



Eliminating Hepatitis C

Senate Health & Long Term Care
Committee
November 15, 2018

About the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)

- More than 65,000 Washingtonians now live with HCV
- Washington has experienced steady increases in reported HCV cases in recent years, with nearly 40,000 cases from 2012 through 2017.
- In addition to the human cost of HCV, HCV-related hospitalization charges totaled an estimated \$114 million in Washington between 2010 and 2014.

HEPATITIS C A SILENT EPIDEMIC

The hepatitis C virus is a leading cause of **liver disease**, **liver cancer**, and **liver transplants**, placing a huge burden on patients, their families, caregivers, and the healthcare system.

The Growing Problem of Hepatitis C in the U.S.

- >150% increase** in new cases in recent years
- 3.5 MILLION** people are living with hepatitis C
- 59 years** is the average age people are dying

More persons die from hepatitis C than all of the 60 other reported infectious disease combined. According to available data, at least 20,000 deaths occur each year - which is believed to be an underestimate of the actual number.

Hepatitis C Virus is Very Infectious

Hepatitis C virus spreads when blood from an infected person enters the body of someone who is not infected.

Hepatitis C is **10 times more infectious** than HIV.

Testing is Key

At least 50% of persons living with hepatitis C do not know they are infected.

A **blood test** is the only way to know if a person has been infected.

Testing for the hepatitis C virus is recommended for certain individuals, including those who:

- Were born from **1945 - 1965**.
- Have ever **injected drugs**, even if just once.
- Are **children born to hepatitis C infected mothers**.
- Are **infected with HIV**.

Testing, Care, and Treatment Saves Lives

There is **no vaccine** for the hepatitis C virus.

Lifesaving care can prevent serious complications from the hepatitis C virus.

320,000 deaths can be **prevented** by testing and referring infected persons to care and treatment.

New treatments can cure hepatitis C and are cost effective.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

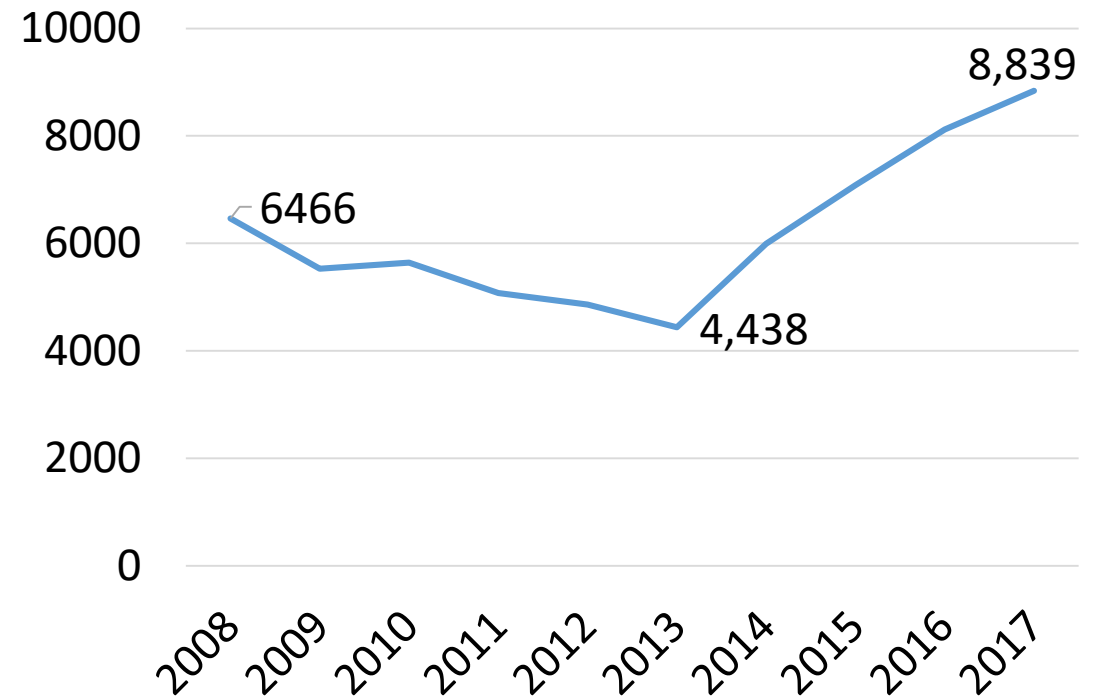
For more information about hepatitis C
Please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/>

