support Lead, Hepatitis C Trust



### Wessex GP Work

Louise recruited the Wessex GP Champion back in 2024. Dr Nick Ballantyne has been a huge advocate for Hep C U Later and has embraced the quest for hepatitis C micro-elimination across general practice.

Louise, the Wessex Clinical Van team, and Dr Ballantyne have been able to engage with general practice sites to provide education and support. In one site in Portsmouth, they engaged with the patient search identification tool to scan records, identify need for additional testing, give support to those who had not yet had treatment, and update records. This work led to submitting an abstract to INHSU 2025 and a poster presentation.



### Hattersley GP Testing Event Pilot

In collaboration with multiple partners, Laura supported a testing event at the Hattersley General Practice, which saw **98** hepatitis C tests being completed on the day.

You can read about their learning in the report below.

[Click here to read](#)



### GP Champion Support

Hep C U later have managed to meet with many of the newer NHSE-led GP Champions, providing them with printed and digital resources they need for primary care work - providing advice around the use of the patient search tool and linking them in to other parts of the national system.

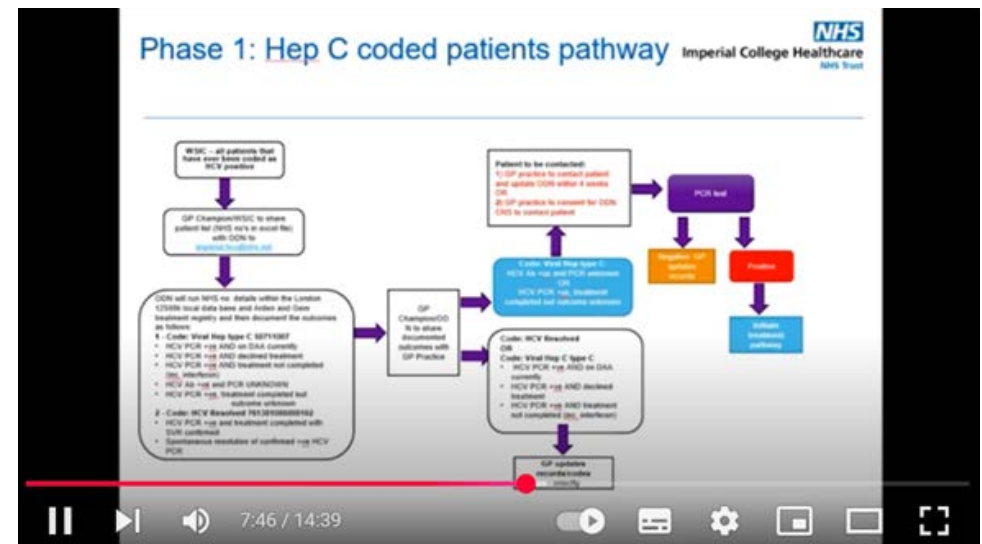
### Inclusion Health Practices

A joint letter from Hep C U Later and NHSE was sent out to 84 Inclusion health practices, alongside printed resources for patients, and a QR code for the Hep C U Later CPD-accredited training.

### Patient Search Tool Case Study and Web Pages

To further support general practice with identifying people in their service who may have been at risk of hepatitis C, Hep C U Later developed a case study presentation with Dr Lyndsey Williams on how she had used the patient search tool. Click below to read.

 [Hepatitis C Case Finding in a North West London Primary Care Pilot](#)



Additionally, Hep C U Later created three web pages to host three videos, courtesy of the Cheshire and Merseyside ODN, which could be used to add links to a patient text message alongside the testing portal link.

 **Video 1:** <https://www.hepculater.com/hepatitis-c-testing-page-1/>

 **Video 2:** <https://www.hepculater.com/hepatitis-c-testing-page-2/>

 **Video 3:** <https://www.hepculater.com/hepatitis-c-testing-page-3/>

Hep C U Later delivered the following Practitioner's Forums:

### Barriers and Facilitators to hepatitis B testing, treatment and vaccination in drug treatment services

This meeting, held in June 2025, was aimed at exploring the barriers and facilitators in relation to hepatitis B within community drug and alcohol treatment services.

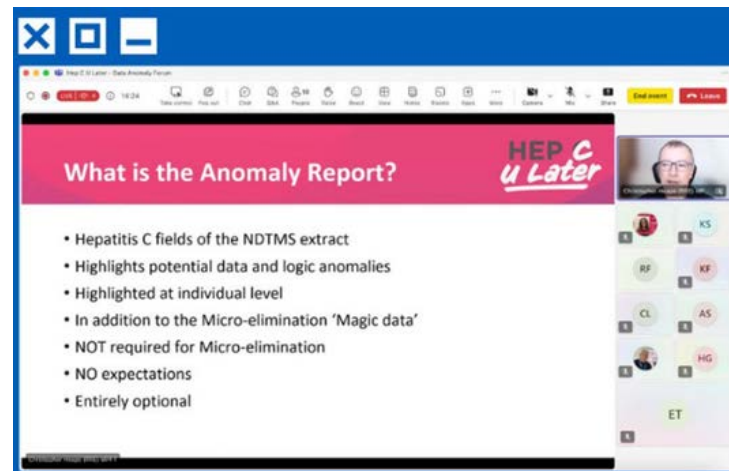
A national learning report was released giving considerations and recommendations for hepatitis B care improvement, which you can read below.

 <https://www.hepculater.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Barriers-Case-Study-v1-Draft.pdf>

### Data Anomaly Forum

Chris Heaps and Robert Fair held a Data Forum following the introduction of the Hep C U Later anomaly report aimed at improving data quality across NHS APA services.

It was followed up with a bulletin to all services featuring the key learning.



### Reviewing Harm Reduction Risk Forums

These meetings were run for specific NHS APA services, however, a recording of this is now available on the website.

Specifically, the meeting aimed to recap on how to review BBV risk in the context of micro-elimination criteria 3 and the 'assessed as not appropriate to test/re-test' field.

# National Work

## Return to Care

Louise has worked with the Wessex ODN for several years to re-engage people into hepatitis C treatment. In 2025, this work progressed through collaboration with UKHSA to refine data on people with no recorded outcomes, supported by input from the Find and Treat team and ODN.

To date, over 35 people have been treated and 28 outstanding SVRs completed. Ongoing work focuses on refining datasets, matching NHS numbers and identifying individuals lost to follow-up. This has included developing new data-matching methods and identifying 161 previously unreported test results. Louise continues to lead on improving the accuracy of patient records.

