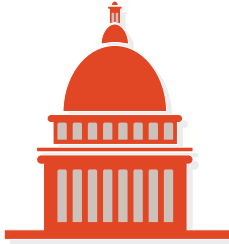
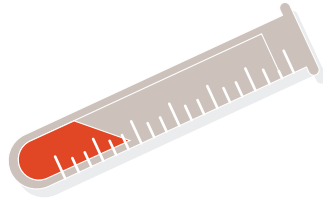


Hepatitis C in the United States: A Hidden and Growing Epidemic

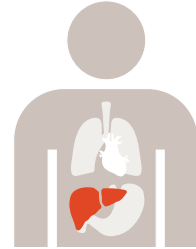
In a public health emergency in the first half of 2015, 170 people in Scott County, Indiana, were diagnosed with HIV as a result of reusing contaminated needles while injecting drugs. Of the 170, 85% were co-infected with hepatitis C virus (HCV). Increased investment in HCV surveillance could have forestalled the Indiana outbreak, limiting the spread of both HIV and HCV, and averting the considerable cost of treating both infections.



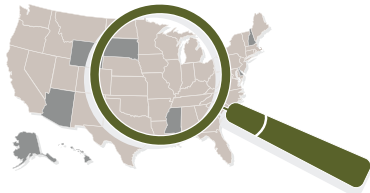
**THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS
(3.2 MILLION)**
LIVING WITH CHRONIC HEPATITIS C VIRUS
(HCV) IS NEARLY FIVE TIMES THE
POPULATION OF WASHINGTON, DC



BUT SHOCKINGLY,
AN ESTIMATED
75%
OF THESE INFECTIONS
ARE UNDIAGNOSED



IF LEFT UNTREATED, HCV OFTEN LEADS TO
CHRONIC ILLNESS THAT CAN PROGRESS TO
CIRRHOSIS, LIVER FAILURE, CANCER &
DEATH



**HCV SURVEILLANCE IS
CRITICALLY IMPORTANT**
IN IDENTIFYING CASES AND TARGETING
PREVENTION EFFORTS. YET NINE STATES AND
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DON'T EVEN HAVE
ESTIMATES OF HCV CASES...

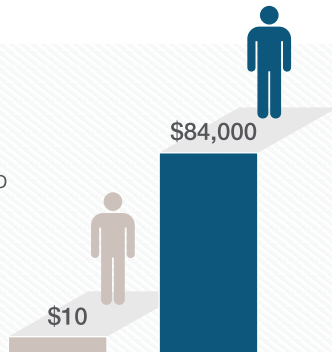


... AND THE CDC'S HCV
SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM
**HAS BEEN CHRONICALLY
UNDERFUNDED**



RIGHT NOW
THE CDC BUDGET
FOR HCV SURVEILLANCE IS ABOUT
\$1 PER PERSON
LIVING WITH HCV IN THE U.S.

THIS HAS LEFT LARGE GAPS IN
THE EFFORT TO DIAGNOSE AND
PREVENT NEW INFECTIONS,
EACH OF WHICH COULD
LATER COST
**\$84,000
TO TREAT**



AS A MINIMUM FIRST STEP TO
RESPOND TO THE GROWING
HCV EPIDEMIC, THE CDC'S
BUDGET FOR VIRAL HEPATITIS
MUST BE DOUBLED FROM
**\$30M
TO \$60M**

