

# **Hepatitis B Virus and Hepatitis C Virus Services Offered by Substance Abuse Treatment Programs in the United States**

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# Background

- HBV and HCV: major causes of morbidity and mortality
- Substance abusers disproportionately affected by HBV and HCV
- Responsible for sustaining the viral hepatitis epidemic in the U.S.
- Little is known about HBV and HCV health services offered by drug treatment programs in the U.S.

# Primary Objectives

- **To describe:**
  - HBV and HCV testing availability
  - HCV-related services
  - HCV treatment
- **To determine whether HCV-related health services differ between:**
  - Programs with or without clear guidelines
  - Methadone and non-methadone programs

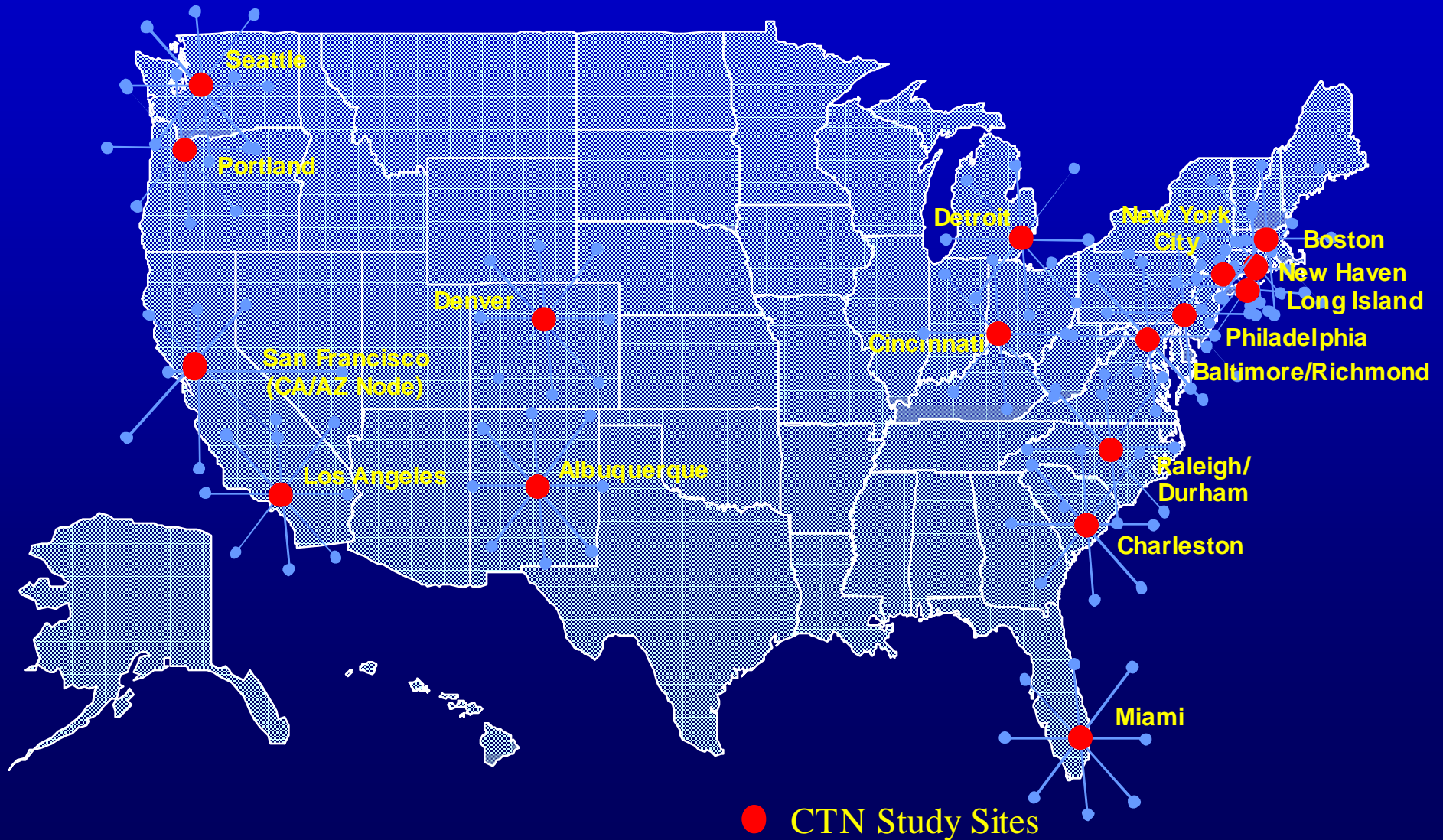
# Design and Population

- Study design
  - **Cross-sectional survey**
  - **Descriptive & exploratory**
- Study population
  - **Treatment program administrators**

# Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network

17 Nodes with 116 Community Treatment Agencies

Reaching into 26 States!