## CBT Pilot

The Hep C U Later capillary blood pilot, in partnership with UK Health Security Agency Bristol laboratory, has shown remarkable outcomes - especially in turnaround times for genotypes and hepatitis C re-treatment.



## FibroScan Survey

Hep C U Later supported NHSE with an ODN and drug treatment sector-wide survey of FibroScans, analysing the data and reporting back to NHSE to highlight different pathway approaches, areas of need and gaps in provision.

 [FibroScan-Census-2025-final.pdf](#)

## Hepatitis C Trust - Sustaining Success

The Hep C U Later team inputted into the various stakeholder working groups around sustaining hepatitis C elimination. You can read the Hepatitis C Trust report by clicking the link below.

[Click here to read](#)

## Wales

Hep C U Later were happy to support Public Health Wales with altering some already existing resources so they could be used on a wider scale. Additionally, Hep C U Later have shared key learning with health board and community drug and alcohol treatment services in Wales on the development of the hepatitis C micro-elimination criteria.

# National Work

## UKHSA Research

Louise was the Principle Investigator for a UKHSA Qualitative Study and together, the team carried out 20 research interviews on the barriers and facilitators to engaging and re-engaging people with viral hepatitis C healthcare.

This was highly successful and the majority of participants came from the *Return to Care* list, which then offered a wealth of intelligence to the wider team.



## Recovery Project Pilot

In an effort to focus on reaching people who may not have ever engaged with community drug and alcohol services, or not attended 12 step fellowships, Tony and Louise set up the Recovery Project. The Recovery Project aimed to offer basic awareness and testing through sharing posts from a comms pack.

The comms pack was launched with safeguards, key signposting info, key messages and graphics aimed at 3 key groups. The pack was launched during May's European testing week and from feedback received, it had an extremely high uptake. Many people chose to repost content rather than use the pack. However, there were many who also reported going on to order a test. Some people shared photos of themselves taking the test, and others shared quotes.

Here are some of the quotes people shared on their social media pages:

“I used the NHS Hep C home testing kit and had a great experience. The kit arrived quickly in the mail and had everything needed: a small plastic vial for the blood, three fingerpricks, an alcohol swab, a plaster, and a prepaid return box with a sticker to seal it. The test was easy to do. I just pricked my finger and gently massaged the blood into the vial. The instructions were clear and simple to follow.”

“I got my results back really quickly by text. It was quick, simple, and stress free. I'd recommend it to anyone who needs to get a test.”

“Sending it back was a very simple process, I just sealed the box with the plastic seal and posted it.”

A link to the comms pack can be found below.

 [Recovery-Project-Social-Media-Plan-Final.pdf](#)

# National Work

## Needle and Syringe Provision Quality Review

On behalf of the NHS APA, Hep C U Later have undertaken a review of the NSP services delivered in community drug and alcohol treatment services (across members of the NHS APA).

The purpose of the NSP quality review is to:

- Review the current harm reduction provision
- Identify gaps or areas for improvement
- Pull out good practice
- Identify where resources can be shared which benefit other NHS services
- Provide areas of focus for wider NHS APA work

## NSP Hepatitis C Trust Peer Distribution

Hep C U Later supported Inclusion (MPFT) with setting up an agreement with the Hepatitis C Trust, to enable peers to collect NSP from services and distribute this in the community.

A blog about the implementation process can be read via the link below.

 [Click here to read the blog.](#)

All of the resources developed by Inclusion can be shared with other organisations and Hep C U Later are in talks with other NHS services to discuss implementing this in other areas.

## Connecting Stakeholders

Hep C U Later's vast growing network means connections can be made across services from different parts of the country. This means that organisations can share information and resources - reducing the burden they might have from doing work in isolation.

Some examples of the type of linkage work which gives organisations additional benefit are:

- Connecting a community drug and alcohol treatment service to another NHS Trust who provide smoking cessation services to support their implementation of this type of service.
- Connecting two community drug and alcohol treatment services that share a border so they can collaboratively share vital information about needle and syringe provision which may affect people attending their services.
- Connecting pharmacists from NHS Trusts to a pharmacy alliance in Scotland.
- Sharing experiences from pilot projects, for example the roll out of hepatitis C testing wallet cards in needle and syringe packs commenced in Buckinghamshire, but has now spread across all Inclusion (MPFT) services and talks are being had about rolling this out in other Trusts.

## *National Work*

Hep C U Later have supported the NHS APA with the development of a 'Compassion for the Older Person who Uses Drugs' toolkit for staff, which features a component on blood borne viruses.

Hep C U Later supported Inclusion (MPFT) with the development of a HIV educational workbook for staff as part of their wider commitment to reducing blood borne viruses.

Hep C U Later have been engaging with Substancy, a Cranstoun based organisation, to ensure their AI based software includes key information and resources about hepatitis C. Their software now has information about where to get a hepatitis C test anywhere in the UK.

Inclusion's (MPFT) sexual health services operating in the Midlands have added key Hep C U Later resources and links to their websites, including the link to the hepatitis C testing portal.

# Resources for Professionals

## Printed Resources - Distributed and Downloaded

Professionals continue to order printed materials, linked to the hepatitis C testing portal, by emailing [connect.HepCULater@mpft.nhs.uk](mailto:connect.HepCULater@mpft.nhs.uk). Printed resources were also distributed via various conferences.



**1,373** resources  
downloads in the  
last year



**3,932** total  
resource downloads  
since 2023



*Thousands* of printed materials  
have been distributed across  
England, and to every county.



This year, our printed  
resources were sent to *over*  
**100** general practice sites.

**Are you worried about hepatitis C?** **HEP C u Later**

- Hepatitis C is spread by blood to blood contact with someone who has the virus.
- You could have hepatitis C without symptoms.
- If untreated, it can cause damage and cancer to the liver.
- It can be cured with simple treatment.

**You could be at risk of hepatitis C if you have ever:**

- Had unprotected sex with someone who may have had hepatitis C, especially if there were opportunities for blood to blood contact.
- Shared needles or other equipment used for injecting drugs.
- Received a blood transfusion before 1996.
- Had dental or medical treatment abroad in unsterile conditions.
- Had a piercing, tattoo, electrolysis, semi-permanent make up or acupuncture using equipment which may have not been sterilised.

For a free test scan here: 

For more info visit [www.hepculater.com](http://www.hepculater.com)

**HEP C u Later**

**Treatment:**  
Hepatitis C can be cured with a course of simple tablets which are highly effective. This normally involves taking one tablet a day for 8-12 weeks.  
Treatment is available to everyone.  
12 weeks after your treatment finishes a further test will be taken to check that treatment has been effective.

