# Pilot Program Sees Success in Treating Hepatitis C Among Homeless Vets

Although the program was small, researchers are encouraged by the high success rate in reaching this vulnerable population.

June 21, 2018 By Benjamin Ryan

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A small program that sought to treat hepatitis C virus (HCV) among homeless veterans in Los Angeles has boasted a high success rate, Healio reports.

Presenting their findings at the Digestive Disease Week conference in Washington, DC, a group of infectious disease specialists and primary care providers participated in a program based on telemedicine and in-person primary care–based treatment at the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The primary care providers received handouts as well as two or three training sessions about treating hep C.

The researchers identified 21 homeless veterans with HCV who were good candidates for the study. Ten of those individuals' primary care physicians selected them for treatment, while 11 others were relegated to a deferred treatment status.

All 10 of those treated for HCV achieved a sustained virologic response 12 weeks after completing therapy (SVR12, considered a cure). This meant that two thirds of the overall group was cured of the virus.

To read the Healio article, click here.

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