

## **Viral Hepatitis Planning Group Meeting Summary**

### **Monday, October 23, 2017**

The Viral Hepatitis Planning Group (VHPG) meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

**VHPG Members present:** Tom Bendle, Diannee Carden Glenn, Susanne Crowe, Mike Jolly, JoAnne Lamb, Pam Langford, Gordon Licata, Patrick Roberts, Kim Saiswick, Enid Santiago-Cruz, Michelle Scavnicky and Bob Wallace.

**Guests present:** Carmen Gali, Scott Gannon, Kayla Lewis, John Marangio, Kim Molnar, Oluwatobi Ozoya, Hannah Norcini, Valerie Riley, Geetha Sanmugalingham, Lynette Swanson, JoJo Wallace and Joey Wynn.

Upon calling the meeting to order, all meeting attendees (both VHPG members and visitors) briefly introduced themselves and described their role on the planning group, in the community and/or at the Department of Health (Department).

Hannah Norcini reviewed the goals of the meeting, including:

1. Share updates on the state of hepatitis in Florida from governmental and non-governmental entities, and public and private stakeholders.
2. Discuss the proposed new strategic priority areas for the Hepatitis Program and work collaboratively to produce feedback and insight into their feasibility.
3. Review the VHPG by-laws and amend where necessary.

### ***STD and Viral Hepatitis Section Program and Surveillance Update Tom Bendle, Florida Department of Health***

Tom Bendle provided an overview of the current state of the Hepatitis Program. He also discussed the increase in reported cases of hepatitis B and hepatitis C between 2010 and 2016 (which may be partially accounted for by the change in case definition). Tom noted that there was a significant amount of missing, or unknown, surveillance data due to the inability to investigate all chronic hepatitis B or C cases by county health department staff.

### ***Legislative Update Michelle Scavnicky, The AIDS Institute***

Michelle Scavnicky reviewed Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding by state, referencing a map provided to attendees. Conversation ensued regarding the distribution of these CDC funds and how each appropriation was determined. She also enumerated The AIDS Institute's advocacy efforts at the state and national levels.

### ***FOCUS Program***

***Dr. Oluwatobi Ozoya and Geetha Sanmugalingham, Tampa General Hospital (TGH)***

Dr. Ozoya and Geetha Sanmugalingham introduced the FOCUS program (funded through Gilead Sciences, Inc.) and described several of the program's outcomes and future goals as it related to hepatitis screening and linkage to care. They presented hepatitis and HIV screening data from the Emergency Department (ED) at TGH (as well as the resulting positivity rate) and discussed their process in making screenings in the ED automated, i.e. working with the hospital Information Technology department and adapting the Electronic Medical Records (EMRs). They also presented data from Love the Golden Rule and international hepatitis incidence data. They highlighted effective linkage to care initiatives across the U.S., specifically successful telemedicine programs. Finally, they illustrated how the FOCUS program could align with the VHPG and Hepatitis Program goals and action plan.

### ***Introduction to New Strategic Priority Areas***

***Tom Bendle & Hannah Norcini***

Hannah Norcini reviewed the new strategic priority areas (SPAs) that will formulate the revised Hepatitis Program Action Plan. These are: improve detection, link patients to care, minimize health disparities and strengthen hepatitis surveillance. She explained how these SPAs aligned with the Hepatitis Program's mission, the requirements of the CDC surveillance and prevention grants awarded to the program and current state and national action/strategic plans.

Meeting attendees were encouraged to provide written feedback on the SPAs. Group discussion also occurred; specific concerns were raised regarding the perceived lack of education and prevention activities within the SPAs. VHPG attendees recommended that the Department pursue creating a social media campaign that showcases current treatments (and the ease and availability of treatment).

**Tuesday, October 24, 2017**

**VHPG Members present:** Tom Bendle, Diannee Carden Glenn, Susanne Crowe, Mike Jolly, JoAnne Lamb, Pam Langford, Gordon Licata, Patrick Roberts, Kim Saiswick, Enid Santiago-Cruz, Michelle Scavnicky, Bob Wallace and Joey Wynn.

**Guests present:** Carmen Gali, Nita Harrelle, Kayla Lewis, John Marangio, Kim Molnar, Oluwatobi Ozoya, Hannah Norcini, Valerie Riley, Geetha Sanmugalingham, Lynette Swanson and JoJo Wallace.

### *Carousel*

Hannah Norcini introduced the first brainstorming activity—Carousel—adopted from “Gamestorming: A Playbook for Innovators, Rulebreakers, and Changemakers”. The purpose of the activity was to garner feedback on the SPAs from attendees through a series of ‘what’ and ‘how’ questions posted on flipchart paper around the room. Attendees worked in small groups to respond to each question in a short 2-3 minute time period in order to ensure immediate reactions to the prompts. After each group answered each question, they were assigned one flipchart to summarize and provide that summary to the group. Hannah agreed to compile the results to share with the group.

### *Circles of Influence*

The second activity—Circles of Influence (also adopted from Gamestorming)—was an activity to learn more about the meeting attendees’ network and the contacts they had across their communities. The purpose was to receive feedback on how to augment the VHPG’s effectiveness and reach locally and on a statewide level. Comments included community-based organizations operating in South and Central Florida, medical practitioners and academics. Hannah agreed to compile the results to share with the group.

