

Perspectives on HCV Treatment Capacity Tennessee

Cherokee Health Systems

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Our Mission...

To improve the quality of life
for our patients through the blending of
primary care and behavioral health.

Together...Enhancing Life



Primary Service Area



Cherokee Health Systems

Last Fiscal Year:

75,863 Patients

399,690 Services

28,318 New Patients

Number of Employees: 755

Provider Staff:

Psychologists - 47

Primary Care Physicians - 19

NP/PA (Primary Care) - 43

Community Workers - 39

Cardiologist - 1

Nephrologist - 1

Pharmacists - 12

RNs - 70

Psychiatrists - 8

NP (Psych) - 10

LCSWs - 68

Dentists - 2



Road to HCV Screening and Treatment

- Director of Primary Care Services and Director of Addiction Medication Services attended HCV Toolkit training Fall 2016
- Treatment of patients by Dr. Wallace begins to develop workflow and PAP process begins January 2017
- CHS system wide CME for PCP's on HCV screening February 2017
- CHS system wide CME for PCP's on HCV evaluation, treatment and follow up May 2017
- System wide treatment of HCV begins June 2017



Screening

Hepatitis C AB test	2016	2017	2018 to date
Total	416	1083	259
1945-1965 Cohort	64	318	71



Treatment

- From January 2017 to February 2018
 - 26 unique providers have treated patients for HCV
 - 84 patient assistance program applications submitted
 - Does not account for those referred to outside providers for treatment



Keys to Implementation

- Administrative Leadership support
 - Providing time for training
 - Negotiating lower costs for lab and ultrasound
 - Grants
- Medical Leadership support
 - Champion the priority for addressing the epidemic
 - Coordinating care with all components of the treatment team
 - Providers
 - Nursing
 - Pharmacy
 - Behavioral health



Obstacles

- Competing demands for time and clinical emphasis
- Variable comfort with acquiring new skills by providers
- Shortage of primary care providers
- Insurance barriers

