



## *Providing Care and Cure: Hepatitis C Screening and Treatment for an Underserved Population*

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### Need and Barriers to Care

- *Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is the most common blood-borne infection in the United States affecting approximately 3.5 million people.*
- *Certain patient populations are more impacted by HCV such as those that are homeless and those that have a history of drug use. It is estimated that approximately 50% of those that are homeless have HCV and up to 75% of those that have a history of intravenous drug use have HCV.*
- *Of those that are chronically infected, 50-75% are unaware of this diagnosis. Partly due to the asymptomatic nature of the disease, but also the lack of proper access to screening.*
- *For most that have inadequate access to healthcare, even if they know they are infected, they don't believe they would have options for treatment and cure from hepatitis C.*



### Magis Clinic

- *The Creighton Magis Clinic is a non-profit student-run free clinic that was established in 2004 by a group of Creighton medical students who recognized a need for healthcare in the underserved Omaha community.*
- *The clinic operates out of the Siena Francis House, Nebraska's largest homeless shelter, and is staffed by volunteer physicians, pharmacists, medical students, pharmacy students and undergraduate students.*
- *The clinic mission:*
  - *To provide quality and compassionate healthcare to the underserved and to work towards forming and educating students to be agents of change.*
  - *Also seek to serve as an access point to connect patients to care beyond the scope of our clinic.*
- *The Magis Clinic serves a population of patients that fits the characteristics of those that are more predominantly impacted by HCV. Thus screening for HCV has become a priority at the clinic.*

### Connection to Treatment

- *Dr. Robyn Teply, Department of Pharmacy Practice, and Dr. Mark Goodman, Department of Family Medicine, provide primary care to patients at the CHI Health Creighton University Medical Center - University Campus Clinic. Dr. Teply's area of clinical expertise is the treatment of hepatitis C in the primary care setting.*
- *The Magis Clinic and Drs. Teply and Goodman have formed a collaboration to connect patients with hepatitis C to treatment. Once identified by the Magis Clinic, the patients are seen by Dr. Teply and one of the primary care providers at the University Campus Clinic. Access to the medication treatments is then obtained through the patient's insurance or a pharmaceutical company-sponsored patient assistance program.*
- *The collaboration has been very successful thus far, providing treatment and cure from hepatitis C for those that may never have had access otherwise. To date, 25 patients have been treated and cured from hepatitis C through this collaboration.*

