Hepatitis C: Everybody’s Responsibility

IHS, tribal, and urban Indian clinics can cure you of hepatitis C. Getting treated makes you someone strong enough to get in and get help to wipe out this disease.

Learn more

It's time to make a decision to get actively involved, raise awareness, and care for ourselves and the ones we love.

Text CURE to 97779

The Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board aims to raise awareness of the hepatitis C mask, the story of its modern creation, and its message of the importance of hepatitis C testing and treatment.

The Hepatitis C Mask

This mask, from the exhibit “Aggravated Organisms,” was carved by Drew Michael (Yupik/Inupiaq) and painted by Elizabeth Ellis (Alutiiq/Sugpiaq) to represent hepatitis C. This mask and 9 more representing other diseases explore how our bodies’ cells are sometimes overtaken by disease. The masks traveled through Alaska and the Seattle area to spread awareness before being burned in a traditional ceremony.

- Deb Myers (Makah), cured of hepatitis C

“Getting treated makes you someone strong enough to get in and get help to wipe out this disease.”

www.npaihb.org/hcv
The long-term effects of having Hep C all these years have cost me greatly,” he said.

But recently, Michael was offered a new treatment—one that took just 12 weeks to cure him of Hep C.

“There were no side effects, and I’m happy to say I don’t have hepatitis C anymore. I’m more active, have more energy, am less achy, and feel more positive.”

Michael urges others to get tested and treated, too.

“It’s not going to go away unless you do something about it.”