

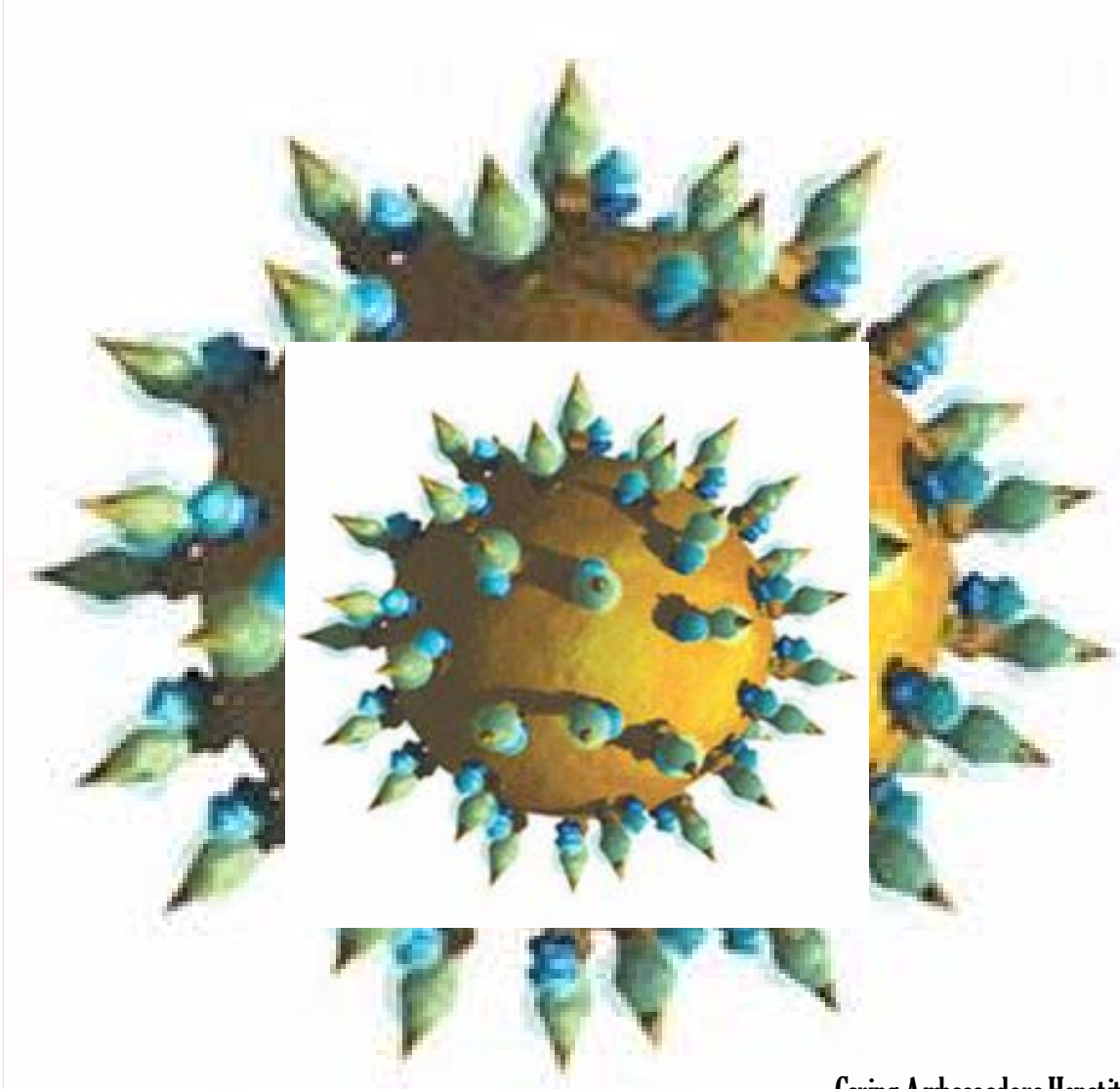
...“[Hepatitis C is] one of the most significant preventable and treatable public health problems facing our nation.... a graver threat than the AIDS crisis.”

Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop, 1998

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Hepatitis C: *Still* the Silent Epidemic



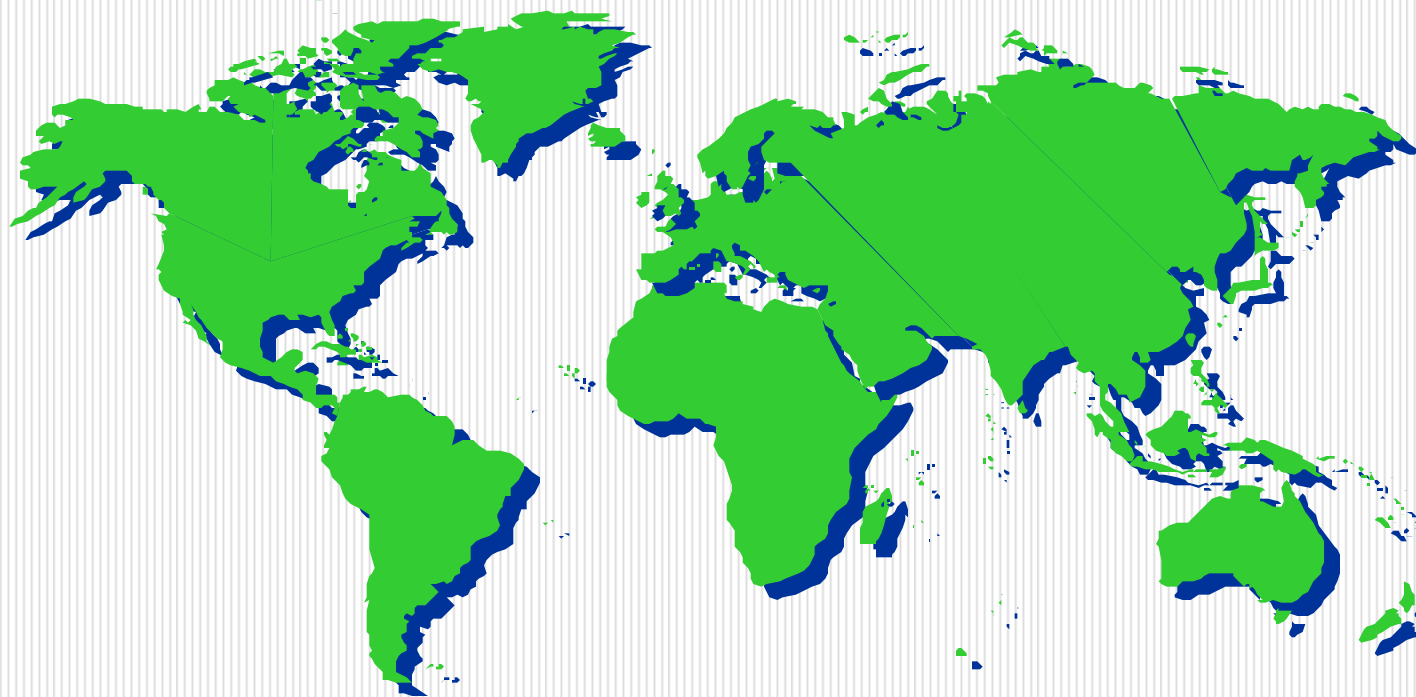
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HCV: A Global Health Problem

~180 Million Infected Worldwide

3-4 Million New Cases/Year



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**Hepatitis C is the
most common,
chronic, blood-borne
viral infection in the
United States.**

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At least **3.8** to **4.5** million Americans have been infected with the hepatitis C virus.

Prevalence of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in the United States, 1999-2002. Armstrong GL, Simard EP, Wasley A, et al. The Liver Meeting 55th Annual Meeting of the AASLD, 2004. Boston, MA. Poster# 31.

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**1/2 to 2/3 of the people
currently infected with
the hepatitis C virus
are unaware
of their status.**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Hepatitis C
Prevention Strategy: A comprehensive strategy for the prevention and
control of hepatitis C virus infection and its consequences. [Available on
the CDC internet site at
www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/c/plan/index.htm; last accessed
October 15, 2004.]

