

**CDC's Four Division 'Dear Colleague'
Letter on the
2002 STD Treatment
Guidelines
recommendations for MSM**

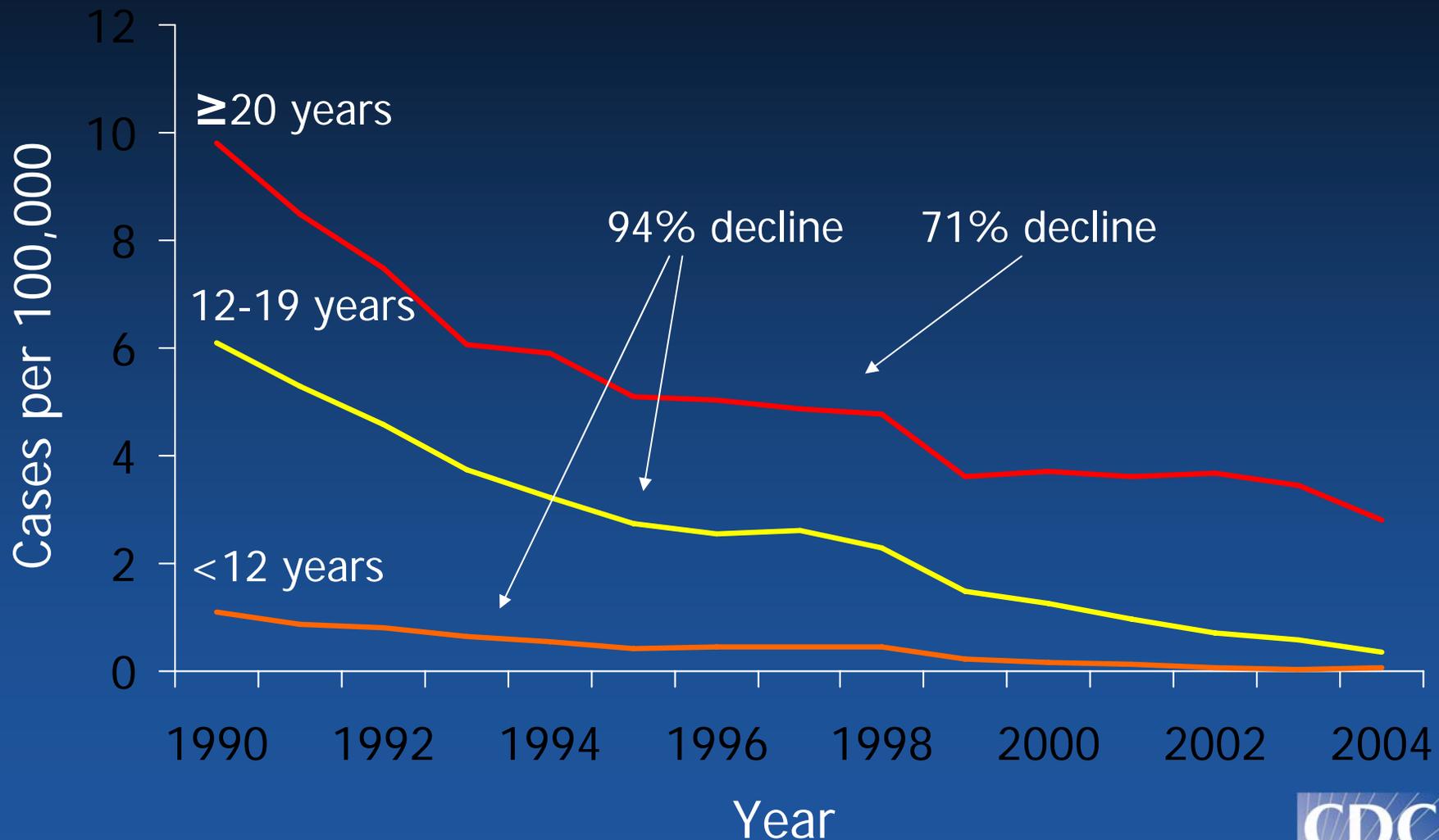
**Kevin O'Connor & Victoria Moody
Division of Viral Hepatitis
CDC**