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Hepatitis C

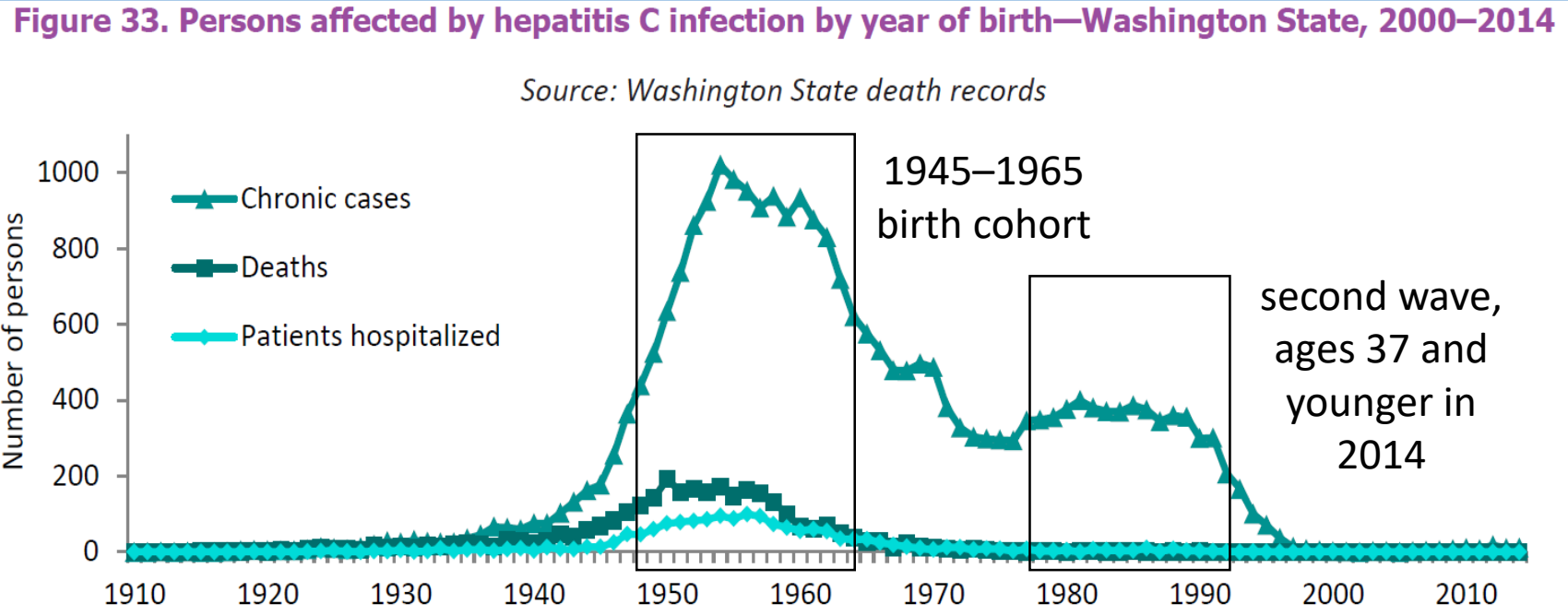
- Hepatitis C is the most common bloodborne infection in the United States.
- In the US, it kills more people every year than all other 59 reportable infectious diseases combined.
- Hospitalization costs related to hepatitis C in Washington were \$114 million from 2010 through 2014.

