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MAY 2019 EDITION

**HEPATITIS AWARENESS MONTH**

May marks National Hepatitis Awareness Month as well as National Hepatitis Testing Day. Numerous states, including Virginia, have seen an increase in the number of cases of hepatitis A,. During this time it is important to talk to clients about vaccinations for preventable conditions such as hepatitis A and B. If your agency does not provide testing or vaccinations, please refer clients out to receive these services if appropriate. Local health departments, private providers, and many pharmacies provide vaccinations for hepatitis A and B. Many testing centers provide testing for hepatitis B and C.



Be #HepAware2019 for National Hepatitis Awareness Month and Testing Day. [Find a local health department](#) to refer clients to for vaccinations. [Learn more](#) about viral hepatitis and [find resources](#) for your agency and your clients. [Find a testing center](#) that provides hepatitis testing.

**NAVIGATION**

- Hepatitis Awareness Month
- **New MMWR on Extragenital STDs in Gay and Bisexual Men**
- Scholarship to UCLA/Johnson & Johnson Health Care Executive Program
- **Personnel**

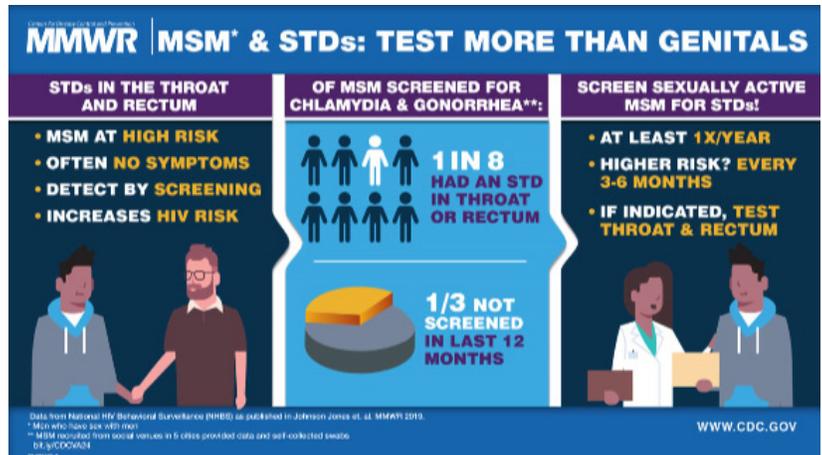
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**NEW MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT ON EXTRAGENITAL STDs IN GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN**

A recently released Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) shows that gay and bisexual men are at increased risk for extragenital STDs. These include chlamydia and/or gonorrhea in the throat or rectum. This information highlights missed opportunities for STD prevention and extragenital screening. <include photo that SPS sent>

Things you should know include:

- Data were collected from gay and bisexual men in non-clinical settings in five U.S. cities through the National HIV Behavioral Surveillance survey.
- One in eight men tested positive for at least one extragenital chlamydia or gonorrhea infection.
- One third of men were not tested for an STD in the past year.
- CDC recommends STD testing for all sexually active gay and bisexual men at least once a year.
- Extragenital STDs can be difficult to treat, lead to drug resistance, and increase risk of HIV infection.



Read the full MMWR [here](#).

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## SCHOLARSHIP TO UCLA/JOHNSON & JOHNSON HEALTH CARE EXECUTIVE PROGRAM

In May, 2018 the Virginia Department of Health's (VDH) Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part B (RWHAP B) offered scholarships to leadership staff from VDH's contracted RWHAP B service providers to attend the 16th annual UCLA/Johnson & Johnson Health Care Executive Program. The Executive Director, Jennifer Zoerkler, from Virginia Health Options (VHO), an agency in Northern Virginia, applied and was accepted; she was the only participant from Virginia.

In the 2018 program, there were 42 participants from all around the country, including Puerto Rico. The common thread among the organizations was serving low-income clients and the majority received Ryan White funding, though this Program is not Ryan White specific. "The curriculum was challenging and each and every presentation by faculty and experts in their fields were impeccable", said Jennifer Zoerkler. Examples of the topics from this 2-week program included behavioral economics and marketing in health care, operations management, the patient experience, social determinants of health, physician recruitment and retention, building business acumen, leading and managing change, the future of health policy, and more.