To order a free hepatitis C testing kit to be delivered to your home, scan the QR code below, or visit: [hepculater.com/get-tested/](http://hepculater.com/get-tested/)



**Hepatitis C**  
Everything you need to know

*"After finding out I had hep C, I started treatment, the treatment didn't have any impact on my life. I would say to anyone get treated, it gave me peace of mind and can stop the progression of liver damage that can lead to cirrhosis and possible cancer."*  
Patient

*"I found treatment really easy to take and it did not impact my life I had no side effects what so ever, in fact I did notice both my appetite and mental health improve. I would say to anyone considering treatment - give yourself a chance at a better quality of life."*  
Patient

**Support:**  
Support is available for anyone affected by hepatitis C through The Hepatitis C Trust's confidential phone number: **020 7089 6221**



**HEP C u Later**

**Hepatitis C can be cured with a simple course of tablets.**

**Get tested today.**

Scan the QR code to order a test.



# Resources for Professionals

## Hepatitis C Testing Portal

All printed materials have a QR code linked to the hepatitis C testing portal, additionally there is an 'order a test' button on every page of the Hep C U Later website.

Since their introduction **3,110 people** have accessed the NHS hepatitis C testing portal through the Hep C U Later resources and website, with **843 people** in the last year.

## Digital Resources Created in the Last Year *(click to view)*



### [Cepheid GeneXpert Cartridge Waste Management Pilot Report](#)



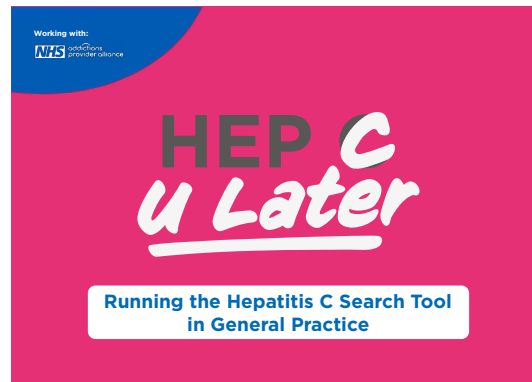
### [Hepatitis C Sustainability Toolkit](#)



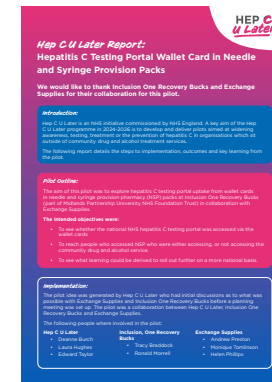
### [University Engagement National Learning Report](#)



### [Hattersley GP Practice Event Pilot Report](#)



### [Hepatitis C Search Tool Guidance](#)



### [Hepatitis C Testing Cards in Needle and Syringe Packs Pilot](#)

# Resources for Professionals

Digital Resources Created in the Last Year *(click to view)*



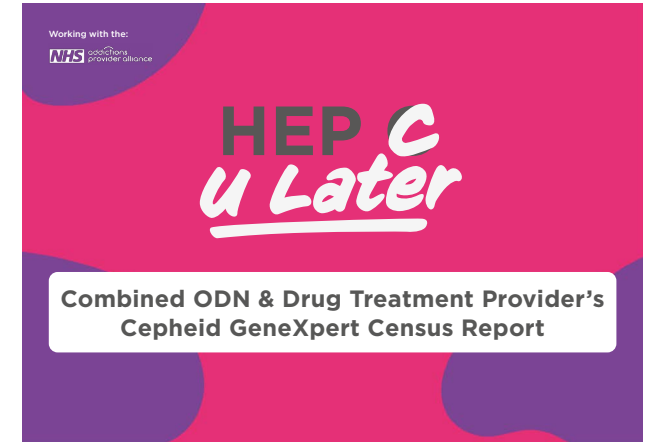
[Hepatitis B Barriers and Solutions in Community Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services](#)



[Tattoo Poster](#)



[Fibroscan Census National Learning Report](#)



[Cepheid GeneXpert National Survey Report](#)

# Case Studies, Podcasts and Videos

The Hep C U Later Engagement Programme highlights the people and organisations driving innovation and progress in hepatitis C elimination.

## Podcasts & Case Studies Created in the Last Year



[Gwent Community Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service Case Study](#)



[Improving Needle and Syringe Provision Across Community Pharmacies](#)



[Hepatitis B in England: Progress, Challenges and the System Wide Approach Needed for Elimination Blog](#)

## Videos Created in the Last Year



[Mo's Story](#)



[Carol's Story](#)



[Michael's Story](#)



[Tony's Story](#)



[Dr Lyndsey Williams' video on how to use the patient search tool case study](#)

Three videos (courtesy of the Cheshire and Merseyside ODN), each with their own webpage on the Hep C U Later website. These videos can be used to add links to a patient text message alongside the testing portal link:



[Video 1](#)



[Video 2](#)




[Video 3](#)


# Harm Reduction Series

## Harm Reduction Content Created in the Last Year

 [Blog: Expanding needle and syringe provision in the community](#)

 [Blog: Anabolic steroids](#)

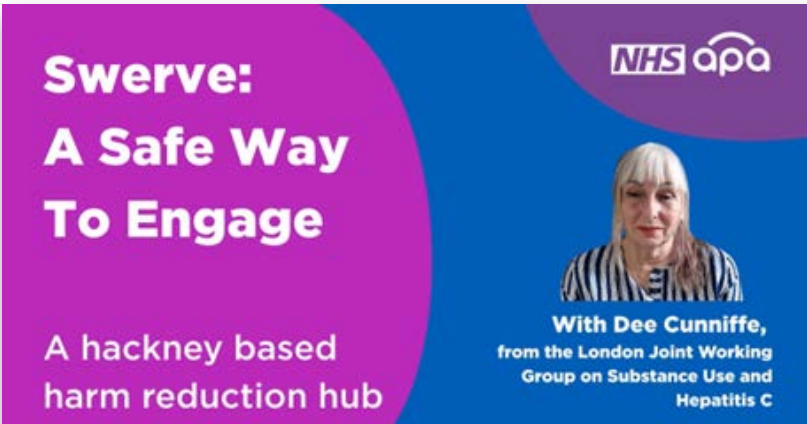
 [Blog: Liver disease in community drug and alcohol treatment services](#)

 [Case study: Compassionately driving improvement in the quality of needle and syringe provision](#)