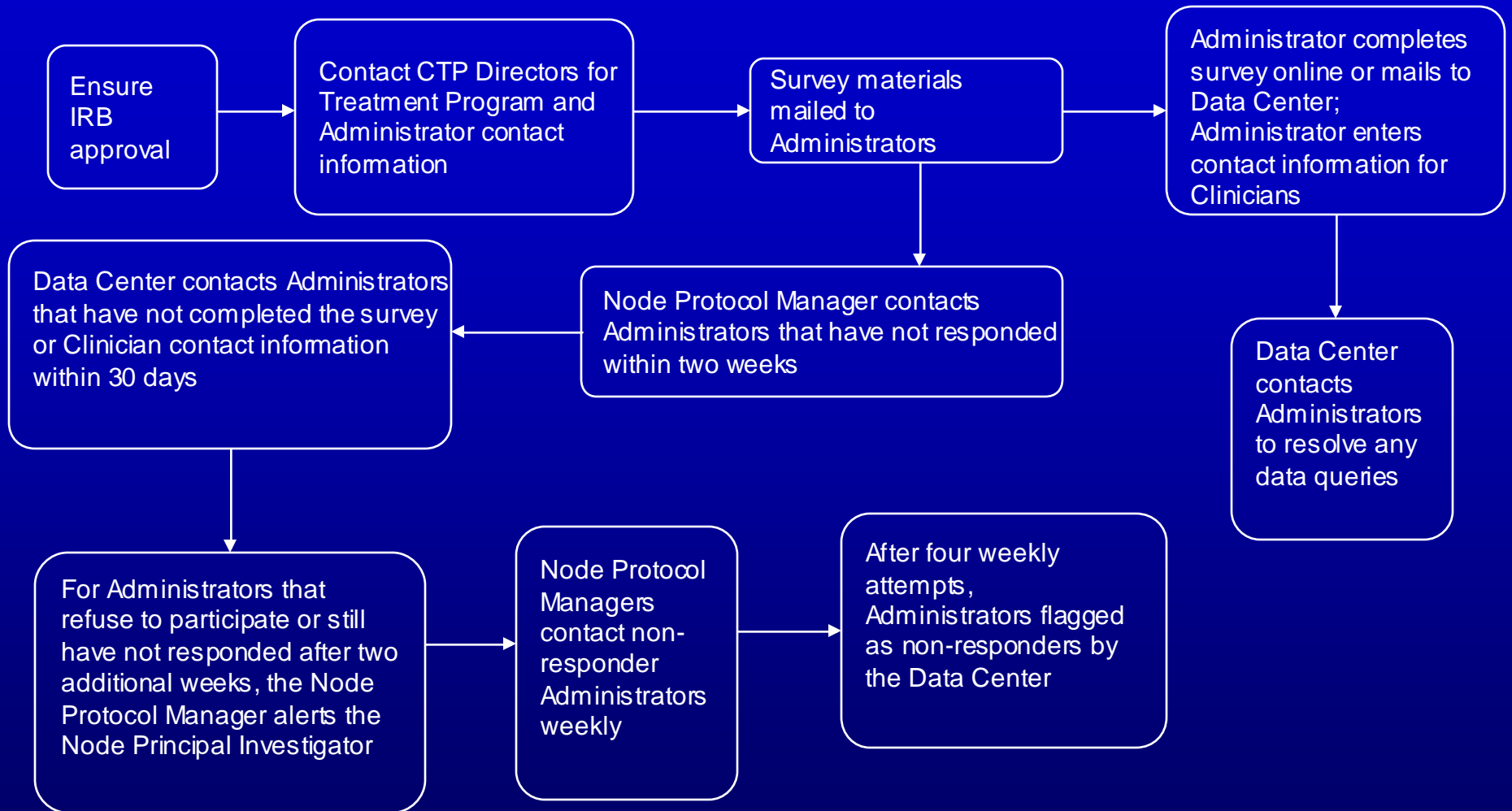


# Study Elements

- Expedited IRB Approval
- Waiver of Informed Consent
- Node Protocol Managers
- Information Sheet
- Survey Administration
  - Paper or electronic
  - Central data acquisition