### *VHPG Business-Bylaws & Membership*

It was brought to the VHPG member’s attention that the public health co-chair position needs to be replaced due to the vacancy left by April Crowley. In addition, terms have expired for three members who need to be re-nominated to continue to serve as members for another three years.

Michelle Scavnicky nominated Tom Bendle as the public health co-chair. Kim Saiswick seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Dr. Bob Wallace nominated Gordon Licata, Kim Saiswick and Enid Santiago-Cruz to each serve three-year terms (2017–2020). Michelle Scavnicky seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

The VHPG members discussed the membership composition and agreed there is currently good demographic representation on the VHPG. After a quick review of the local areas, it was recommended that they can always recruit for new members from Area 3/13-Gainesville and 9-Palm Beach (from the local consortia map).

Hannah and Tom presented the idea of an official membership letter for future VHPG members. The group agreed to include the letter as part of the official appointment of membership. The letter would be signed by the Hepatitis Program Administrator.

Group discussion ensued on how to improve the effectiveness of the VHPG. Mike Jolly indicated that over the past several years, the VHPG experienced 'academic flight' and encouraged the group to look into inciting university faculty to join the VHPG in the future.

Discussion also ensued in regards to the positions that individual members represent and ensuring we have community input.

Tom Bendle motioned for Joey Wynn to become an official Viral Hepatitis Planning Group member. Mike Jolly seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Members decided that it was necessary to have quarterly conference calls/webinars, since the VHPG is unable to meet frequently in person; this will ensure continued enthusiasm and group accountability.

Hannah agreed to circulate a doodle poll to gauge members on the best day/time to host a quarterly conference call/webinar. The first call will begin in January 2018 and include progress updates on action plan items.

The group discussed representation of hepatitis expertise or membership at the statewide HIV planning meeting. It was suggested that the community co-chair attend the meetings and possibly seek membership via the At-large representation. Joey Wynn agreed to discuss the opportunity for hepatitis member representation during the next Patient Care and Prevention Planning Group meeting in November.

*Mike Jolly motioned for the hepatitis community co-chair, Dr. Bob Wallace to represent the Viral Hepatitis Planning Group at the statewide HIV planning meeting and Enid Santiago-Cruz to serve as alternate, if hepatitis member representation is agreed upon by the Patient Care and Prevention Planning Group members. Kim Saiswick seconded. Motion unanimously approved.*

Finally, the VHPG discussed expanding communication and including multiple list serves when sending and sharing hepatitis-related information. The VHPG also requested that Hepatitis Program staff provide the VHPG members the opportunity to give feedback on the program's resources (e.g. Hepatitis Resource Guide or newsletter). A suggestion was made for there to be links on the website for these resources and include options to make automatic updates.

May or June 2018 were suggested as potential dates for the next Viral Hepatitis Planning Group face-to-face meeting to be held. Program staff will distribute information once the group decides on a common date.

*With no further business, Michelle Scavnicky motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Dr. Bob Wallace seconded. Motion unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.*

**Next Steps/Action Items:**

<b>Summary of Discussion</b>	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Status Update</b>
Carousel activity-garner feedback on the strategic priority areas from attendees through a series of ‘what’ and ‘how’ questions posted on flipchart paper around the room.	<b>Hannah agreed to compile the results to share with the group.</b>	Hepatitis Program Staff	Post Meeting	<b>Distributed 10/25/17</b>
Circles of Influence-to learn more about the meeting attendees’ network and the contacts they have across their communities.	<b>Hannah agreed to compile the results to share with the group.</b>	Hepatitis Program Staff	Post Meeting	<b>Distributed 10/25/17</b>
Nomination and official appointment of new and previous members to the Viral Hepatitis Planning Group-the group agreed to include the letter as part of the official appointment of membership. The letter would be signed by the Hepatitis Program Administrator.	<b>1. Prepare and distribute letters to the following new and previous members of the VHPG: Tom Bendle, Gordon Licata, Kim Saiswick, Enid Santiago-Cruz and Joey Wynn to each serve three-year terms (2017–2020). 2. Update VHPG membership roster and distribute.</b>	Hepatitis Program Staff	Post Meeting	<b>1. Distributed 10/25/17 2. Distributed 10/25/17</b>
1. The members requested to host a quarterly conference call/webinar to gain updates on the action plan. 2. May or June 2018 was suggested for the next face-to-face meeting dates.	<b>1. Hannah agreed to circulate a doodle poll to confirm best day/time to host quarterly conference call/webinars. 2. Determine the best day/time to host the next face-to-face meeting.</b>	Hepatitis Program Staff	January 2018	<b>1. Distributed 10/25/17</b>
The group discussed representation of hepatitis expertise or membership at the statewide HIV planning meeting. It was suggested that the community co-chair attend the meetings and possibly seek membership via the At-large representation.	<b>Joey Wynn agreed to discuss the opportunity for hepatitis member representation during the next Patient Care and Prevention Planning Group meeting in November.</b>	Joey Wynn/The AIDS Institute	November 2017	
Additional follow-up from the VHPG meeting	<b>Distribute the following items from the VHPG Meeting: 1. Meeting Summary 2. Evaluation Summary 3. PowerPoint and other presentations</b>	Hepatitis Program Section/The AIDS Institute	Post Meeting	<b>1. Distribute by 1/26/2018 2. Distribute by 1/26/2018 3. Distributed 10/25/17</b>