 [Case study: Improving pharmacy needle and syringe provision](#)

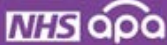
 [SWERVE Hackney Harm Reduction Hub Video 1](#)


 [SWERVE Hackney Harm Reduction Hub Video 2](#)



**Swerve:  
A Safe Way  
To Engage**

A hackney based  
harm reduction hub





With Dee Cunniffe,  
from the London Joint Working  
Group on Substance Use and  
Hepatitis C

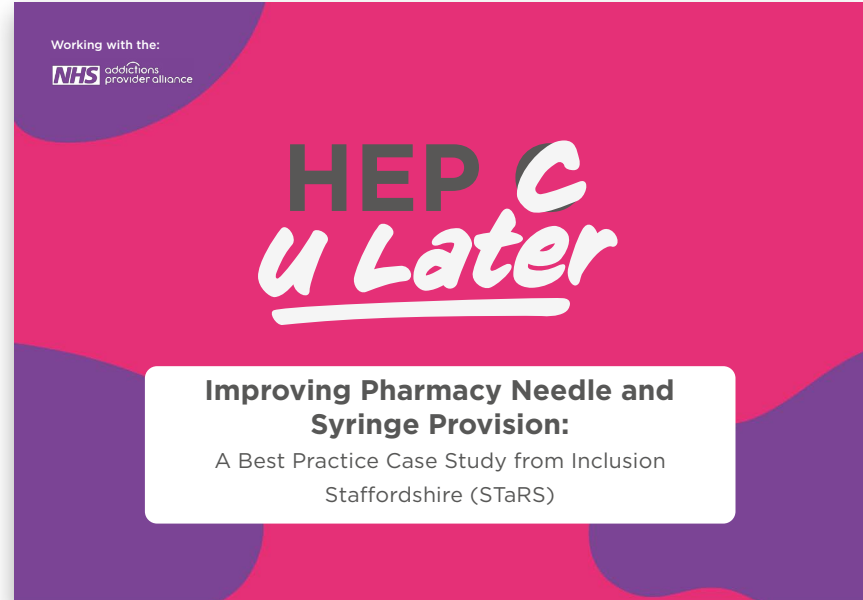



Working with the:  


# HEP C u Later

**Compassionately driving improvement in the quality of needle and syringe provision**

A conversation with Clare Hatherley, Harm Reduction Lead for Inclusion Recovery Hampshire community drug and alcohol services, and Lou Wilkins, Team Leader for The Health Shop in Nottingham



Working with the:  


# HEP C u Later

**Improving Pharmacy Needle and Syringe Provision:**

A Best Practice Case Study from Inclusion Staffordshire (STaRS)

# Detect and Protect

In 2025, Hep C U Later received additional funding from Gilead Sciences to develop key hepatitis B materials and undertake hepatitis B engagement work. **This included:**

## Hepatitis B Infographic Pack

Due to be published in June 2026.

## Hepatitis B Leaflet

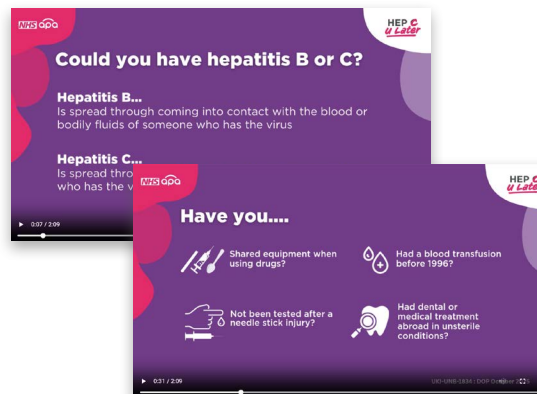
The leaflet has been distributed to a range of organisations and services and is now included in the standard pack of resources. Since creation in late 2025, 425 leaflets have been distributed across primary care and community drug and alcohol treatment services.

Click the image to view and download.



## Hepatitis B TV Screen Graphics for Waiting Areas

Click the image to view and download.



## Hepatitis B Communications and Engagement Plan

Elements of this plan have been used to engage people with the hepatitis B-related materials.

## Attendance and Exhibitions at 2 Key Conferences

Following extensive engagement with professionals, GPs said they would benefit from increased information around hepatitis B and how to manage and support people affected by hepatitis B.

The majority said that bite-sized CPD-accredited training and detailed information and resources contained in one place would also be most beneficial (e.g. toolkits).

## Hepatitis B Social Media Campaign

Hep C U Later have regularly posted content raising awareness and knowledge of hepatitis B.

# Engagement

Since launching the Hep C U Later programme, at least one organisation or professional group in every county in England has been engaged - either through conferences, reaching out to specific organisation to share or deliver training, or sending resource packs to services.

## Conferences

### INHSU Conference

Louise attended the INHSU conference to jointly host a workshop on meaningful research, engagement and collaboration, and presented a number of abstracts:

- Inclusion and Sheffield laboratory's approach to resolving an issue with increased positive hepatitis B results.
- Data interrogation across multiple electronic care records alongside Inclusion and University Hospital Southampton.
- Capillary bloods project for the UKHSA South West region (named as authors).



### Best Practice Conference

Hep C U Later ran an exhibition stand at the Best Practice Conference in October 2025, speaking to more than 100 professionals. Around 10 organisations were contacted following networking at the conference to share resources.



### NHS APA 2025 Conference

Hep C U Later released a poster on hepatitis C stigma for the NHS APA conference in November 2025.



### NHS Confed Expo

Deanne attended the NHS Confed Expo to make connections and look for opportunities to share training and resources.

# Engagement

## Conferences (continued)

### RCGP Conference

Hep C U Later had an exhibition stand at the RCGP Conference in October 2025, engaging around 100 general practice professionals. As the conference took place in Wales the team were joined by Nicki Pamer from Public Health Wales which was valuable to ensure resources and information could be given accurately across both countries.

As a result of networking with around 10 organisations at the conference:

- PMA: Association for Primary Care Managers sent out training and resources link to their 50,000 subscribers
- Gateway C met to explore NHS England taking part in a podcast and linking to Hep C U Later resources in 2026



### RCGP Managing Addictions in Primary Care Conference

Hep C U Later attended the RCGP Managing Addictions in Primary Care Conference in February 2026 and presented a poster on the work Hep C U Later has done across primary care. You can find a link to it below.



 [Click here to view the conference poster.](#)

### Telford Recovery Conference

Hep C U Later had an exhibition stand at the Telford Recovery Conference, handing out resources to attendees and other local organisations.