# Administrator Surveys



# RESULTS

- 319 treatment program administrators surveyed
- 269 (84.3%) returned completed surveys

# Characteristics of the Substance Abuse Treatment Programs Surveyed

Characteristic	Percent
<b>Corporate structure</b>	
Private not-for-profit	78.7%
Private for-profit	5.6%
Government	13.4%
Other	2.2%
<b>Nature of the program</b>	
Hospital/Medical School/University	13.9%
Mental Health/Family/Child Services Center	12.7%
Free-Standing	60.7%
Other	12.7%
<b>Largest source of revenue</b>	
County/local grants	17.2%
State funds	39.3%
Medicaid	17.6%
Federal grants	12.6%
Other	13.4%
<b>Addiction services offered*</b>	
Inpatient or residential services	55.0%
Outpatient pharmacotherapy	36.8%
Other outpatient services	80.2%
Outreach & support services	87.6%

\*Responses were not mutually exclusive for this item

# Characteristics of the Substance Abuse Treatment Programs Surveyed

Characteristic	Percent
Medical staff (MD, PA, NP, RN, LPN, etc.)	
0	21.1%
1 – 3	36.4%
4 or more	42.5%
Non-medical staff	
0 – 7	30.3%
8 – 17	45.2%
18 or more	24.5%
Current patient census	
0	2.0%
1 – 500	56.9%
501 – 1,000	20.4%
1,000 or more	20.8%
Percent of patients infected with HCV	
0	9.2%
1 – 10	30.1%
11 – 20	12.1%
21 or more	48.6%

# HCV Training of Medical and Non-Medical Staff in Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

Ongoing HCV training for clinical staff	
Both medical and non-medical staff	60.5%
Medical staff only	6.2%
Non-medical staff only	12.0%
Neither medical or non-medical staff	21.3%
Proportion of medical staff that had HCV training within the past year	68.4% ± 41.3%
Proportion of non-medical staff that had HCV training within the past year	64.4% ± 39.5%

# HBV Testing Offered by Drug Treatment Programs

	Yes	No	Don't Know
HBV surface antigen testing	20.5%	70.6%	8.9%
HBV surface antibody testing	20.5%	71.4%	8.1%
HBV core antibody testing	16.3%	74.7%	9.0%
HBV e antigen testing	8.9%	81.4%	9.7%
HBV e antibody testing	8.1%	82.2%	9.7%
HBV viral DNA testing	3.9%	87.1%	9.0%

# HCV Testing and Hepatitis A and B Virus Vaccinations Offered by Drug Treatment Programs

	Yes	No	Don't Know
HCV antibody testing	28.2%	67.2%	4.6%
HCV RIBA testing	4.7%	86.3%	9.0%
HCV qualitative PCR testing	4.7%	84.8%	10.5%
HCV quantitative PCR testing	3.9%	85.5%	10.6%
HCV genotype testing	6.2%	84.5%	9.3%
<b>HAV and HBV vaccination</b>			
Offered within substance abuse treatment program	19.3%	-	-
Offered by contractual agreement with another provider	3.5%	-	-
Offered by referral to community resource	45.6%	-	-
Not offered	31.7%	-	-