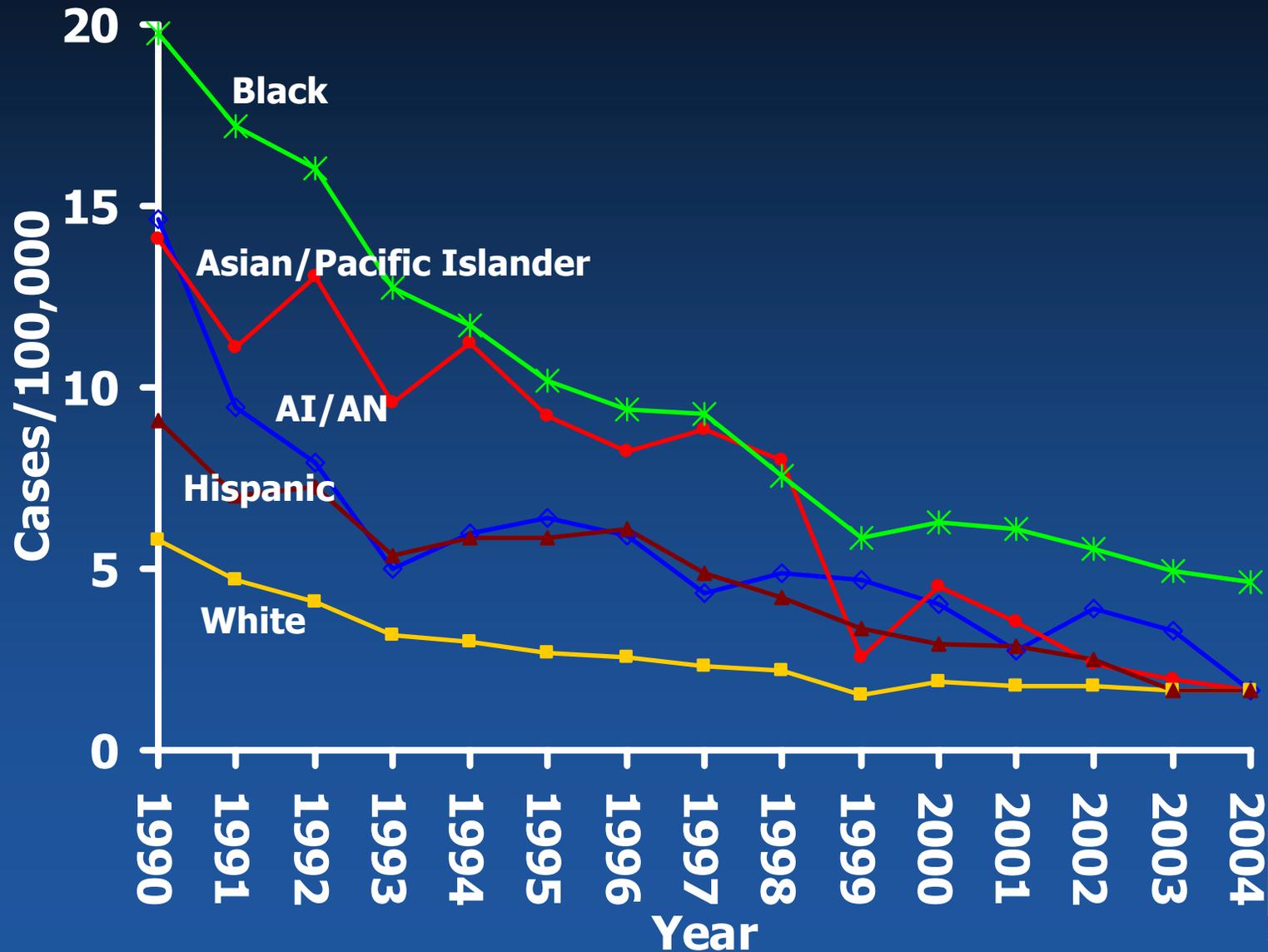
What Services for Which Risk Groups?

	Vaccination		Testing
	Hep A	Hep B	Hep C
High-Risk Heterosexuals (HRH)		X	
Men who have sex with men (MSM)	X	X	
Injection Drug Users (IDU)	X	X	X

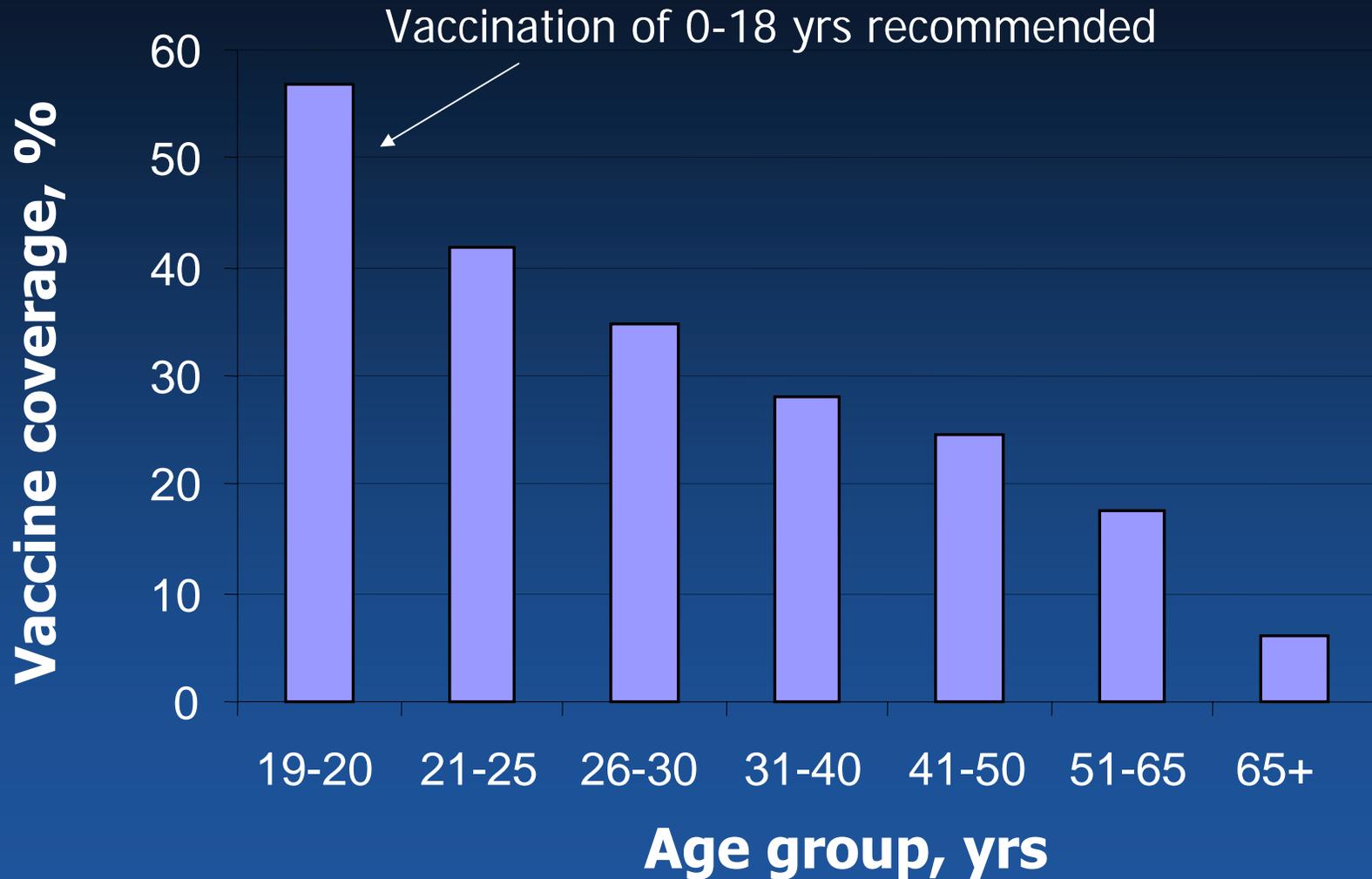
Reported Acute Hepatitis B Incidence By Age Group: United States, 1990-2004