Chronic HCV cases in Washington State,
by year of report (2008 – 2017)

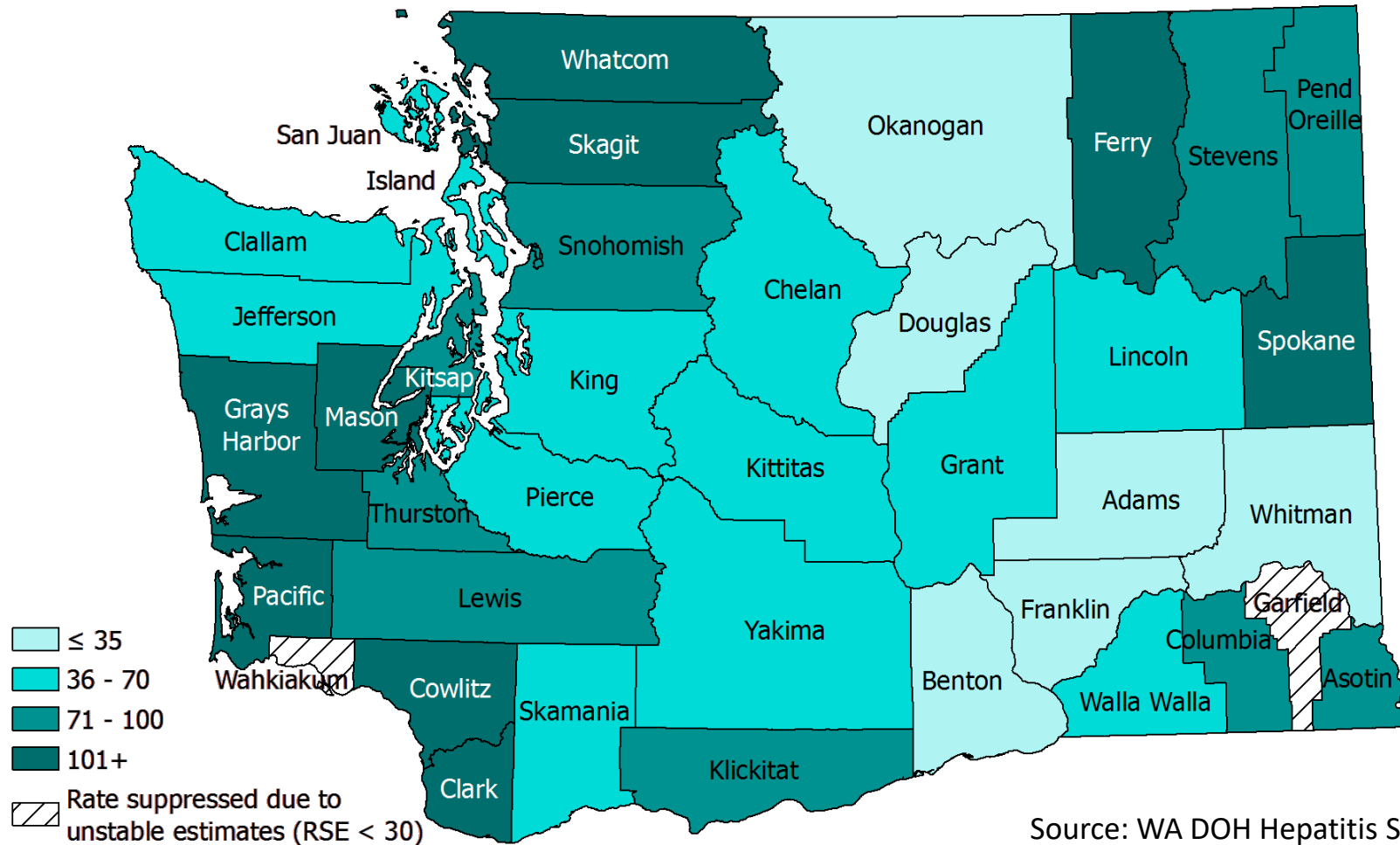


HCV by Year of Birth

The Tale of 2 Epidemics



Five-year rate of chronic hepatitis C infections per 100,000 persons among non-incarcerated residents—Washington State, 2010-2014