# Engagement

## Conferences (continued)

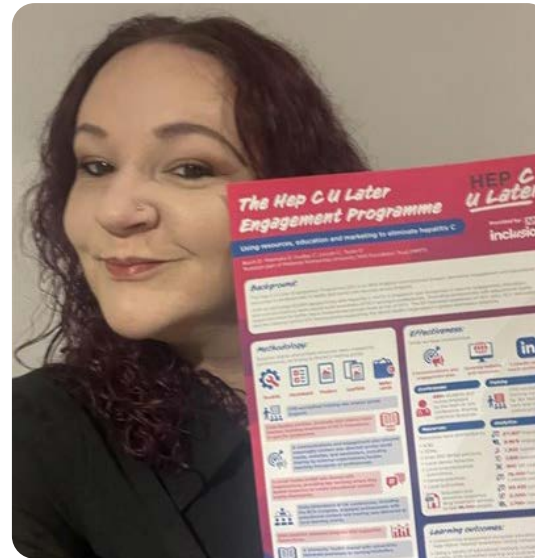
### Harm Reduction Focused Conferences

Hep C U Later have attended a number of harm reduction focused conferences over the year, specifically focused on taking back learning to share with community drug and alcohol services on strategies that reduce onward transmission, engage people who use drugs, and reduce harm.



### RCN Education Conference

Deanne presented a poster abstract at the RCN Education Conference in April 2025.



### Biomedical Science Conference

Louise attended the conference and presented a poster.



### Emergency Department Opt-Out Testing Learn and Share Event

Hep C U Later attended to network at the event in September 2025 and were able to display two posters from previous conferences leading to further engagement.

### Oxford Hepatitis B Symposium

In September 2025, Deanne Burch presented on a panel at the Oxford Hepatitis B Symposium, alongside two other representatives from lived experience charities.

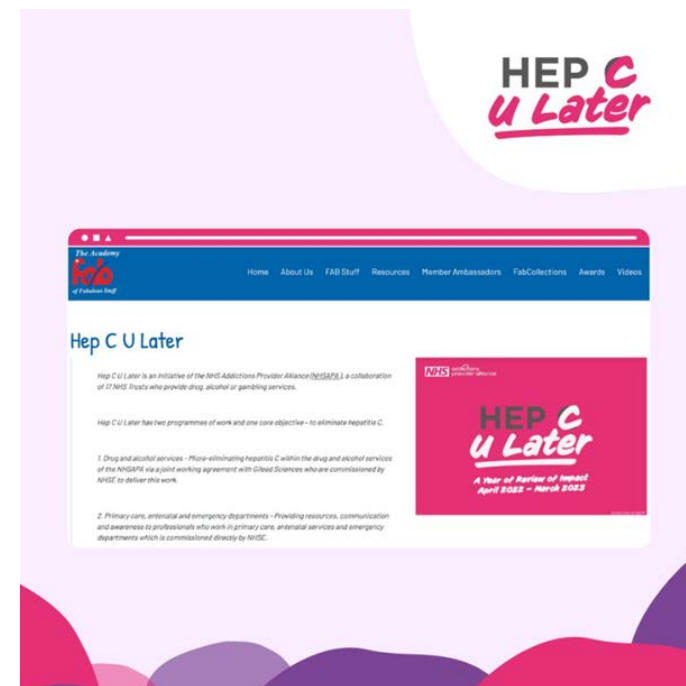


# Engagement

## Organisations Sharing Key Content

Hep C U Later have actively engaged specific organisations, requesting them to share messaging on social media, information about the hepatitis C testing portal and the CPD-accredited training on their websites, or via bulletins and newsletters:

- PMA sent out links to Hep C U Later's resources and training in their newsletter
- NHS and third sector community drug and alcohol services have shared Hep C U later resources and training internally
- 11 ICBs shared content as part of World Hepatitis Day, including links to resources, training and the NHSE hepatitis C testing portal
- UKHSA shared the Hep C U Later Stigma and Hepatitis C CPD-accredited training module in their e-update
- Hampshire Constabulary have shared the Hep C U Later training internally
- St Basils shared the training internally
- The Hepatitis C Trust shared the training internally
- Swerve shared the training internally
- Fab Academy resources and training updated on a specific Hep C U Later page
- INHSU sent out the Hep C U Later Stigma and Hepatitis C CPD-accredited training module to a global audience
- DDN featured the Hep C U Later Stigma and Hepatitis C CPD-accredited training module in their e-newsletter
- SLD Health Inequalities training organisation are offering Hep C U Later CPD training modules alongside their BBV training offer.



# Training and Education

## CPD-Accredited Training

Hep C U Later currently have 4 CPD-accredited online training modules available to professionals.

- Basic Hepatitis C Awareness
- Hepatitis C Testing and Results
- Hepatitis C Treatment
- Hepatitis C and Stigma

*Over 400 professionals* have completed the Hep C U Later Basic Hepatitis C Awareness CPD-Accredited Training since its launch.

## Hepatitis C and Stigma 'They Said What?!' CPD- Accredited Training

The Hep C U Later team are incredibly proud of the release of the hepatitis C and stigma training module and the people with lived experience who co-produced it with us. It covers people's experiences of stigma, their journey and their thoughts on what professionals can do to tackle stigma.

It was professionally filmed by [Moving Human](#) and edited alongside key educational content. Following the feedback session with the film participants, the module was progressed with CPD-accreditation and released alongside a significant and successful communications and engagement plan. 100 people completed it in the first week alone, and more than 200 people completed the module within the first 6 weeks.



# Training and Education

## Hepatitis C and Stigma 'They Said What?!' CPD- Accredited Training (continued)

**100 people**

completed the training in the first week

**200 people**

completed the training in the first 6 weeks

**272 people**

completed this training overall, however, hundreds more have accessed it and not downloaded the certificate.

“I watched this training and was really impressed. It's been done really well and brought a tear to my eye. I will share wherever I think it will be of value.”

- ODN Feedback

“The human approach had a real impression on me. You rarely see video training with fun attached to it. Well done.”

