

Background

Hepatitis C is a public health threat, affecting over 2 million people in the United States (U.S.). The World Health Organization (WHO) and U.S. Viral Hepatitis National Strategic Plan aim for a 90% reduction in new hepatitis C infections by the year 2030. Despite the availability of effective direct-acting antiviral (DAAs) options, only 1 in 3 patients who test positive for hepatitis C infection are cured.

Several studies highlight the pivotal role that pharmacists play in hepatitis C virus treatment in supporting access to care, providing medication management, and improving sustained virologic response (SVR) rates. However, there is less information available on the impact of a collaborative approach with both pharmacists and pharmacy technicians within a hepatitis C service.

Currently at NeighborHealth, a collaborative approach with a pharmacist and a pharmacy technician is utilized for the hepatitis C program. The roles and responsibilities for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are described in a standard operating procedure (Figure 1). Prior to the technician joining the service, the pharmacist provided the pharmacy technician with relevant training on hepatitis C disease monitoring and treatment. The pharmacy technician is not permitted to conduct pharmacist-specific tasks, such as patient counseling. The pharmacist may assist in pharmacy technician roles if needed.

Objective

The purpose of this study is to assess the impact of integrated pharmacy teams on hepatitis C treatment initiation, adherence and outcomes.

Methodology

- **Study Design:** Single center, prospective, observational study
- **Inclusion Criteria:** Adult patients who are candidates for DAA hepatitis C treatment between December 1st, 2024 to December 30th, 2025 at NeighborHealth clinics
- **Exclusion Criteria:** Patients treated outside of NeighborHealth clinics, pediatric patients under 18 years old, and deceased patients

Figure 1: Test-to-treat Algorithm

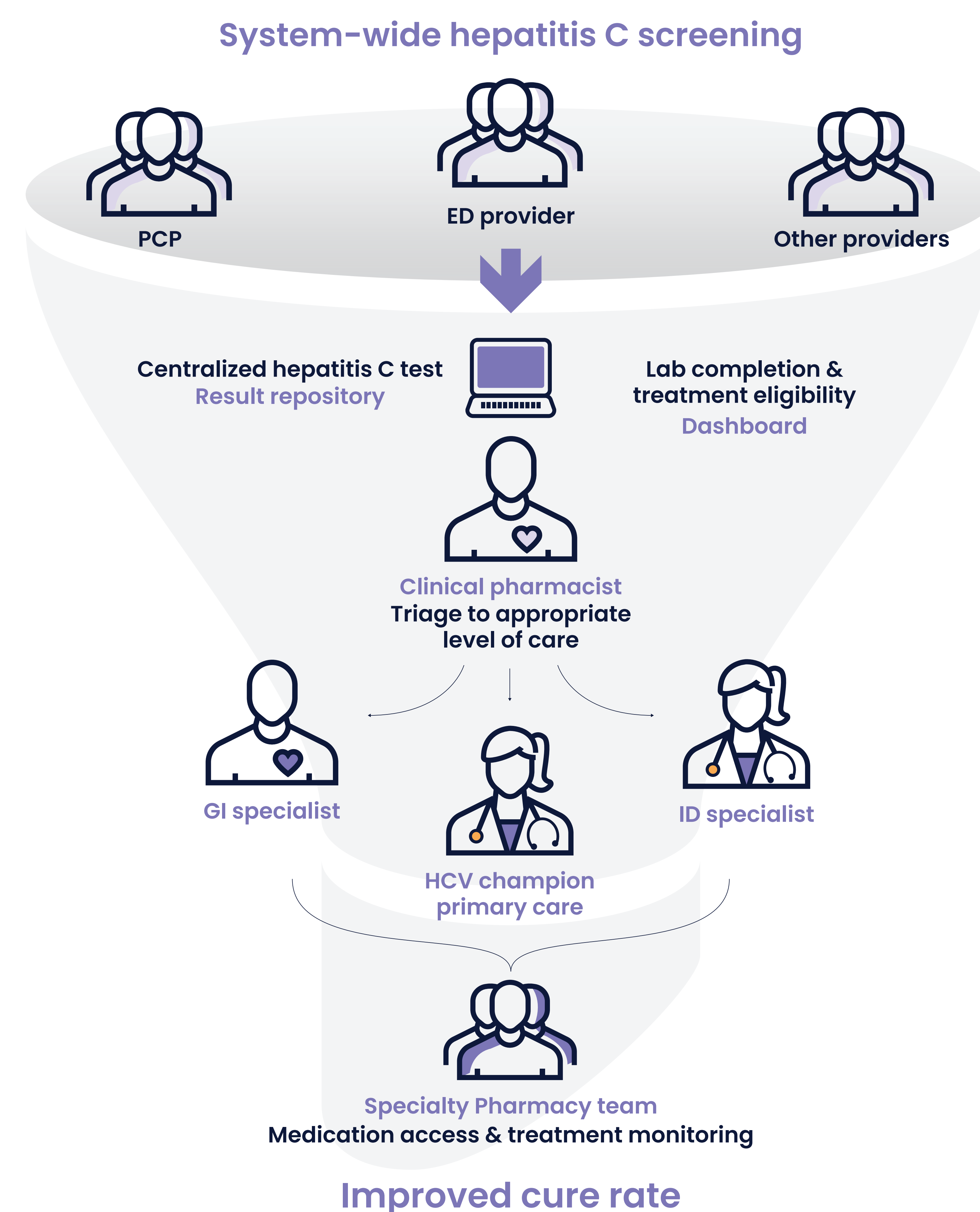


Figure 2: Roles and Responsibilities of Specialty Pharmacy Team