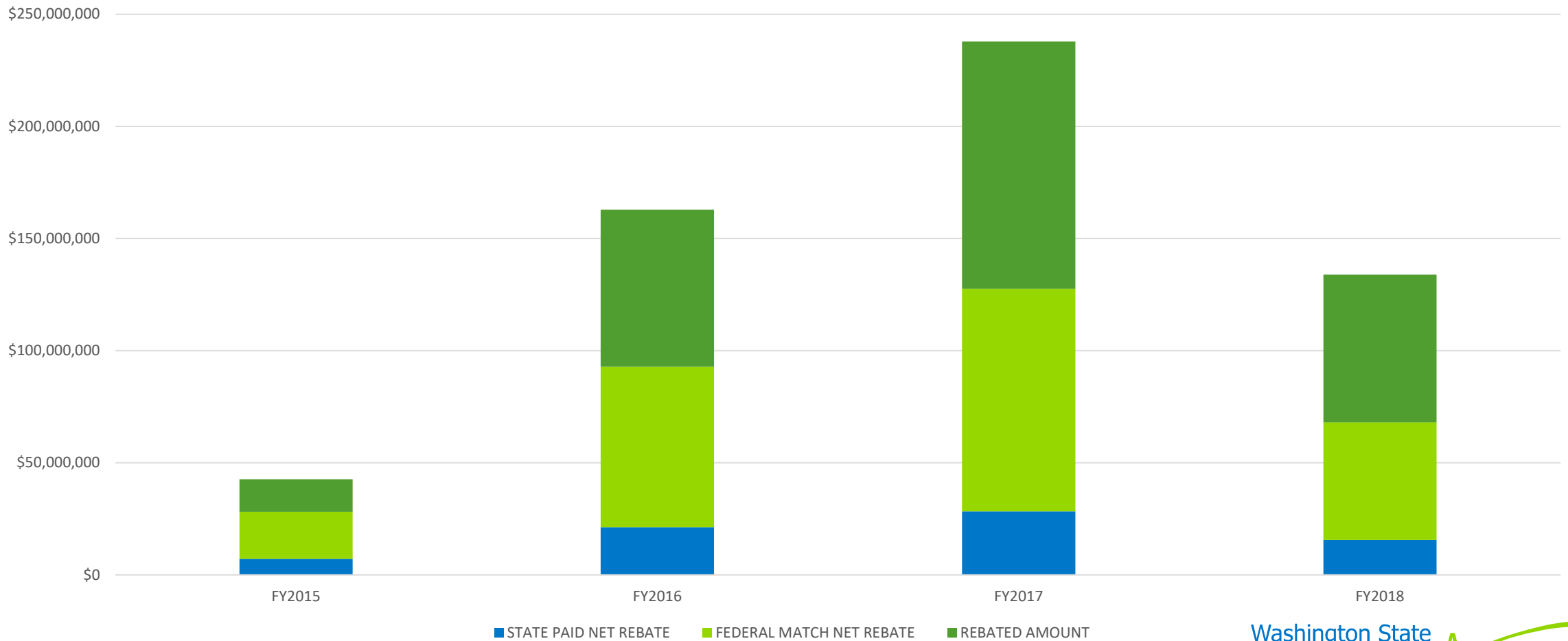
Source: WA DOH Hepatitis Surveillance Records