- Harm Reduction Worker

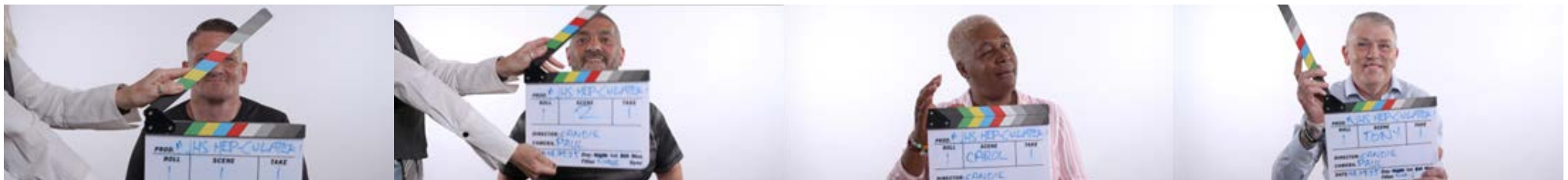
“This video was super powerful and very inspiring. I've shared it with the rest of my team and will review our hep C letters and resources to double check we're not inadvertently contributing to stigma in any way.”

- UKHSA Feedback

A wide range of organisations have completed the training, including prisons, drug treatment services, charities, NHS, and GPs.

The 30 minute training, mostly comprising of a film, contains 2 reflective questions to capture what impact the training has had on the care they deliver. There appears to be real consideration and intention with the reflections, with people forming actions they want to take to tackle stigma where they work.

We would like to take the opportunity again to thank our amazing participants for this film, which truly feels as though it's making a difference - Michael, Mo, Carol and Tony.

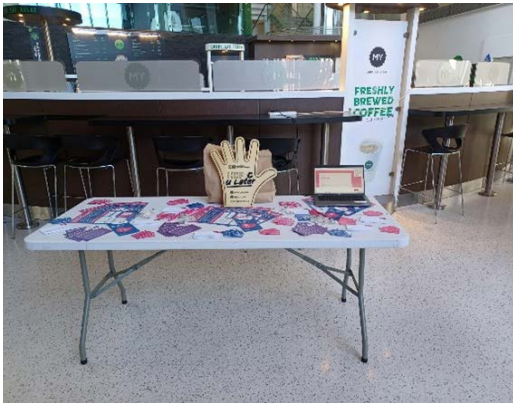


# Training and Education

## Bespoke Training Delivery

### Pinderfield Hospital

Laura attended Pinderfield Hospital (Mid and South Yorks) to share resources and provide training to staff and patients.



### Drug and Alcohol Services

Training has been delivered to over 30 community drug and alcohol treatment services across England, supporting a range of professional roles to complete testing, understand micro-elimination and use the Cepheid GeneXpert machine.

### Staffordshire Young People's Service

Laura delivered harm reduction and BBV education with the Young Peoples team across the Inclusion footprint in Staffordshire. This was a joint piece of work with the Hepatitis C Trust and proved valuable in discussions with the team around how they work with and engage young people.

### British Dental Association

Tony Mullaney delivered hepatitis C and stigma training to 176 people at the BDA, telling people about his personal journey.

“Great presentations very useful to hear Tony’s experiences”

“Very accessible and engaging webinar - the 3 doctors were particularly eloquent, and the ‘lived experience’ panellists made their points about the stigma associated with BBV well.”

### Leeds Hospital

Laura attended Leeds Hospital to find out more about their ED opt-out testing programme and present on hepatitis C and Hep C U Later.



# Training and Education

## Bespoke Training Delivery (continued)

### National NHSE ODN Meeting

Deanne and Chris presented on the data processes of drug treatment services on behalf of the Gilead Sciences Hepatitis C Drug Treatment Services Provider Forum, with particular attention to explaining the status 'assessed as not appropriate to test/re-test', exemption criteria, and assurance processes.



### Torbay Hospital ST3s

Deanne presented to Torbay Hospital ST3s alongside two local GP champions, Dr Virginia Francis and Dr Nick Zeiher.



### Pilgrim (Lincoln) ED Testing and Education Support

Laura Hughes delivered Pilgrim (Lincoln) ED testing/education support and linked with nursing staff to provide additional support as needed.

### Stoke-On-Trent General Practice Staff

Deanne presented to 4 Stoke-On-Trent general practices in February 2025. Resources were sent to all of the practices as a result.

### Harm Reduction Exchange

Deanne Burch presented at the Harm Reduction Exchange in January 2026, speaking about the programme's development but also about the opportunities for collaboration moving forward.

### Bristol Mental Health Integrated Team

Deanne delivered bespoke training to the team and distributed resources.

# Training and Education

## Universities

Hep C U Later have provided the following training for universities:

- York St John University – Training delivered to 30 third year nursing students.
- Keele Nursing Associate Programme – Training delivered to 30 students. One student subsequently linked Hep C U Later to deliver training across multiple GP sites in Stoke-on-Trent.
- Keele University Nursing Fields BSc and Masters Programmes – Training delivered to 168 students.
- Keele University Midwifery Programme – Training on hepatitis C and stigma delivered to 40 students.

When the students were asked how the training had changed their practice, they said...

“Educating staff and people, communicating with the woman to help them feel included and not alienated.”

“Ensuring to remain non-judgemental and be confident to challenge stigma.”

“Education around Hepatitis, Understanding importance people centred care. They are still PEOPLE”

“Being aware of the language used towards women with infections, and challenging/educating others.”

“Couldn’t have asked for anything more!! I felt Tony and Louise were very information and showed a sense of vulnerability by sharing their experiences with the cohort. Will definitely remember the session more than reading further information surround the subject area.”

# Training and Education

## Universities (continued)

**100%**

of students felt the sessions were relevant to their practice

**95%**

of students agreed the sessions increased their knowledge on hepatitis C

**268**

students have received hepatitis C training in the last year

**72**

students went on to complete the Hep C U Later CPD-accredited online training modules

**22**

additional universities have been engaged with by Hep C U Later to offer training, resources or other support

**498**

students (in total) have received bespoke hepatitis C training from Hep C U Later



# *Research and Evaluations*

Hep C U Later are currently involved with or undertaking various research projects with support from professionals outside of the team. These are:

## **Hepatitis B in Community Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services Research**

Looking at trend analysis across multiple NHS Trusts who provide community drug and alcohol treatment services. Data has been collected from some services for initial interpretation, and a dashboard has been created to allow us to analyse the data.

## **UKHSA Barriers and Facilitators to Hepatitis C Re-Engagement**

Hep C U Later have supported with Principal Investigator work and are now supporting UKHSA/UCL with the write up, and with submitting abstracts.

## **Hep C U Later Hepatitis C and Stigma Online Training Module Evaluation**

Hep C U Later are being supported by MPFT's public health trainees to complete an evaluation study of the training module.

## **Hep C U Later Partnerships and Ripple Effect**

Hep C U Later are being supported by MPFT's public health trainees to outline future research into the added value of the programme to other parts of the system.

