

Tips for Hosting a Successful HBV Screening Event

Community-based organizations, health-care providers, businesses, faith-based organizations, student groups, and other partners are crucial to increasing hepatitis B awareness and screening rates. Working together to conduct community-based HBV screening events is one of the best ways to make an impact in your community. Below are some tips to help you organize a successful screening event. Good luck!

1. Pre-screening

- Be sure the site you choose is convenient and well-known to your target audience. Your partners can help you choose the best site (i.e. churches, libraries, pharmacies, schools, community centers).
- Make sure you have an appropriate site to conduct a screening. Conduct an initial site visit to map out the space, making sure there is a separate area for blood draws.
- Hire trained, experienced phlebotomists to draw blood. A good rule of thumb is 1 phlebotomist for every 40 people you expect. Two phlebotomists can draw blood on 80-100 people in 2 hours.
- You will need an ordering physician for lab tests, so reach out to your partner clinicians!
- Organize volunteers to assist with in-language registration and event flow. It is important to have bi-lingual staff and volunteers at your event.
- Gather all essential <u>in-language education materials</u>.
- Create <u>flyers and ads</u> to promote the screening event through social media, local ethnic media, word of mouth and local community centers.
- Make sure volunteers, phlebotomists and partners know when and where to arrive on the day of event. Give them your cell phone number. Check for parking options so that event staff can plan their trip in advance.
- Include HBV education in your event. Even 10 minutes of education is helpful! Use an interpreter if necessary.

2. Screening Day

- Make sure you have all of the materials you will need in advance (i.e. education materials, lab forms for blood test orders, data collection forms, informed consent forms, pens). A check-list is helpful for this!
- All staff should arrive ½-1 hour before the event starts.
- Set up the phlebotomy table away from crowds.

3. Registration and Blood Draw

- Have screening participants complete all forms, and check them for completeness.
- Be sure to collect a phone number and address for every participant (using a driver's license can be a helpful way to get accurate addresses).
- Once forms are completed, volunteer/staff bring participants to the blood draw station. This helps with event flow and ensures that all people register before they get their blood taken.
- Be sure to thank participants when they are done!

4. Post screening follow-up

- Try to get mailed test results to participants as soon as possible, within 7-10 days of screening event.
- If mailing test results, include HBV fact sheets, as well as recommended resources for follow-up care for those who need vaccination or test positive for HBV infection.
- Help those who test positive find follow-up care through phone or in-person patient navigation. Have a list of local clinical resources for uninsured and limited English proficient individuals.

Want more input or have questions about HBU? Contact Hep B United at connect@hepbunited.org.