Prevalence of Hepatitis C in Washington

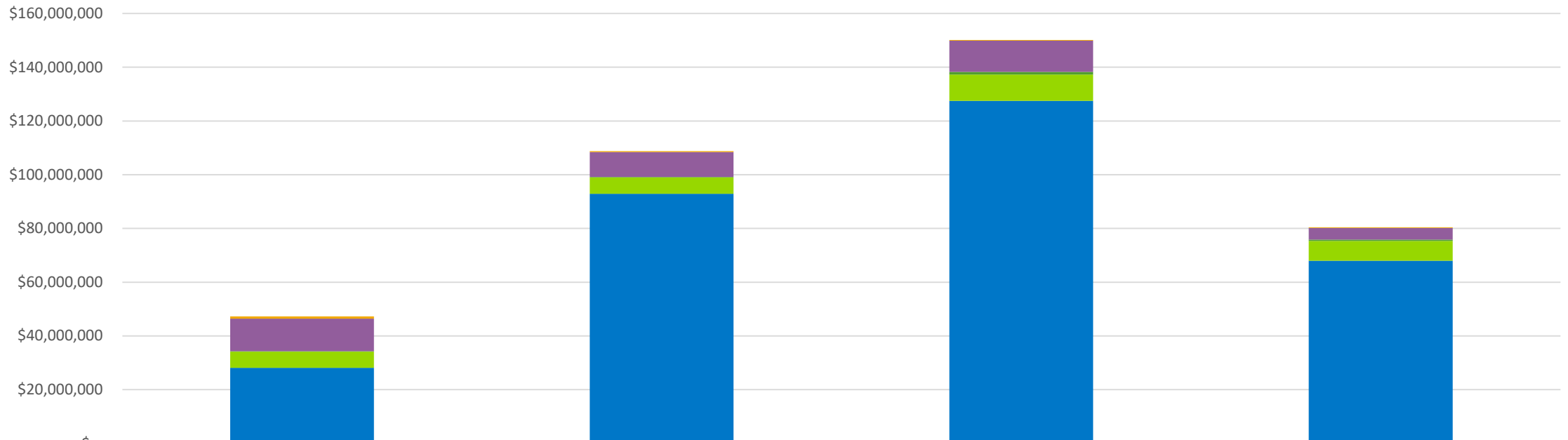
- ▶ Estimated infected populations covered through state agencies
 - ▶ Approximately 35,000
 - ▶ Prisons = approximately 1,900 inmates
 - ▶ Medicaid = approximately 24,000 Medicaid enrollees
 - ▶ PEBB = 2,800 members
 - ▶ LNI and DSHS = approximately 100 persons

