

Hepatitis B (HBV) is a **blood borne virus** which can cause progressive liver damage, often leading to **cirrhosis**. Approximately **325,000 people** are **infected within the UK**. HBV is known to be under-diagnosed so testing is recommended as it is often initially **symptomless**, yet significant liver damage can still occur and the virus is still highly contagious. King's College Hospital's (KCH) local boroughs are Lambeth and Southwark, where up to 20% of people are from countries in the regions of Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa with more than 8% incidence of Hepatitis B

## Project lead:

Teresa Bowyer, Viral Hepatitis Nurse, London

## Project aim:

To develop a specialist, nurse led GP practice based specialist viral hepatitis service within Lambeth/Southwark

## Outputs:

- Information posters to advertise the new service of testing for Viral Hepatitis
- Operational Guide outlining the agreed processes of the clinics
- Clinics in Southwark and Lambeth

## Outcomes:

- nurse-led service set up in **2** GP practices
- good working relationships developed with GP practice teams
- one GP practice keen to work with Viral Hepatitis Service on further initiatives
- South London Clinical Commissioning Group is now considering a new community based Viral Hepatitis Nurse role
- % of patients rating their care as 'very good' was increased from **78%** to **86%**
- of those seen at their GP practice as part of the QNI project, **93%** wanted to continue being seen there by the specialist nurse

**'GP practice was closer so was able to be on time without problems with public transport or place to park my car'**

**'No comment at all, everything is excellent!'**

**'I can relate to nurses at the GP practice better considering it's not as busy as King's Hospital itself.'**

