



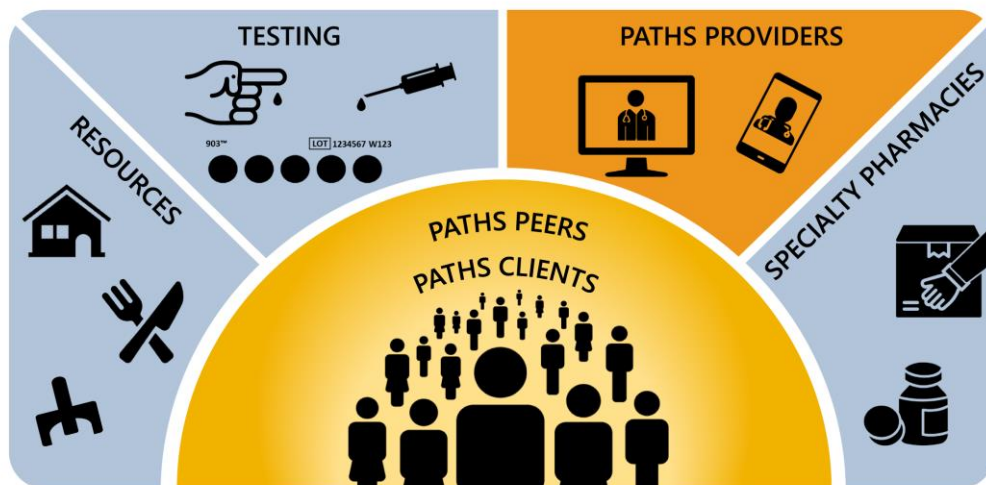
OREGON PATHS



OVERVIEW

PATHS is an intervention developed by Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in collaboration with partners. **Peer support specialists with lived experience assist people who use drugs to access hepatitis C (HCV) and syphilis testing, facilitate telemedicine HCV treatment, and support participants with medication adherence.** OHSU clinicians provide streamlined, low-barrier access to care.

The model was tested in a National Institutes of Health-funded randomized controlled trial that demonstrated high levels of HCV treatment initiation and cure. The PATHS expansion includes implementation by PRIME+ peer teams and programs around the state. The OHSU PATHS implementation team provides training, technical assistance, and clinical coordination. Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is funding the supportive infrastructure through Oregon’s Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration State Opioid Response (SOR) grant.



Reduced Delays

- Standing, streamlined lab orders so peers can bring participants directly to lab
- Typically, same-day unscheduled TeleHCV clinician visits (“walk-ins”)



Reduced Barriers

- Peers facilitate TeleHCV visits, including bringing technology to participants
- Medication lockers if participant does not have stable housing



Peer Support

- Assistance with medication reminders, pickup, adherence
- Calling, texting, going out to locate participants to maintain contact
- Assistance with harm reduction, daily life needs

Oregon Study Results (N = 203)

Oregon ranks 3rd in the U.S. for hepatitis C virus (HCV) mortality and 4th for prevalence, largely due to injection drug use. Less than 10% of people who use drugs with HCV receive treatment, and rural areas face particular barriers. Untreated HCV can lead to severe health issues, including liver cancer. Treatment mitigates these risks and also catalyzes positive changes, such as recovery from substance use.

Community Referral vs Peer TeleHCV

Participants started HCV meds within 6 months

13%

85%

Participants cleared HCV

16%

63%



She would always find me one way or another. If she couldn't reach me by phone, she would come to my mom and dad's house. No matter what it took for her to track me down, she always did. She didn't just stop at one spot because she wasn't able to get ahold of me. **She never gave up.**



peerpathstohealth.org

Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to go to our website to **learn more and find a PATHS team in your area**



pathsprogram@ohsu.edu
Funded through Oregon SAMHSA State Opioid Response Grant (SOR) #H79TI085732