Medicaid Annual HCV Drug Expenditure



State Agency Annual Expenditure on HCV Drugs

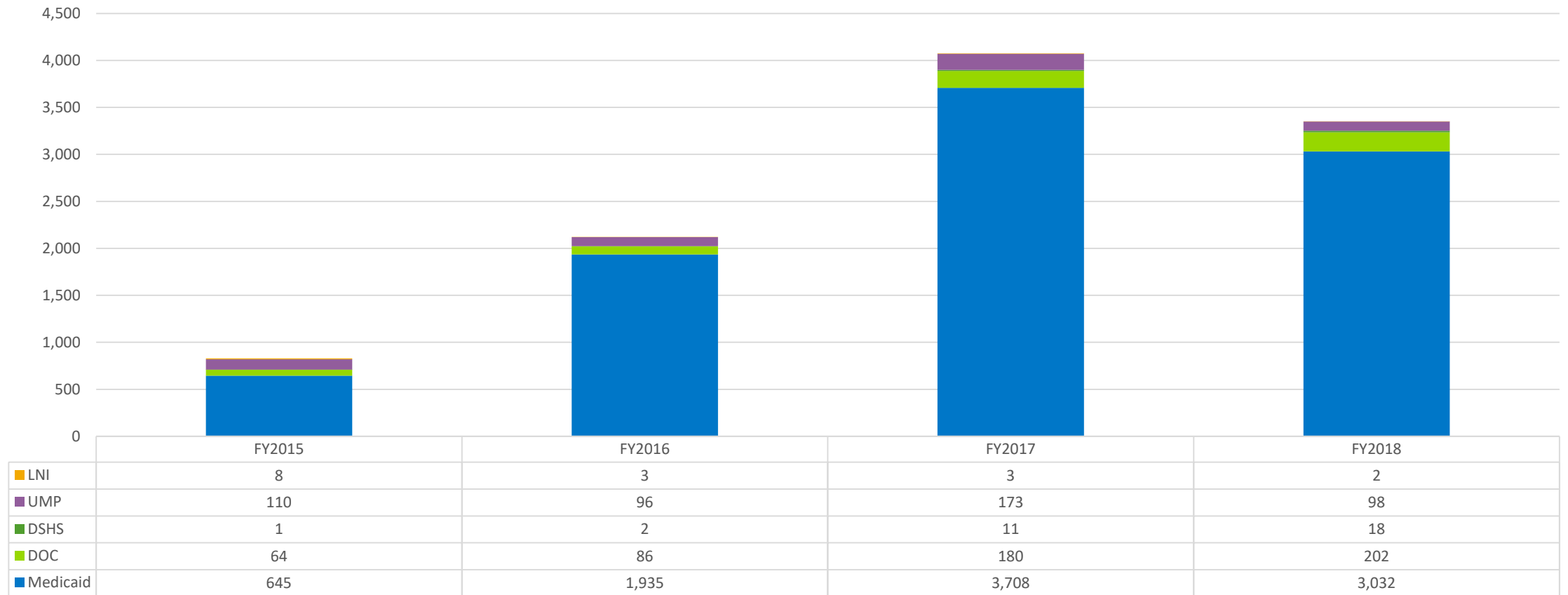
Chart Title



	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
■ LNI	\$864,877	\$324,329	\$324,329	\$216,219
■ UMP	\$12,140,363	\$9,244,209	\$11,560,336	\$4,318,151
■ DSHS	\$89,596	\$179,192	\$1,003,850	\$544,384
■ DOC	\$6,069,599	\$6,143,223	\$9,767,666	\$7,313,679
■ Medicaid	\$28,121,077	\$92,861,663	\$127,534,556	\$68,016,405

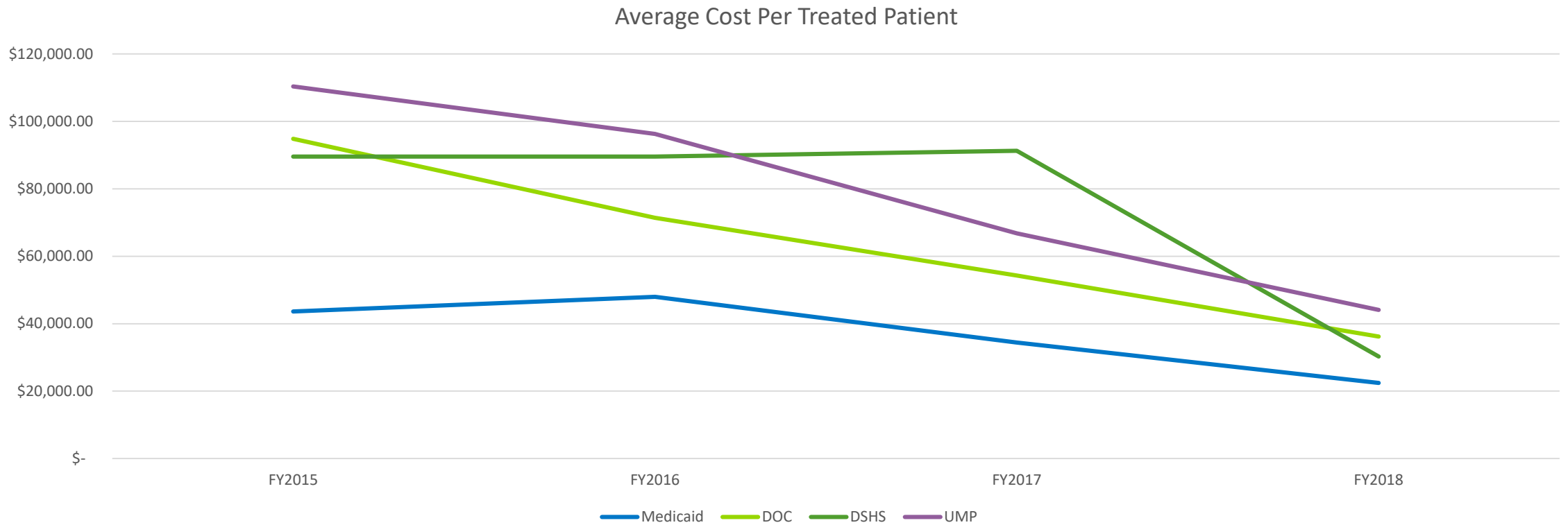
■ Medicaid ■ DOC ■ DSHS ■ UMP ■ LNI

Members Treated Per Year



■ Medicaid
 ■ DOC
 ■ DSHS
 ■ UMP
 ■ LNI

Average Annual Paid Per HCV Treated Client



Gov. Inslee's Plan to Eliminate HCV in Washington

Two-step approach to eliminating HCV:

