

# Hepatitis Free Northern New England

## Tri-State Collaborative 2025-2030 Viral Hepatitis B and C Elimination Plan



The Hepatitis Free Northern New England tri-state collaborative (Hep Free NNE) 2025-2030 Viral Hepatitis B and C Elimination Plan sets a course to eliminate hepatitis B and C across Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. It emphasizes community-driven strategies, aligning with local needs and resources. The effort was fueled by contributions from over 200 co-creators and stakeholders and is aligned with the National Strategy for Viral Hepatitis and federal implementation plan.



The opioid crisis has contributed to an increase in hepatitis B and C infections across the U.S.



US CDC estimates 40% of people living with chronic hepatitis C cases are unaware of their status, and only one-third of diagnosed patients cured in the last decade.



Proven treatments and harm-reduction strategies exist but require coordinated implementation.

*The Plan is structured into five pillars each with an actionable goal:*

### Pillars of Success



#### Welcoming Services and Spaces

Stigma is not a barrier to testing, treatment, or care.



#### Trusted Partners

Harm reduction services have the capacity to support viral hepatitis elimination efforts and strategies are informed by the leadership of people who use drugs.



#### Capacity to Care

Cross-cultural and well-trained care teams and payors are connected and have the capacity to service all people engaged with the cascade of care.



#### Equity and Autonomy

All people have the resources we need to build resilience and determine our viral hepatitis care.



#### Sustainability and Attainability

Policies and programs are informed by comprehensive data systems and sustained by a well-resourced public health infrastructure.

## Strategies

**Micro-Elimination:** Centers localized strategies adapted to specific priority populations. This tailored model is designed to deliver faster, more impactful results while inspiring broader change.

**Collaborative Planning:** Involves multi-sector partners, ensuring inclusivity, community input, and alignment with public health priorities.

## Goals

#### **Achieve hepatitis B and C elimination through:**

- Increased testing and treatment access across diverse settings.
- Normalized conversations about hepatitis to reduce stigma.
- Integrated care within broader health and social systems like housing and substance use programs.
- Strengthened public health infrastructure with innovative funding and advocacy.

## Join the action:

Join Hep Free NNE and take action in aligning efforts with the 2025-2030 Viral Hepatitis B and C Elimination Plan. Working together, we can eliminate hepatitis in Northern New England. Healthcare providers, policymakers, and community organizations—now is the time to act.

**Find more information at:** [www.maine.gov/dhhs/hepatitis](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/hepatitis)