Hepatitis B Incidence \geq 19 Years By Race/Ethnicity: United States, 1990-2004

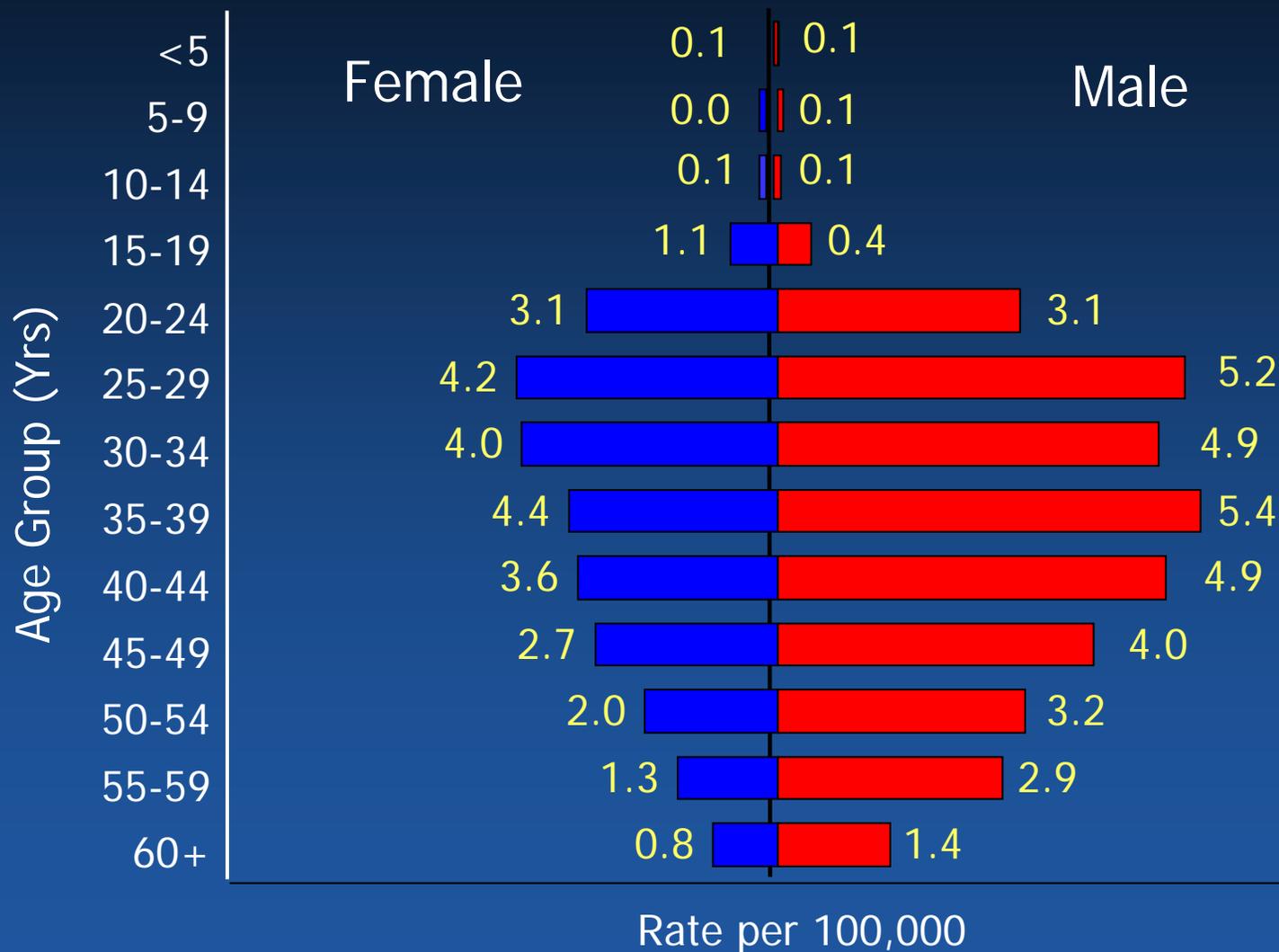


Adult Hepatitis B Vaccine Coverage, 2002

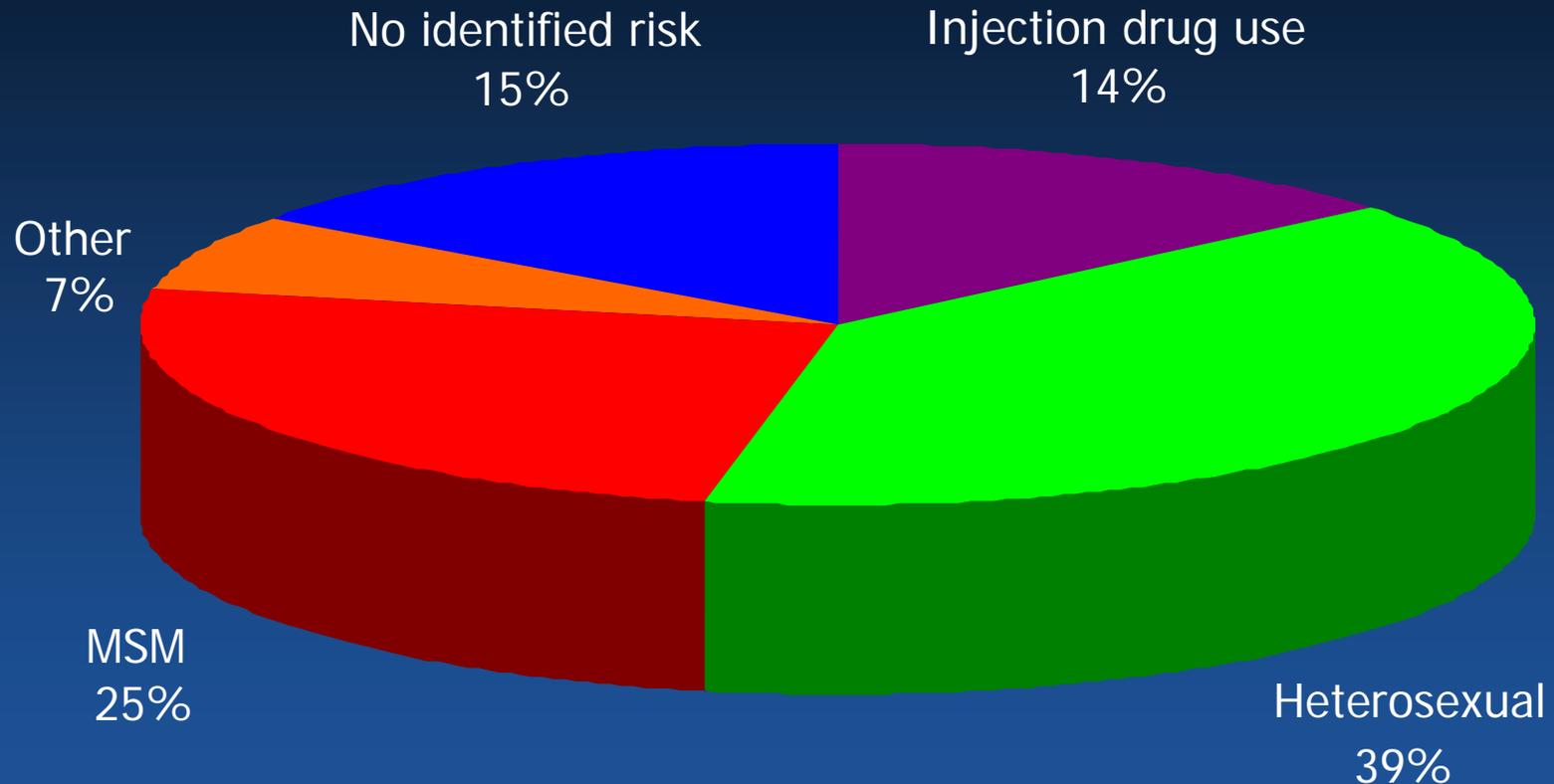


CDC, National Health Interview Survey

Reported Acute Hepatitis B Incidence By Age and Sex: United States, 2004



Reported Risk Characteristics Among Adults with Acute Hepatitis B: United States, 2001-2003

