

Victorian Viral Hepatitis Educator



What does the Victorian Viral Hepatitis Educator do?

The Victorian Viral Hepatitis Educator is based at St Vincent's in the Gastroenterology department and is funded by the Victorian Department of Health to provide education relating to hepatitis B and C to health professionals across Victoria. The current Victorian Viral Hepatitis Educator is a health professional with a background in education and infectious diseases.

Why is education relating to viral hepatitis so important?

- Cases of both hepatitis B and C are increasing in Australia
- Over 160,000 Australians are living with chronic hepatitis B
- An estimated 211,700 Australians are living with chronic hepatitis C (as a comparison 17,444 people are living with HIV)
- Hepatitis B and C are often under-diagnosed
- Awareness of transmission modes and at-risk populations is important
- Long-term monitoring is important to identify possible complications of cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)
- Treatment is possible for both hepatitis B and C
- The efficacy of hepatitis C treatment has improved and a CURE is possible (*Statistics from NCHECR, 2009*)

Who is the education for?

The sessions are for health professionals who work with priority populations. This may include general practitioners and practice nurses, nurses from all sectors and specialties, medical and nursing students, community health workers (Allied Health, NSP and AOD), aged care workers, Indigenous health workers, dentists, dental students and pharmacists.

What type of education is provided?

Information is presented in a clear, accessible manner based on current evidence through a combination of a PowerPoint presentation and interactive activity to promote discussion. It can include epidemiology, transmission risks, prevention, current treatments, ongoing management and psychosocial issues related to hepatitis B and C. Education is responsive to the learning needs of the health professional group.

Contact

Frances Cieslak
Tel: (03) 9288 3586
Mob: 0407 865 140
frances.cieslak@svhm.org.au

Cost

Education sessions are FREE.

Where

Education sessions are brought to you and can be held anywhere in Victoria at an agreed location.

When

Sessions can be conducted at a time that best suits your staff (including evenings).

Duration

This will depend on your professional group's needs, but generally sessions are for at least one hour in order to maximise the benefits.

