A VISION FOR HEPATITIS C: TEST, TREAT, CURE

COMMITMENT
Ministers and political parties to commit to halving hepatitis C related liver cancers and deaths by 2020 and eliminating the virus by 2030.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
The Department of Health to take lead responsibility for an implementation plan to replace the 2004 Action Plan for Hepatitis C and ensure a coordinated and effective approach to testing, treating and curing people with the condition and the prevention of new infections.

ELIMINATION GROUP
A Hepatitis C Elimination Group, reporting formally to Ministers, to be established to co-ordinate the work of the relevant health organisations in improving services, comprising the relevant statutory and non-statutory organisations and patient, clinical and local government representatives.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES
Commissioners to work proactively with voluntary sector groups providing advice and support to patients with hepatitis C and to develop prevention strategies targeted at people at risk of contracting the virus.

COST EFFECTIVE THERAPIES
Industry to ensure that new therapies are priced to meet NICE criteria for cost-effectiveness for the whole hepatitis C patient population.

ACCESS TO SERVICES & TREATMENTS
NHS England’s specialised commissioners to ensure the availability of services and NICE-approved treatments for all patients diagnosed with hepatitis C in line with international guidelines.

DATA ON PATIENT OUTCOMES
Commissioners to ensure that, as a core part of contracts, service providers collect and report data on their hepatitis C outcomes to standards set by Public Health England.

MORE TESTING
Testing for hepatitis C and other blood-borne viruses to be provided in a range of healthcare settings to maximise coverage, working to nationally-agreed performance standards as part of structured care pathways.

Elimination of hepatitis C as a public health threat is achievable. With concerted action, it will be possible to eliminate the virus from the UK-born population by 2030.

To read the full plan for change visit: http://www.hepc-coalition.uk

The Hepatitis C Coalition is a group of leading clinicians, patient organisations and other interested parties committed to the reduction of morbidity and mortality associated with hepatitis C and its eventual elimination. The Hepatitis C Coalition has funding from Gilead Sciences Ltd.