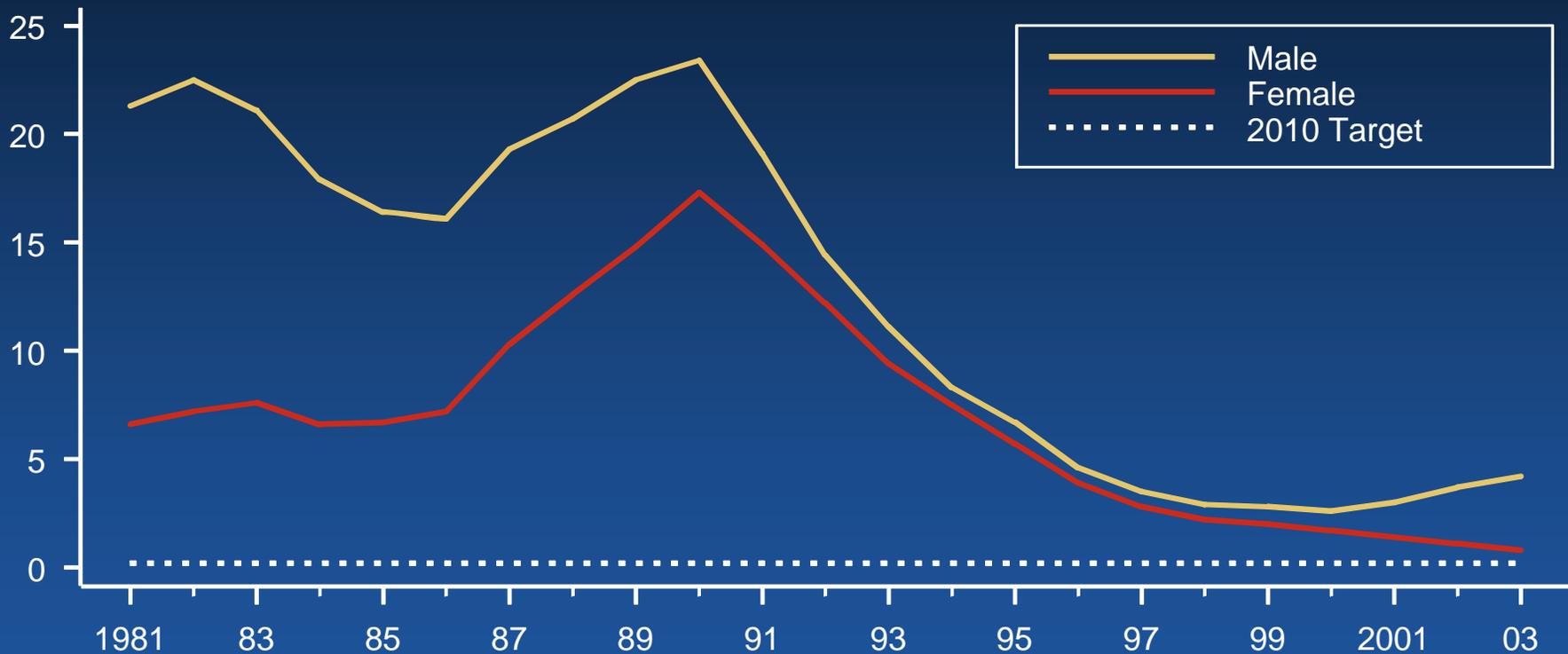


*Other: Household contact, institutionalization, hemodialysis, blood transfusion, occupational exposure

Sentinel Counties Study of Viral Hepatitis, CDC (n=483)

