Viral Hepatitis Action Coalition Summit on Stopping the Hepatitis C Virus Epidemic among Young Persons Who Inject Drugs

Sarah Bacon, Ph.D.
Behavioral Scientist
Health Systems and Trauma Systems Branch, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Sarah Bacon, Ph.D., is a behavioral scientist in the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. She began her time at CDC in the Division of Violence Prevention, where she was the lead scientist for the National Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention, a strategic initiative for implementing and evaluating violence prevention strategies in high-burden communities. While much of her work focuses on evaluation, Dr. Bacon is also fully immersed in implementation science and has significant hands-on experience with the implementation realities that often challenge our scientific agendas. Dr. Bacon recently moved to the Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention, where she works on prescription drug overdose prevention. She holds a Ph.D. in Criminology, and prior to joining CDC she spent four years on the faculty of the College of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida State University.

Michele Bohm, M.P.H.
Health Scientist
Health Systems and Trauma Systems Branch, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Michele Bohm, M.P.H., is a health scientist on the Prescription Drug Overdose Epidemiology and Surveillance Team in the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at CDC. She provides data analytic support to inform our understanding of the prescription opioid epidemic and the potential impact of systems-level interventions. In addition to utilizing mortality, health services, prescription, and drug sales data, she also provides technical assistance to stakeholders tracking the volume of opioids dispensed in a given jurisdiction or population. Ms. Bohm has worked for CDC since 2005 in various capacities. She has supported agency-wide health policy issues in the Office of the Associate Director for Policy, conducted health services research related to sexually transmitted disease (STD) prevention, and provided technical assistance for community-level health indicator projects such as Robert Wood Johnson’s County Health Rankings, CDC’s Community Health Status Indicators and the Health Indicators Warehouse. She holds an M.P.H. in Epidemiology from Emory University.

Brian Edlin, M.D., F.A.C.P., F.I.D.S.A.
Associate Professor of Public Health and Medicine
Weill Cornell Medical College
Brian R. Edlin, M.D., has been conducting community-based research on emerging issues in infectious diseases with people who inject illicit drugs (PWID) for 25 years. The goals of this work are to develop a multidimensional understanding of the factors associated with health and illness in these populations, and to develop and evaluate policies and interventions to improve their health. This research examines social, structural, behavioral, and biological factors associated with health conditions among PWID—
including HIV, hepatitis B and C, other viral infections, tuberculosis, abscesses, heroin overdose, and other causes of morbidity and mortality in substance-using populations.

Dr. Edlin served in the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention at CDC from 1989–1997, then directed the Urban Health Study at the University of California, San Francisco, until he was recruited to Weill Cornell Medical College in New York in 2003. Dr. Edlin’s research team has developed or evaluated pioneering interventions including needle exchange, street-based hepatitis B vaccination, street-based abscess care, and naloxone distribution to prevent fatal heroin overdose. His policy work, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, Nature, and Hepatology, have influenced national policy, helping to open doors to care and treatment for disenfranchised populations.

Judith Feinberg, M.D.
Professor of Medicine, Associate Chair for Faculty Development, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Judith Feinberg, M.D., is well known for her clinical research in HIV infection and for her expertise in designing and conducting multi-center treatment trials. She serves as the co-principal investigator of the NIH-funded AIDS Clinical Trials Unit and as Leader of the Clinical Research Site (CRS) at the University of Cincinnati ACTU. Dr. Feinberg joined the department of internal medicine at UC in 1995. She specializes in HIV/AIDS, HIV resistance, antiretroviral therapy and clinical trials methodology. Since 2005, when she recognized that opioid injection drug use had eerged in southwest Ohio, she has been increasingly focused on injection drug use and its infectious complications, especially endocarditis, hepatitis C and HIV. She is the co-founder and medical director of the Cincinnati Exchange Project, Ohio’s third syringe exchange program.