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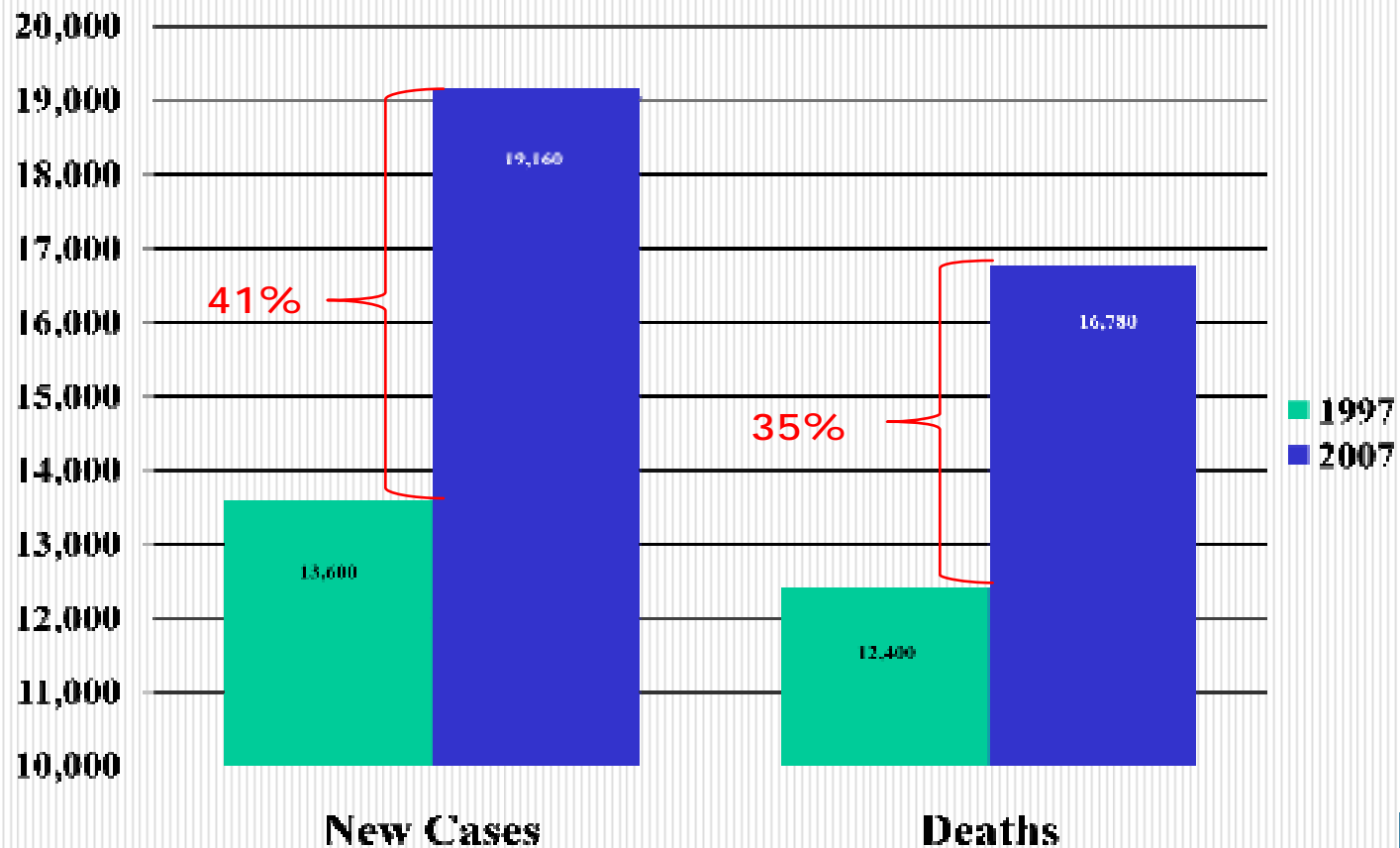
The majority of **chronic liver disease** in the U.S. is due to **chronic hepatitis C.**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Hepatitis C
Prevention Strategy: A comprehensive strategy for the prevention and
control of hepatitis C virus infection and its consequences. [Available
on the CDC internet site at
www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/c/plan/index.htm; last accessed
October 15, 2004.]

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Hepatitis C & Liver Cancer: 1997 vs. 2007



American Cancer Society Statistics
http://www.cancer.org/docroot/stt/stt_0.asp
last accessed 10/23/07

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The Cost

No one is immune to hepatitis C.

•3.1 million years of life lost

•\$85.8 billion societal & fiscal costs

Wong JB, McQuillan GM, McHutchison JG, Poynard T.
Estimating future hepatitis C morbidity, mortality, and costs in the United States. *Am J Public Health*. 2000;90(10):1562-9.

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The Cost: 1994 to 2001

25% to 35% ave. annual ↑

- **hospitalizations**
- **hospital charges**
- **hospital days**
- **outpatient physician visits**

Trends in Health Care Resource Use for Hepatitis C
Virus Infection in the United States. Grant WC et al.
Hepatology. 2005: 1406-1413.

