**Hepatitis C Elimination Programme - GP Champion**

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| **Role** | **HCV elimination GP Champion**  |
| **Associated to**  | Specialised Commissioning – Hepatitis C (HCV) Operational Delivery Networks (ODNS)  |
| **Remuneration** | 2 days a month equating to 4 GP sessions. Approx: £380 per session. Please note this is a sessional role rather than an established post. Sessional reimbursement is made through the Humberside and North Yorkshire ODN |
| **Responsible to** | ODN Clinical Lead - HCV Elimination |
| **Accountable to** | ODN Clinical Lead, HCV Elimination Programme and Head of Programme, HCV Elimination, NHS England |
| **Responsible for** | Providing leadership and driving forward Elimination Initiatives related to case finding in primary care. Postholder will be working within an Integrated Care System (ICS) footprint alongside fellow GP champions |
| **Duration** | The post is for 1 year with the possibility of a second-year extension, depending on funding |
| **Base** | Mainly remote working, but may be required to attend meetings at sites across locality catchment area in East Riding of Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire, Northeast Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire as necessary |

# Context

Eliminating HCV will prevent many deaths and much morbidity (deaths have already fallen by 37% since 2015, and liver transplants reduced by 52%). Screening and treating chronic HCV have been shown by The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) to be a highly cost-effective strategy. The UK Government is a signatory to the World Health Assembly resolution and World Health Organization (WHO) goal of eliminating HCV as a major public health threat by 2030.

NHS England has committed to achieving this goal in advance of 2030 and is set to surpass the WHO target thanks to the centralised delivery of antiviral therapy close to the patient's home via local networks, highly developed joint working with other government departments (The UK Health Security Agency, Her Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service), close partnership with those with lived experience (through the Hepatitis C Trust) and a unique and innovative agreement with pharma. To date, the NHS has provided curative treatment for this cancer-causing virus to around 65,000 high risk individuals. There is still some way to go but the HCV Elimination Programme gives hope that within the next few years we will be able to make history and declare the end of HCV in England as a major public health concern.

To deliver the challenging target of elimination before 2030, the elimination team, within Specialised Commissioning and its partners, have built (and proactively continues to expand) a broad test and cure network that identifies and treats people who may be unaware they have HCV. As part of the HCV Elimination Programme key work areas, primary care has been identified as a priority where a large number of people with unidentified HCV may be identified. These groups include:

1. Patients that may be at risk of HCV
2. Patients who have a confirmed diagnosis but no treatment record and need to be followed up
3. Cases of those that may have received infected blood and/or infected blood products
4. Patients with other blood borne viruses (BBVs)

This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the success of a major public health intervention. It would suit any GP who is passionate about a making a definitive improvement to patient outcomes whilst also diversifying their clinical role.

The role specifics

The GP Champion role will take an active role in HCV case finding in the primary care population, as well as clinical education of colleagues and supporting patient linkage to care. The successful candidate will lead on operational and clinical conversations with GPs alongside the ODN. The role will include working collaboratively with local practices, requiring strong facilitation and influencing skills. The postholder will work closely with members of the ODN (in particular, the clinical lead and programme/network) and the national HCV Elimination Programme Team. Through the respective ODN, admin support will be facilitated for the postholder.

It is expected that the postholder will be passionate about achieving the targets for elimination and will be able to quickly develop an understanding of risk factors and practice around case finding, testing, treatment, and related pathways. They will have strong interpersonal and relationship management skills and will be able to work effectively with clinical and managerial colleagues across the system.

The GP champion will be aligned to the ODN in their catchment area and support will be offered to them by the respective ODN as required. They will also engage with and offer mutual support to their BBV Champion colleagues as part of a Pan-London network.

Key responsibilities:

* Mapping of suitable GP practices to approach in the Humberside and North Yorkshire area
* Utilise the Patient Search Identification (PSI) tool in the GP practice, with support from the ODN, to generate a list of patients for review
* Evaluate the list of patients to identify ‘at risk’ patients across GP practices in the BBV Champion catchment area
* Facilitate testing of identified patients and onward referral to the ODN
* Identify and re-engage positive patients who have been lost to follow-up prior to confirmation of successful treatment
* Update electronic health records with treatment and infection status
* Active educational engagement with primary care to increase identification, testing and improve delivery of care to positive patients
* Facilitate collaborative working between primary care and the ODNs as well as across the London BBV Champion network and contributing to a wider conversation around BBVs
* Promote reduction of onward transmission of HCV
* Monitor and evaluate the BBV Champion programme

**Person specification**

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| Essential | Desirable |
| Qualifications and Registration | Registered Medical Practitioner |
| Full registration and Licence to Practice with the GMC | Membership of the Royal College of General Practitioners |
| On GP Performer’s List without restrictions on practice | Or membership of equivalent organisation |
| Knowledge and Experience |
| Understanding of issues affecting HCV/BBV testing practice within primary careDemonstrable experience of working to influence/affect change within primary care Credibility with peers and local primary care colleaguesAbility to influence at all levelsAbility to form effective working relationships across sectorsMust have at least 3 years of relevant post full registration experienceExcellent clinical decision-making skillsWillingness to support the development of peers and share learn and knowledge Experience of continual audit and quality improvement work |