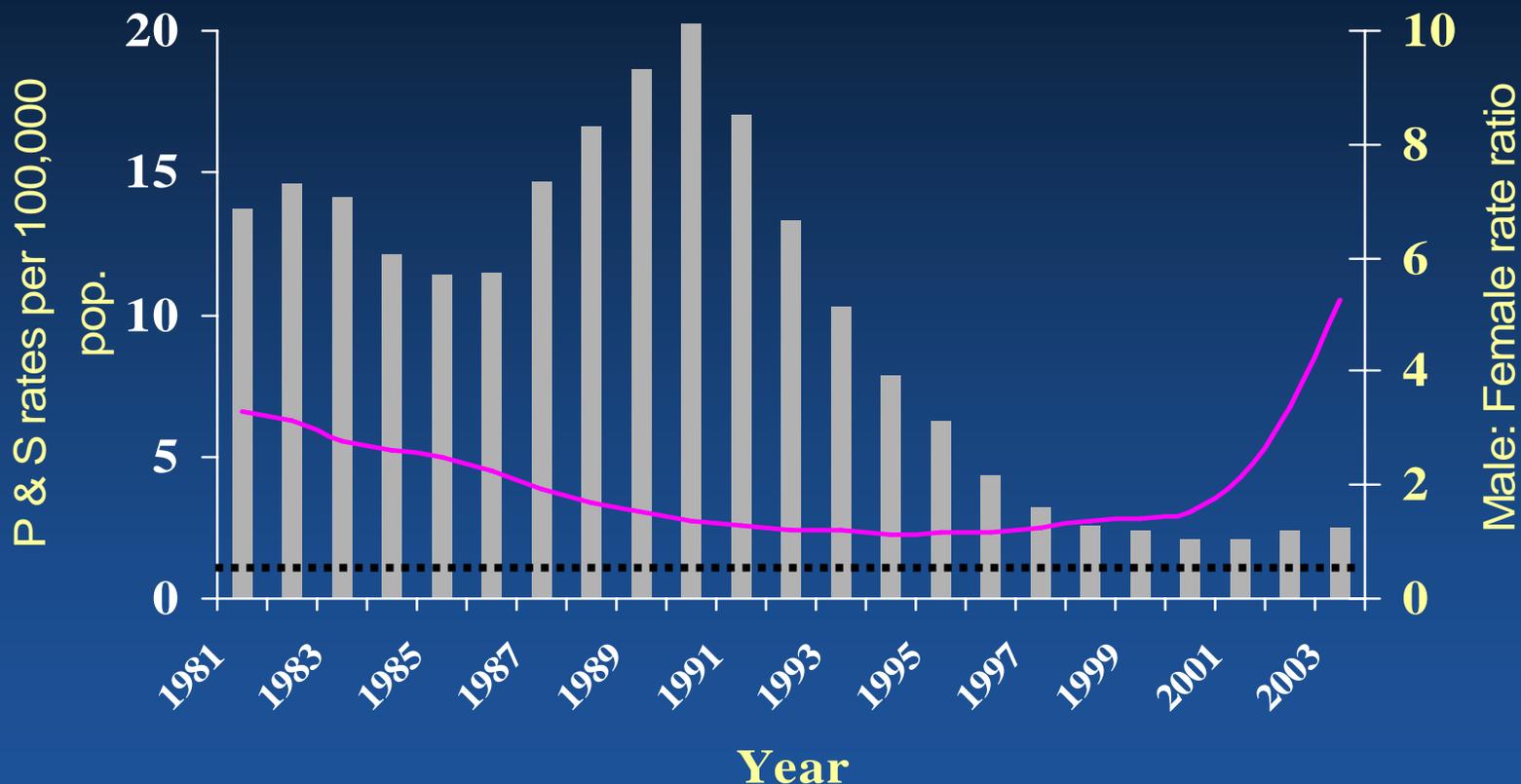
Primary and secondary syphilis — Rates by sex: United States, 1981–2003

Rate (per 100,000 population)



Note: The Healthy People 2010 target for P&S syphilis is 0.2 case per 100,000 population.

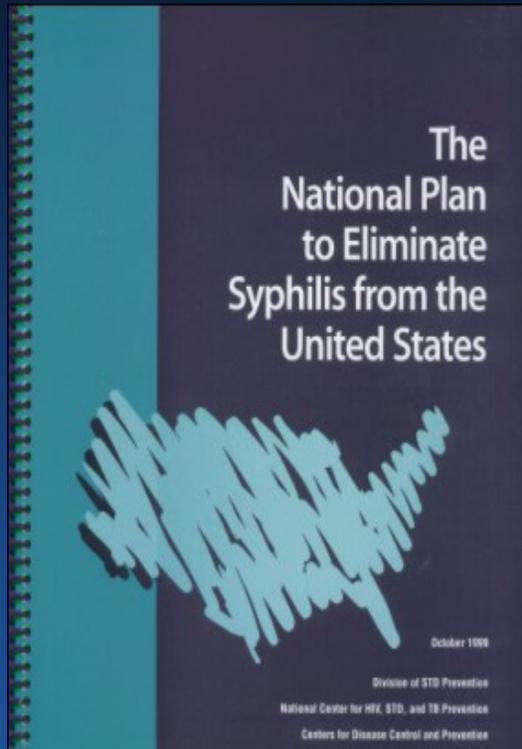
Primary and secondary syphilis: Male-to-female rate ratios, 1981–2003



The National Plan to Eliminate Syphilis

KEY AIM:

To reduce primary and secondary Syphilis cases to 1,000 or fewer, and increase the number of syphilis free counties to 90% by 2005



RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

- ✓ Enhanced Surveillance
- ✓ Community Involvement & Organizational Partnerships
- ✓ Rapid Outbreak Response
- ✓ Expanded Clinical and Lab Services
- ✓ Enhanced Health Promotion

Many HIV-Positive Gay Men Unaware They're Infected

Tue Apr 26, 2005 8:01 PM BST

By Amy Norton

NEW YORK (Reuters Health) - Many young gay and bisexual men who are HIV-positive may not know they have the virus, according to U.S. health officials.

Their study of more than 5,600 men between the ages of 15 and 29 found that more than three-quarters of those who tested positive for HIV were unaware they were infected. Moreover, before being tested, a majority of these men thought themselves at low risk of having the AIDS virus, and half had had unprotected sex with another man during the previous 6 months.

The findings suggest that the HIV epidemic among young gay and bisexual men "continues unabated," in part because many are unaware of their infection, according to the study authors, led by Duncan A. MacKellar of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta.



MMWR™

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Weekly

June 24, 2005 / Vol. 54 / No. 24

National HIV Testing Day — June 27, 2005

National HIV Testing Day (NHTD) is June 27. NHTD is sponsored by the National Association of People with AIDS to encourage persons at risk to receive voluntary counseling and testing for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). This year's theme, "Take the Test. Take Control," highlights the need for testing and counseling persons at risk to maintain their health and protect their partners. In addition, this year marks the 20th anniversary of the first commercially available HIV test (1), and NHTD offers an opportunity to recognize how much progress has been made in diagnosing, counseling, treatment, and care since 1985.

