



hepatitis *wa*

Strategic Directions 2012 - 2017



About HepatitisWA

HepatitisWA is a not-for-profit community based organisation established in 1992 by people living with hepatitis C.

HepatitisWA seeks to reduce discrimination and stigma directed at people with viral hepatitis, assist in obtaining the best possible care and support, and raise community awareness in relation to viral hepatitis.

The aims of HepatitisWA are to:

- Minimise the personal and socio-economic impact for people affected by viral hepatitis.
- Provide an information service about viral hepatitis.
- Assist in preventing the transmission of viral hepatitis.
- Promote community awareness of viral hepatitis.
- Contribute to community, state and national viral hepatitis initiatives.
- Influence public health policy, practice and law in relation to viral hepatitis.

Vision

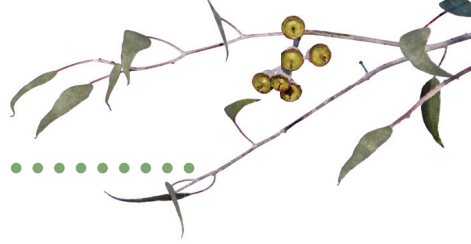
To provide leadership for a future where people affected by viral hepatitis are able to maximise their health and well being; and where viral hepatitis will be eliminated.

Purpose

To respond effectively to the needs of people affected by viral hepatitis, and to enhance community awareness, health and wellbeing through information dissemination, education, support and advocacy in relation to hepatitis.

Community outcomes:

- Reduce the transmission of viral hepatitis.
- Reduce the risk and health impact of viral hepatitis.
- Minimise the personal and social impact of viral hepatitis.



Structure and services

A Board of Governance forms the governing body of HepatitisWA. It comprises representatives from stakeholders, health and welfare professionals and interested community members.

HepatitisWA employs paid and unpaid staff and provides the following services:

- Information services
- Education services
- Health promotion
- Support and advocacy services
- Workforce development
- Multicultural services
- Prisoner education
- Community development
- Needle and syringe program

Key stakeholders

HepatitisWA recognises it has important stakeholders including:

- Members
- People living with and affected by viral hepatitis
- People at risk of viral hepatitis
- Local, state and federal government departments
- Non-government and community based organisations
- Health professionals
- Organisations representing and working with our priority populations
- Educational institutions
- Corrective services
- The Western Australian community

HepatitisWA's priority population groups are:

- People living with viral hepatitis
- People affected by viral hepatitis
- People who inject drugs, including people as new, or potential injectors
- Youth including youth at risk
- People in custodial settings
- People from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds
- People living with viral hepatitis with co-morbidities
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Children born to mothers with chronic hepatitis B (pregnant women)
- Targeted workforces and the general community

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Build community awareness and capacity

- Maximise community education initiatives to increase community awareness of, and responses to, viral hepatitis.
- Build on strategic alliances to extend the reach of initiatives to priority populations.
- Strengthen workforce development with alcohol and other drugs, youth and mental health sectors; and expand to other sectors.
- Ensure prevention, health promotion and education initiatives are based on research, needs assessments, population forecasts and best practice.
- Develop a social media and web-based presence, utilising contemporary practices.

Promote healthy living and well-being

- Ensure prevention of the transmission of viral hepatitis remains a priority.
- Promote the health care and health maintenance needs of people affected by viral hepatitis across the lifespan.
- Promote access to treatment, integrated care and collaborative approaches to health care responses.
- Encourage and support a local research focus in service planning and collaborations.



Enhance organisational capacity

- Ensure effective and efficient governance and management structures and processes.
- Ensure long-term financial viability and pursue a diverse revenue base.
- Ensure an organisational culture of leadership, recognition and succession planning.
- Expand and enhance the capacity of HepatitisWA to meet projected increases in service demand.

Strengthen influence and advocacy

- Develop an advocacy and influence plan that identifies priority areas and strategies, including discrimination experienced by those affected by viral hepatitis.
- Enhance partnerships and alliances.
- Support the enhancement of rural and regional services in WA, to increase the capacity of local agencies to respond to viral hepatitis.
- Enhance links with universities and research bodies.
- Develop a consumer/ community engagement policy framework.





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