1. Connect more people to care and the cure.

- ▶ Many living with HCV don't know they have it.
- ▶ This public health effort will be led by the Washington State Department of Health.
- ▶ Dr. Lindquist will discuss this next.

2. Use our state purchasing power to increase access to the cure.

- ▶ Washington State Health Care Authority will issue a request for proposals by January 2019 for joint purchasing of HCV medications from one or more drug manufacturers to cut costs and boost access.
- ▶ In the future, this purchasing strategy could be extended to include other major health care purchasers in Washington and possibly in other states.

Washington will become the first state in the nation to combat HCV through a two-pronged approach: increase screening and treatment, and make drugs that cure HCV more affordable and accessible.



Our Goal

The state of Washington wishes to develop and implement a hepatitis C elimination plan focusing on public health outreach and purchasing

Among those covered by state-purchased health insurance, there are an estimated 30,000 individuals infected by Hepatitis C

Significantly reduce this infected population over four years and eliminate much of the burden of hepatitis C from its covered population



Defining HCV “elimination”

A state where HCV is no longer a public health threat and where those few who become infected with HCV learn their status quickly and access curative treatment without delay, preventing the forward spread of the virus.

▶ WHO has set goal of HCV elimination by 2030:

- ▶ Increase syringe supply coverage from 20 sets per year per PWID at baseline (2015) to 300 sets per year per PWID
- ▶ 90% of those with HCV diagnosed
- ▶ 80% of those eligible treated for HCV by 2030
- ▶ 90% reduction in HCV incidence
- ▶ 65% reduction in HCV mortality

Eliminating Hepatitis C Requires

Comprehensive public-health strategy

- A multi-year public health approach to identify people with hepatitis C through outreach, screening, and linkage to care
- A focus on stopping the spread of hepatitis C infection through programs like syringe service centers

Innovative drug procurement strategy

- Leveraging market competition to obtain affordable prices for HCV medications
- An RFP for drugs and bona fides across multiple state purchasers in January 2019
- Expanding the program to all public and private purchasers in WA and other states

Governor's Directive – Request for Proposals

HCA will issue a request for proposals for an alternative payment model that:

- ▶ Focuses on a subscription model – with winner take all result
- ▶ Includes bona fides to support the public health outreach strategy
 - ▶ Medical Case Managers - Increased screening and provide for linkage to care
 - ▶ Pharmacists - Provider and patient education, increase access to authorized prescribers in rural areas
 - ▶ Nurses – dispense medication at community clinics
- ▶ Focuses initially on state purchased health care programs (DOC, DSHS, HCA, LNI)
 - ▶ Phase II – expand to other purchasers in WA and other states

RFP Process –

- ▶ Issue RFP – Early January
 - ▶ Questions from Bidders
 - ▶ Bidders Conference
 - ▶ Answers to questions posted
- ▶ Proposals Due - Late February / Early March
- ▶ Evaluation
 - ▶ Oral interviews (if required)
 - ▶ Best and Final Offer Process (if required)
 - ▶ Announce apparent successful bidder
- ▶ Negotiate Contract
- ▶ Begin Contract Work - Early July

State Partners



*State Medicaid Alternative
Reimbursement and Purchasing Test
for High-cost Drugs (SMART-D)*



Questions?

- Please submit questions to contracts@hca.wa.gov with the subject Line HCV Elimination
- DOH Eliminating Hep C webpage
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/Hepatitis/HepatitisC/EliminatingHepatitisC>