Under the tutelage of an adviser and using a Logic Model and a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threat (SWOT) analysis, the Program helps organizations create Community Health Improvement Projects (CHIPs), that improve either organizational capabilities or expand services or programs to their clients. VHO's CHIP focused on improving the financial health of the organization to demonstrate program effectiveness as a means to expand RWHAP services and add new sources of funding. Jennifer also stated, "This program was awesome and I thank VDH from the bottom of my heart for making this unique opportunity available and providing the financial support through our Part B funding to attend! I've increased my business acumen and have received many ideas from the other participants. As participants we all felt supported, especially in our work groups. I have expanded my professional network that now includes people in similar organizations across the country. UCLA provides an adviser to follow us for at least a year helping us make our CHIPs reality. VHO now has a CHIP (Internal Process Improvement) as a guiding force in our mission and growth." Ms. Zoerkler presented her CHIP to VHO's Board of Directors and earned approval for implementation.

This annual, 11-day residential program is held each summer at the UCLA Anderson School of Management and the dates for this year are June 17-27, 2019. As a commitment to capacity building and organizational learning for RWHAP B subrecipients, VDH will again provide scholarships if any contracted RWHAP B provider in Virginia is selected to attend. Download the 2019 program brochure [here](#)! If anyone would like to talk with Jennifer Zoerkler about this program, please contact her directly (Jennifer Zoerkler, [jzoerkler@vahealthoptions.org](mailto:jzoerkler@vahealthoptions.org) or (703) 776-0454).



### UCLA/Johnson & Johnson Health Care Executive Program

A MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
FOR EXECUTIVES OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

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## PERSONNEL

### Welcome

**Nadia Morgan** joins DDP HIV Surveillance Program as Data Support Technician. Nadia previously worked in Virginia's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program as a Follow-up Specialist Coordinator, providing technical assistance to providers and early interventionists. Prior to VDH, she worked at Wellpoint/Anthem as Outreach Care Follow-up Specialist. She has a Bachelors in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University, and coursework in criminal justice. Nadia can be reached at [nadia.morgan@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:nadia.morgan@vdh.virginia.gov).

**Chyann Mealy** also recently joined DDP HIV Surveillance Program as Data Support Technician. Chyann previously worked in Virginia's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program as a Follow-up Specialist Coordinator, providing technical assistance to providers and early interventionists. Prior to VDH, she worked at VCU Health System as Unit Secretary. She has a Bachelor's in Health Sciences with concentration in Public Health. Chyann can be reached at (804) 864-7991 or [c.mealy@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:c.mealy@vdh.virginia.gov).

**Mabel Martin** joins DDP HIV Surveillance Program as Contract Epidemiology Consultant. Mabel previously worked as a Health Benefits Officer at American Foreign Service Protective Association (AFSPA) processing customer information in accordance with regulations, compliance standards, policies and procedures. In her prior public health role(s), she worked within DDP as a Medical Monitoring Project specialist conducting medical record reviews, data abstractions and interviews of HIV/AIDS diagnosed persons. She has also worked as a Community Health Educator, Field Consultant, and H1N1 District Response Specialist. She has a Master's in Public Health from Walden University, Baltimore. Mabel can be reached at (804) 864-7646 or [mabel.martin@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:mabel.martin@vdh.virginia.gov).

### Transitions

STD Prevention and Surveillance (SPS) is excited to welcome **Felencia McGee** as the new Health Promotion Coordinator! Felencia previously worked in the HIV and Hepatitis Prevention (HHP) unit of DDP as the Clinical HIV Testing Program Coordinator. In her new role, Felencia will be monitoring memorandum of agreements with safety net providers for STD testing, coordinating monthly STD prevention webinars and trainings, managing SPS' social media efforts and much more. Welcome to SPS, Felencia!

**Alex Clark** has accepted a new position as the Perinatal Surveillance Coordinator. Alex will be working with SPS and HIV Surveillance on congenital syphilis and perinatal HIV projects. He will be gradually transitioning into this role as we train a new Syphilis Case Initiator. Congratulations, Alex!

**Anthony Price**, who has been working as a contractor for the HIV Testing program in HHP accepted the position of HIV Testing Specialist. He will be working with sub-recipient agencies under the 1506 and 1509 CDC demonstration projects in the Eastern region as well as overseeing a number of contracts for testing in clinical settings. Congratulations, Anthony.

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