



NEVADA

1. Plan Development

Nevada has not yet published a viral hepatitis elimination plan. The state is expected to publish a plan by 2025 in accordance with CDC PS21-2103. If Nevada has not already begun to do so, the state should convene a group of multi-disciplinary stakeholders to guide these efforts, which will ultimately improve its viral hepatitis strategies and outcomes.

2. Harm Reduction Laws

Syringe Services Program Legality, Syringe Exchange Specifications, Medical Emergency Laws, and “Works” Possession Laws and Syringe Exemption

SSPs are legally authorized in Nevada, they function on a needs-based policy, which is the preferred exchange policy, and there is an exemption in place for the possession of syringes acquired from SSPs. Additionally, there are Good Samaritan protections in place to protect those who call 911 to help others or themselves who need emergency medical assistance.

3. Budget Allocation

Specific Funds Allocated for Plan Implementation, State Budget, and State Corrections Budget

Viral hepatitis is mentioned in Nevada’s FY21-23 budget and the state’s corrections budget (as well as treatment). Ensuring there are individual line items included in future budgets is critical because a designated line item for hepatitis would signal a commitment to providing resources to support ongoing efforts to improve statewide viral hepatitis outcomes.

4. Improving Viral Hepatitis Prevention, Treatment, and Outcomes

Educational and Perinatal Information for the Public, Provider Training, and Medicaid Expansion

The state does provide educational information to the public, but since July 2022, its links to perinatal HBV information are no longer accessible and the state does not offer information for patients pertaining to perinatal HCV. Nevada is a Medicaid expansion state, and it now links to provider training through the Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center (Pacific AETC). There is no indication that information provided is available in any language other than English.

Standard of Care for HCV in State Corrections

A publicly available, separate, state-drafted guidance for the standard of care for HCV in state corrections that includes strategies to offer DAA treatment for HCV to all persons with a confirmed HCV diagnosis held in state corrections in accordance with the AASLD/IDSA treatment guidelines does not exist in Nevada. There has been litigation within Nevada though that has prompted changes to be made regarding hepatitis screening and treatment within correctional facilities. A settlement was reached that has led to Nevada budgeting \$6 million to treat incarcerated individuals for hepatitis C. The class-action federal lawsuit claimed denial of treatment. All affected inmates are expected to be treated by October 2023.

Targeted Interventions for Key Populations and the Provision of Linguistically Diverse Informational Materials

There are non-governmental programs / community organizations providing targeted interventions available for key populations across Nevada.

Enduring Coalition / Task Force to Coordinate and Leverage Resources

There is a collaborative task force in Nevada: The Nevada Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program. The mission of the Nevada Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program is to facilitate a coordinated, comprehensive, culturally appropriate, and systematic approach to prevent the spread of viral hepatitis in Nevada, limit the progression and complications of hepatitis-related liver disease, and advocate for hepatitis policies and resources. However, after accessing the homepage, which houses the mission and vision of the program, no clickable links on the rest of the site are working. This should be rectified immediately.

Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Grade

Since July 2022, Nevada's Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access grade remains at a C. A significant number of restrictions to the access of services and treatment are still in place across the state.

5. Improving Viral Hepatitis Surveillance and Data Usage

Epidemiological Report / Profile, and Public-Facing Website with Viral Hepatitis Data

Nevada's hepatitis site still does not provide recent (within the last two years) epidemiological data on HAV, HBV, or HCV. To improve transparency, the state should consistently publish epidemiological data for HAV, HBV, and HCV.