Approximately 1 million persons in the United States are HIV positive, and nearly one quarter of those infected are not aware of their infections (2). HIV testing has become easier, more accessible, and less invasive than ever before (3). Persons who know they are infected can

HIV Prevalence, Unrecognized Infection, and HIV Testing Among Men Who Have Sex with Men — Five U.S. Cities, June 2004–April 2005

Well into the third decade of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) epidemic, rates of HIV infection remain high, especially among minority populations. Of newly diagnosed HIV infections in the United States during 2003, CDC estimated that approximately 63% were among men who were infected through sexual contact with other men, 50% were among blacks, 32% were among whites, and 16% were among Hispanics (1). Studies of HIV infection among young men who have sex with men (MSM) in the mid to late 1990s revealed high rates of HIV prevalence, incidence, and unrecognized infection, particularly among young black MSM (2–4). To reassess those findings and previous HIV testing behaviors among MSM, CDC analyzed data from five of 17 cities participating in the National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) system. This report summarizes prelimi-

Unrecognized Infection

- 450 of 1,767 MSM were HIV+ (25%)
- 217 (48%) of 450 HIV+ MSM were *unaware* of their infection
- 139 (67%) of the 206 HIV+ AA MSM were *unaware* of their infection

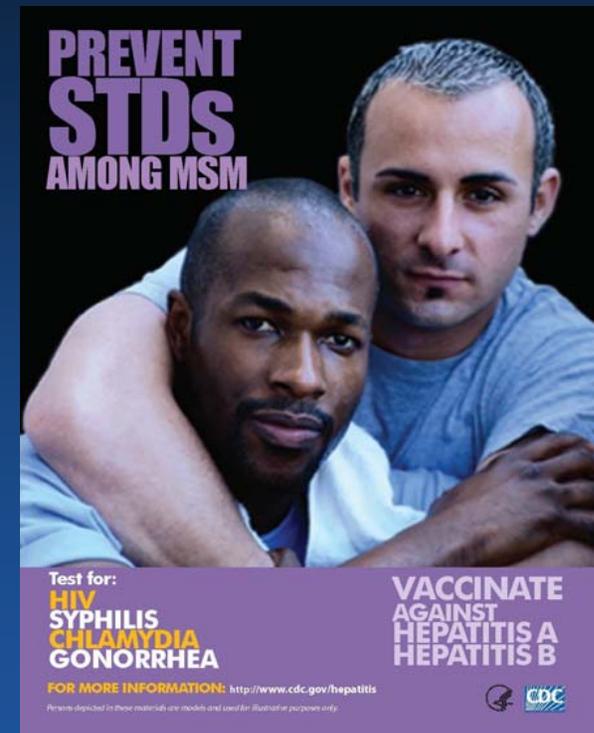
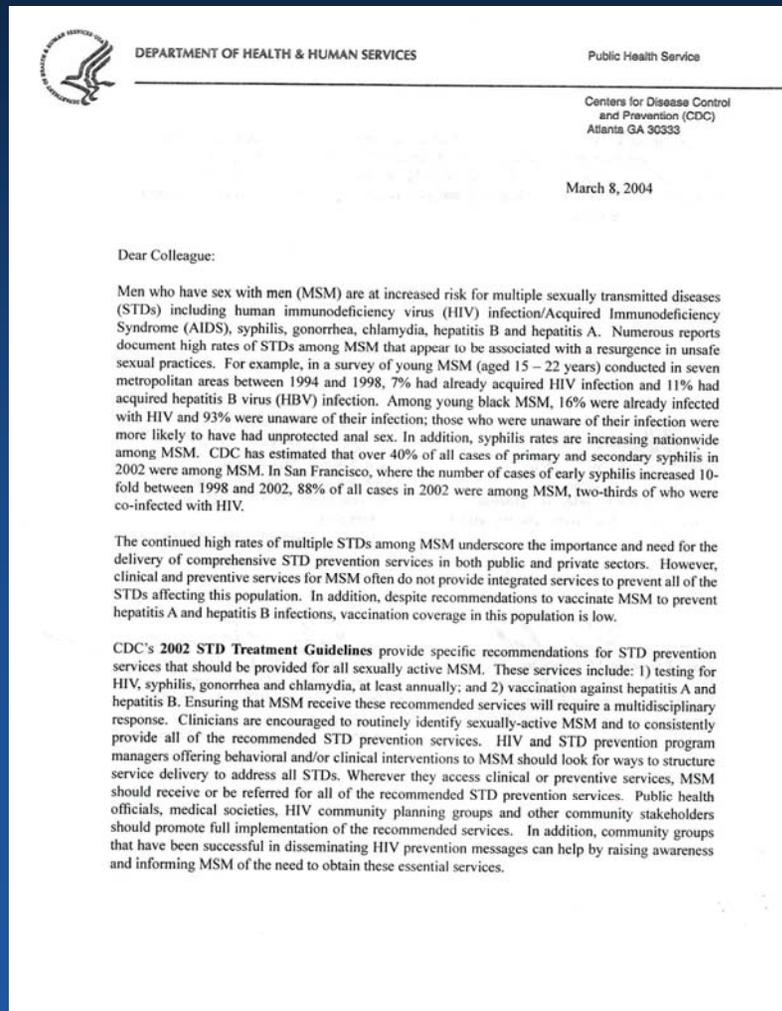
STD Treatment Guidelines 2002