# HCV Services Offered by Drug Treatment Programs

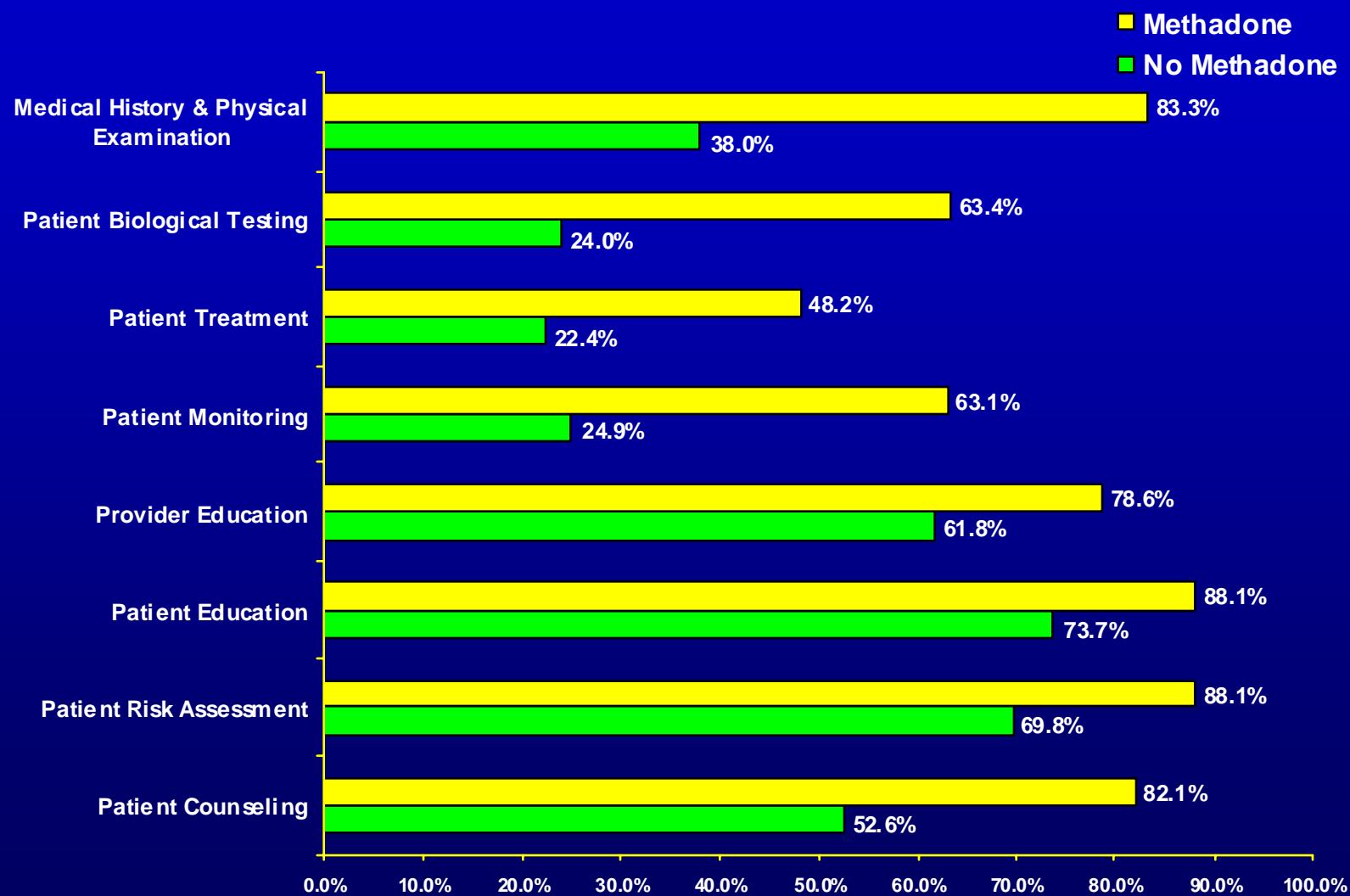
Patient medical history & physical exam	50.0%
Patient biological testing	34.4%
Patient treatment	28.9%
Patient monitoring	35.2%
Provider education	63.3%
Patient education	74.1%
Patient risk assessment	71.9%
Patient counseling	58.9%



## Proportion of Substance Abuse Programs That Offered HCV Testing And Hepatitis Vaccination Services According to the Presence or Absence of Clear or Somewhat Clear HCV Testing Guidelines

Type of Biological Testing	Proportion of Programs Offering Testing		P-Value
	Clear or Somewhat Clear Guidelines Exist	Clear or Somewhat Clear Guidelines Do Not Exist	
HCV antibody testing	88.7%	21.8%	<0.001
HCV RIBA testing	27.4%	7.4%	0.004
HCV qualitative PCR testing	24.7%	5.7%	0.007
HCV quantitative PCR testing	22.5%	3.8%	0.004
HCV genotype testing	24.7%	5.6%	0.004
Other hepatitis testing	19.2%	2.0%	0.008
HAV and HBV vaccination	74.8%	59.8%	0.02

# HCV Services Offered by Methadone and Non-Methadone Substance Abuse Treatment Programs



P <0.01 for all comparisons between methadone and non-methadone programs

# Conclusions

- Many substance abuse treatment programs do not offer comprehensive
  - HBV or HCV testing
  - HCV-related health services
  - HCV treatment
  - Hepatitis vaccination services
- Public health interventions for substance abusers are needed