# Communications and Marketing

Hep C U Later continue to release a quarterly newsletter to the growing mailing list.

## Social Media

In July 2025, Hep C U Later stopped posting on X following Trust guidance. Hep C U Later only recently started a Bluesky account as an alternative.

Content is shared across two social media platforms - Facebook and LinkedIn.

The Hep C U Later Communications and Engagement Plan undergoes an annual review and campaigns are planned in advance.



Followers  
**658**



Account Impressions  
**49,182**



Post Impressions  
**49,634**



Post Reach  
**32,438**



Post Engagement  
**3.99%**



Link Clicks  
**458**



Followers  
**568**



Account Impressions  
**34,266**



Post Impressions  
**33,985**



Post Reach  
**20,853**



Post Engagement  
**6.1%**



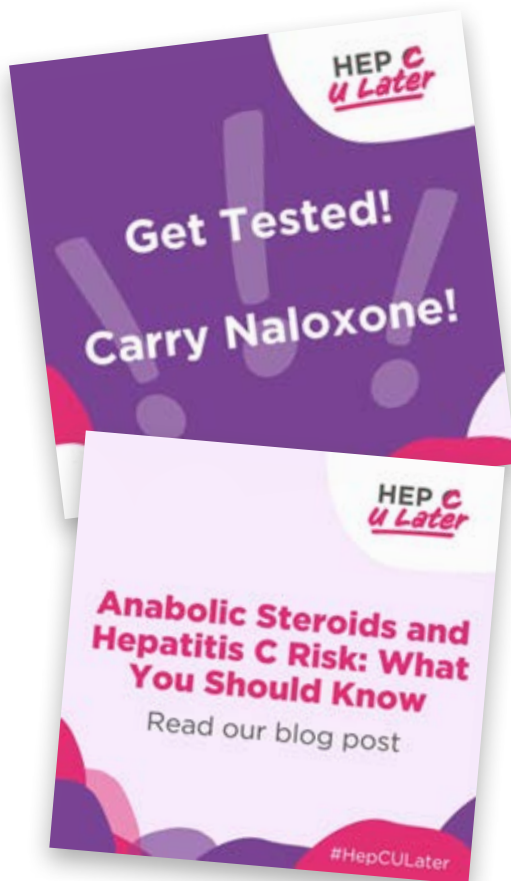
Link Clicks  
**322**

# Communications and Marketing

## Campaigns

### Harm Reduction Series

Regular content is being released as part of the Hep C U Later Harm Reduction Series.



### Stigma Month - July 2025

Throughout July 2025, Hep C U Later released content on the theme - take action on stigma. Although much of the content focused on hepatitis C, other themes of stigma were brought into the messaging such as HIV, hepatitis B/D, and drug and alcohol harms. In line with the theme, social media content gave professional audiences the practical advice, guidance and resources to take action, moving beyond awareness raising.

Due to the alignment with the NHS APA Stigma Kills campaign, new branding was created aligning both brands.



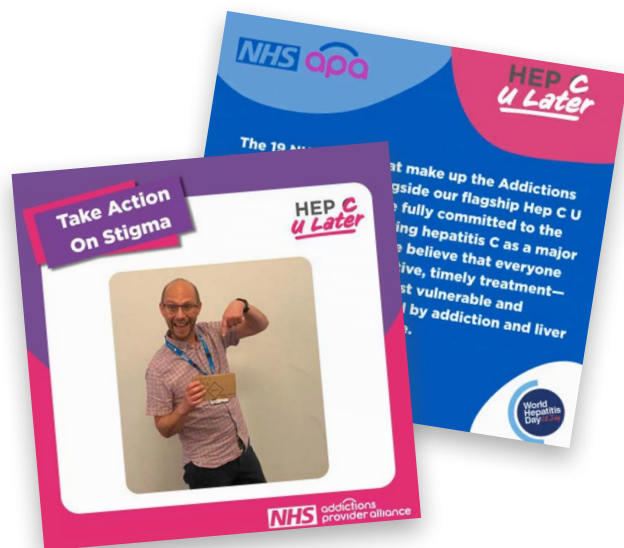
# Communications and Marketing

## Campaigns

### World Hepatitis Day - July 2025

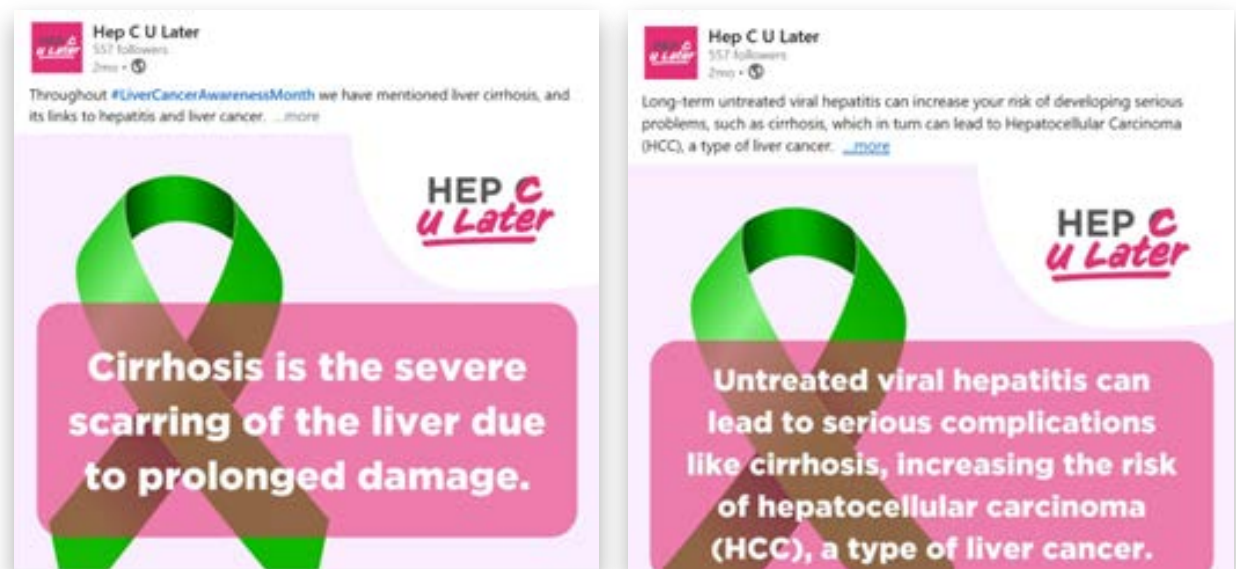
Content for World Hepatitis Day included the release of the Hep C U Later Impact Report, and the Heads of Addictions Services across the NHS APA showing their support for hepatitis C elimination through promoting the testing portal.