“The following screening recommendations... should be performed at least annually for sexually active MSM:

- **HIV** serology, if HIV-negative or not previously tested;
- **syphilis** serology;
- ...test for **gonorrhea**;
- a urethral or urine test (culture or nucleic acid amplification) for **chlamydia** in men with oral-genital exposure;
- pharyngeal culture for gonorrhea in men with oral-genital exposure; and rectal gonorrhea and chlamydia culture in men who have had receptive anal intercourse.

In addition, vaccination against hepatitis is the most effective means of preventing sexual transmission of hepatitis A and B.“

'Dear Colleague' Letter



2002 STD Treatment Guidelines

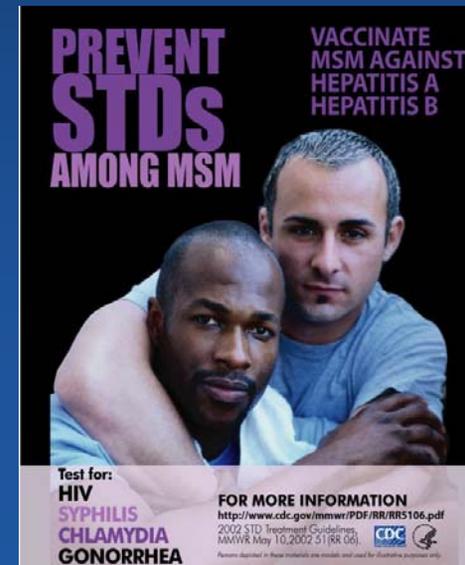
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'Dear Colleague' Letter

- Based on CDC's 2002 STD Treatment Guidelines
- Provides: Vision, Leadership, and Urgency
- Addresses common problems comprehensively
- Points out deficiencies:
 - Lack of common messages
 - Lack of comprehensive services
 - Disconnected services



Key Messages

Public Health Officials

- MSM are at increased risk for multiple STDs
- **CDC's 2002 STD Treatment Guidelines** recommend for all sexually active MSM:
 - 1) HIV counseling and testing
 - 2) screening for syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia
 - 3) hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccination

Public Health Officials

- Promote comprehensive health **messages** and **services**
- Strengthen linkages between prevention and clinical services
- HIV prevention community planners should consider including 2002 STD Treatment Guidelines in their recommended MSM interventions

MSM and MSM advocacy groups

- Inform men about all of the recommended services
- Encourage men to talk to their doctor about receiving these services

Physicians

- Follow the 2002 STD Treatment Guidelines recommendations for MSM:
 - Assess risk for all male patients including routinely asking about the gender of patient's sex partners
 - Provide all the recommended services

Integration Strategy for MSM Services

- Use the 2002 STD Treatment Guidelines
- Use media materials at www.cdc.gov/hepatitis
- Inform MSM about these recommendations
- Get the word out to public *and private* practitioners
- Get the word to your clinicians, counselors
- Link clinical services to prevention programs

Achieve Our Common Goals and Objectives

- HIV Prevention Strategic Plan Through 2005
- The National Plan to Eliminate Syphilis
- Advancing HIV Prevention (AHP)
- 2002 STD Treatment Guidelines
- HP 2010

Conclusions

- Train staff to integrate HIV, STD, viral hepatitis **messages**

Link Prevention Programs to these essential **services:**

- Vaccination against hepatitis A & B
- Testing for HIV, syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia

Downloadable Materials

- Dear Colleague letter
- Poster: 'Prevent STDs among MSM'
- Physician's pocket guide card
- MMWR publications
- Prevention bulletins
- Fact sheets

www.cdc.gov/hepatitis



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National Center for Infectious Diseases

Viral Hepatitis

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[Resource Center:](#) variety of education and training materials



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Esta página en **Español**



Hepatitis A: is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV). Hepatitis A can affect anyone. In the United States, hepatitis A can occur in situations ranging from isolated cases of disease to widespread epidemics.

[CDC authored paper on Foodborne hepatitis A](#)



Hepatitis B: is a serious disease caused by a virus that attacks the liver. The virus, which is called hepatitis B virus (HBV), can cause lifelong infection, cirrhosis (scarring) of the liver, liver cancer, liver failure, and death.



Hepatitis C: is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV), which is found in the blood of persons who have the disease. HCV is spread by contact with the blood of an infected person.



Hepatitis D: is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis D virus (HDV), a defective virus that needs the hepatitis B virus to exist. Hepatitis D virus (HDV) is found in the blood of persons infected with the virus.



[MSM Information Center](#)

What's New

[Top 11 most frequently asked questions about viral hepatitis](#)

[Content Materials for Physician's Hepatitis C Toolkit](#)

[Hepatitis B down among children and teens](#)

[Viral Hepatitis: What Every Teenager Needs to Know](#)

[Examples of various State hepatitis](#)