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Federal Response to HCV

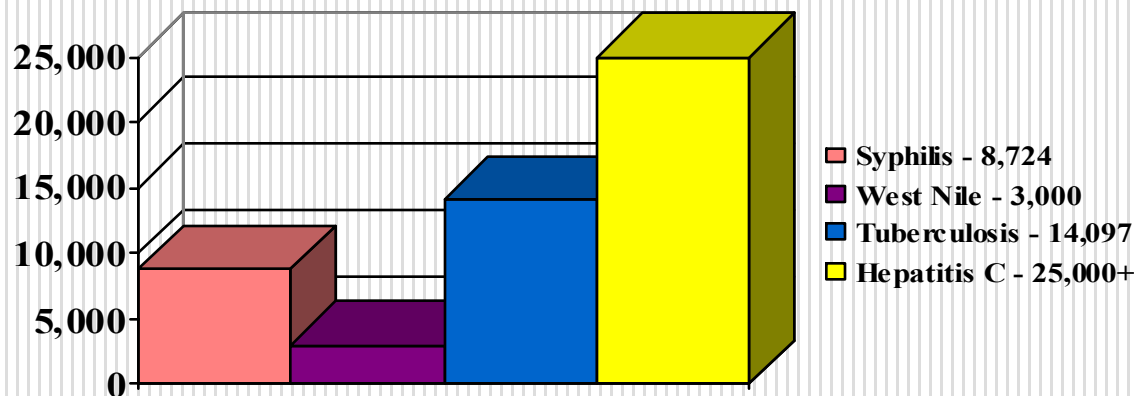


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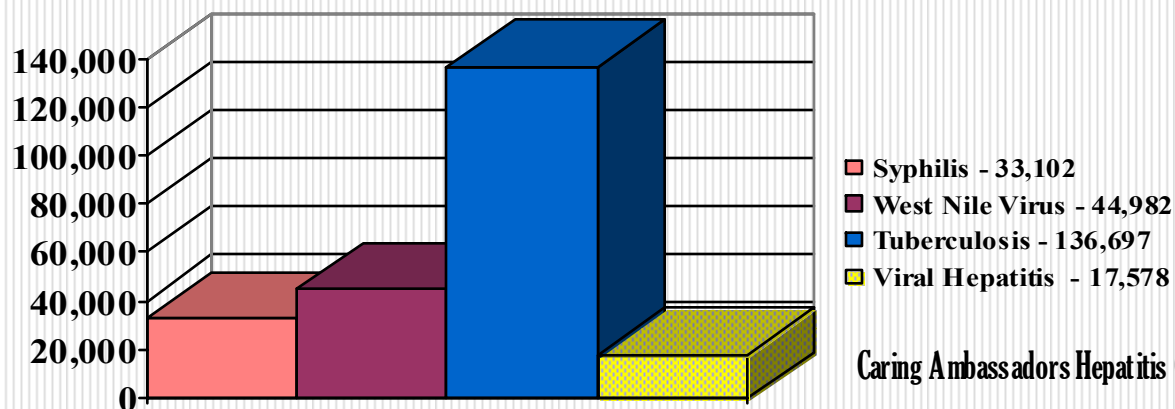


Federal Response to HCV

Annual New Cases of Selected Infectious Diseases, U.S. 2005



CDC Budget 2006



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Federal Response to HCV

~75% of America's health departments do **not** having the capacity to test for the most common chronic blood borne virus in America.

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Where Are They?
Counseling and Testing
Surveillance
Care and Treatment
programs
are virtually absent
for hepatitis C.

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**Apathy is at
an all-time high.**

WHO CARES?

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The Solution

Primary Prevention

- ✓ hepatitis C education and awareness campaigns
- ✓ screening

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The Solution

Secondary Prevention

- ✓ counseling
- ✓ awareness
- ✓ education

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The Solution

Tertiary Prevention

- ✓ disease management
- ✓ access to care

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Hepatitis C Epidemic Control and Prevention Act

S 1445/HR 2552

- **State and local HCV testing, counseling and referrals for medical management**
- **HCV and HBV education to providers**
- **HCV surveillance studies**

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Hepatitis C Epidemic Control and Prevention Act

S 1445/HR 2552

- **HAV and HBV vaccine for those at high-risk for HCV**
- **HCV coordinators to integrate HCV services into existing public health programs**

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C the Problem.

Be Part of the Solution.

The time to act is NOW.

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Special Thanks

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Hepatitis C National Advocacy Council

Hepatitis C Appropriations Partnership

Acknowledgements:

American Cancer Society

Center for Disease Control

World Health Organization

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