Danny Hames, as chair of the NHS APA, provided a statement on the importance of the hepatitis C elimination programme.



### Liver Cancer Awareness Month - October 2025

Hep C U Later launched a liver cancer awareness campaign in October 2025. This campaign focused on directing people to resources, organisations, and spreading key facts about liver cancer.



### NHS Trusts

A comms pack was provided to NHS APA member Trusts for their social media platforms. MPFT created new assets to promote hepatitis C materials and the testing portal and featured our latest impact report.

# Communications and Marketing

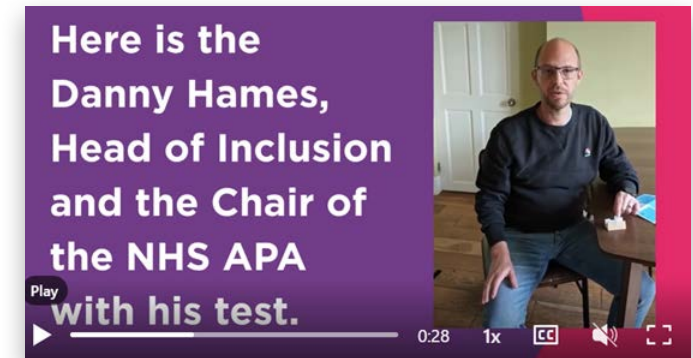
## Campaigns

### European Testing Week – November 2025

Hep C U Later developed and shared a comms pack for each NHS Trust to share, and released content which showed the commitment of NHSAPA NHS Trusts - with heads of addiction services holding a test kit and the Hep C U Later hand.

Danny Hames, the Head of Inclusion and Chair of the NHSAPA went on video to show how easy it was to get a test and reduce the stigma associated with it.

 [Click here to watch.](#)



### ICBs

Every ICB in England was contacted prior to World Hepatitis Day and asked if they would share social media content and other resources for World Hepatitis Day. 11 ICBs responded and agreed to share social media graphics to raise awareness and promote the testing portal. Some also completed additional comms work through sharing resources via primary care bulletins. This included:

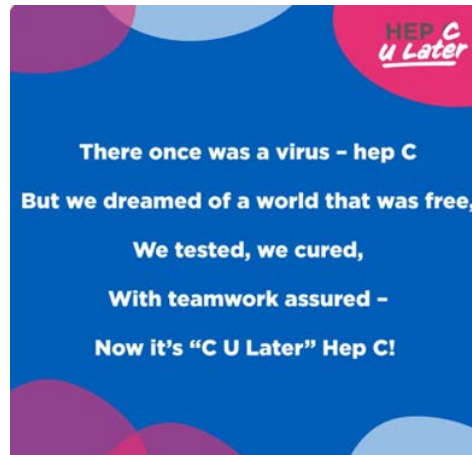
- Kent and Medway ICB
- Lincolnshire ICB
- West Yorkshire ICB
- Surrey Heartlands ICB
- Sussex ICB
- North West London ICB
- Norfolk & Waveney ICB
- Cheshire and Merseyside ICB
- Hertfordshire & West Essex ICB
- Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB
- Bristol, North Somerset & South Gloucestershire ICB



# Communications and Marketing

## Other Key Content and Awareness Days

- International Overdose Awareness Day
- Recovery Month
- NHSE Testing Portal Blog Promotion
- World Health Day
- HIV Testing Week
- World AIDS Day
- End of year NHS APA service highlights
- National Limerick Day



## Website

### Harm Reduction Web Page

A harm reduction webpage has been created as a source of information for professionals including:

- Guidance
- Resources
- History of harm reduction
- Training links

[Click here to view.](#)

### Cepheid GeneXpert Web Page

Having developed so much expertise around the use of Cepheid GeneXpert machines since they were first implemented, Hep C U Later recognised the need to capture Cepheid GeneXpert specific learning and resources in one place.

The web page hosts videos, case studies, and practical resources organisations can use.

[Click here to view.](#)

### Tattoo Web Page

Tattoo webpage created with simple hepatitis C messaging and basic information on reducing hepatitis C risk when home tattooing. This was created as a result of feedback from tattooists.

[Click here to view.](#)

# Communications and Marketing

## Website (continued)

### Hepatitis B and D

A new webpage was created on the Hep C U Later website to provide further information on hepatitis B and D. This was in response to feedback from professionals, and the webpage will be continually developed.

### NHS APA Hep C U Later Web Page

The Hep C U Later webpage that sits on the NHS APA website was updated to provide better linkage to the Hep C U Later website.

### Liver Health Web Page

As part of Liver Cancer Awareness month, Hep C U Later launched the Liver Health webpage.

[Click here to view.](#)

## Website Analytics



First Visit  
**2,088**



Page Views  
**9,036**



Resource Page Views  
**1,241**



Training Page Views  
**532**

# Awards

## UKPHR Innovation in Public Health Awards

Hep C U Later were proud winners of the UKPHR Best Digital and Communications Initiative of the Year Award in November 2025.



## MPFT Brilliant You Awards

Hep C U Later won the MPFT Brilliant You Award for Delivering Through Partnership in November 2025.



## *Plans for Next Year*

Hep C U Later have another year to support NHS APA member services in reaching hepatitis C micro-elimination – and, to support those services which have only recently joined.

Looking ahead, the team will increase its focus on hepatitis B, harm reduction and liver health, broadening the programme for maximum benefit for people affected by viral hepatitis. Plans are already in motion to develop pilots which benefit people with liver disease, and Hep C U Later will continue to support the NHS Addictions Provider Alliance's Needle and Syringe Provision Quality Review, to draw out positive practice which can be shared with other services.

There are a vast amount of supportive resources already in planning, and Hep C U Later will continue to not only provide education to professionals, but also linkage across systems. This will be an exciting year for Hep C U Later to join up efforts across the country.

*- Deanne Burch, Hep C U Later  
Programme Lead*



# THANK YOU



to everyone who has engaged in the Hep C U Later journey so far!



 Hep C U Later

 Hep C U Later

 [www.hepculater.com](http://www.hepculater.com)

 [HepC.ULater@mpft.nhs.uk](mailto:HepC.ULater@mpft.nhs.uk)

**HEP C**  
**U Later**