



San Francisco Hep B Free

First city in U.S. to test and vaccinate all Asian and Pacific Islanders for hepatitis B

CAMPAIGN GOALS

- To create public and healthcare provider awareness about the importance of testing & vaccinating Asian Pacific Islanders (API) for hepatitis B.
- To promote routine hepatitis B testing and vaccination within the primary care medical community.
- To ensure access to treatment for chronically infected individuals.

BACKGROUND

- Nov. 2006 SF Board of Supervisors passes resolution #659-06 establishing goal of universal hepatitis B testing and vaccination for API residents of San Francisco; endorsed by Health Commission Dec. 2006.
- Chronic hepatitis B is responsible for 80% of all liver cancers worldwide.
- Less than 1% of the general U.S. population has chronic hepatitis B.
- An estimated 10% of APIs have chronic hepatitis B infection, contracted at birth or early childhood.
- API residents comprise 34% of San Francisco's population.
- Without proper care, 1 in 4 API living with chronic hepatitis B will die from liver cancer or liver failure.
- Liver cancer presents the greatest health disparity between Asian Americans and Caucasian Americans.
- Chronic hepatitis B is often asymptomatic. A simple blood test is necessary to detect the disease.
- Hepatitis B infection is passed from infected mother to infant at birth if there is no intervention.
- There is no cure for hepatitis B, but there are treatments to manage the disease and prevent liver cancer.
- **Hepatitis B is a vaccine preventable disease.**

STRATEGIES

Public Awareness

- Create a public awareness & education campaign via advertising, news stories, PSAs and events.
- Create citywide collaboration to eliminate the transmission of hepatitis B by improving access to services.
- Create hepatitis B educational opportunities for primary care clinicians.

Screening

- Provide free or low-cost testing at community and healthcare settings and events.
- Promote testing for insured patients within the primary care medical community.

Vaccination

- Provide free or low-cost vaccination through hospital programs, community clinics & special sites.
- Promote vaccination of insured patients within the primary care medical community.

Treatment / Follow-up

- Refer patients to their primary care physician or to appropriate clinical sites for follow-up & care.
- Promote care of insured persons within the primary care medical community.
- Support primary care clinicians with access to hepatitis B educational venues.

STEERING COMMITTEE

- San Francisco Department of Public Health
- Asian Liver Center at Stanford University
- AsianWeek Foundation.

CONTACTS

- Janet Zola / janet.zola@sfdph.org ~ SFDPH
- Meredith Bergin / alcbergin@gmail.com ~ ALC
- Ted Fang / tfang@asianweek.com ~ AWF