Eric Goosby, M.D.
Chair
Viral Hepatitis Action Coalition

Eric Goosby, M.D., has dedicated his professional life to fighting HIV/AIDS from treating patients to running international programs. After serving four years in the U.S. State Department as Ambassador-at-Large and U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, overseeing the implementation of the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Dr. Goosby returned to the University of California, San Francisco where he is professor of medicine and director, Global Health Delivery and Diplomacy, Global Health Sciences.

While at the State Department, he also led the Office of Global Health Diplomacy, advancing the United States’ global health mission to improve and save lives and foster sustainability through a shared global responsibility. As CEO and chief medical officer of Pangaea Global AIDS Foundation, 2001–2009, he played a key role in the development and implementation of HIV/AIDS national treatment scale-up plans in South Africa, Rwanda, China and Ukraine. During the Clinton Administration, Ambassador Goosby was Director of the Ryan White Care Act at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and later, served as Deputy Director of the White House National AIDS Policy Office and Director of the Office of HIV/AIDS Policy at HHS.

In January 2015, Dr. Goosby was appointed by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as the U.N. Special Envoy on Tuberculosis (TB). As Special Envoy, Dr. Goosby works toward raising the profile of the fight against TB and promoting the adoption, financing and implementation of the WHO’s global End TB Strategy after 2015, and its international targets for tuberculosis prevention, care and control.
Margaret Hellard, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., F.R.A.C.P., F.A.F.P.H.M.
Head, Centre for Population Research, Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health

Margaret Hellard, M.B.B.S., Ph.D., F.R.A.C.P., F.A.F.P.H.M., is the head of the Centre for Population Health at the Burnet Institute in Melbourne and Head of Hepatitis Services in the Infectious Diseases Unit at The Alfred Hospital.

A researcher and clinician, Dr. Hellard’s principal research interests are preventing the transmission and improving the management of blood borne viruses (BBVs) and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). She has considerable experience in undertaking multidisciplinary community based research involving people who inject drugs (PWID), men who have sex with men and other vulnerable populations.

Dr. Hellard is a Principal Investigator of the TAP Study, a world first study examining the efficacy of hepatitis C treatment as prevention in PWID, using a community based social network approach, and the PRIME Study, a randomised controlled study exploring hepatitis C models of care in the community.

Dr. Hellard has also been instrumental in the development of innovative sentinel surveillance systems for BBVs and STIs both within Victoria and nationally. Dr. Hellard also has considerable experience in undertaking research that used new technologies (such as SMS, Facebook) for health promotion and prevention interventions. She led the first randomized controlled trial using SMS as a health promotion tool in sexual health. Dr. Hellard is a member of numerous advisory committees and working groups on viral hepatitis and HIV within Australia and globally; most recently she is the co-chair of the WHO Guideline Development Group for Hepatitis Testing. She has over 250 peer reviewed publications and received over $30 million in competitive grants and tenders.

David Hickton
United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania
U.S. Department of Justice

David J. Hickton was nominated for United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania by President Barack Obama on May 20, 2010, and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on Aug. 5, 2010. He was sworn in as the District's 57th U.S. Attorney on Aug. 12, 2010.

Prior to becoming U.S. Attorney, Mr. Hickton co-founded Burns, White & Hickton LLC in 1987. From 1983 to 1987 he was an associate attorney at Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote. He practiced in the areas of transportation, litigation, commercial and white collar crime. Mr. Hickton began his legal career serving as a law clerk for the Honorable United States District Judge Gustave Diamond from 1981 to 1983. For more than a decade, Mr. Hickton was an adjunct professor of law at Duquesne University School of Law where he taught antitrust.

Mr. Hickton is a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, and a fellow of the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County. Mr. Hickton has been admitted before the United States Supreme Court, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and several of the U.S. Circuit Courts. Previously, Mr. Hickton was involved in a wide range of community activities, and has long been an active supporter of and participant in organizations which benefit children and the arts. He is a past Executive Board Member of the Pittsburgh Public Theater, and served as its President. Mr. Hickton also was a longtime member of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, a non-profit organization that uses arts and culture to reinvigorate the Downtown.
His nomination as United States Attorney marks Mr. Hickton’s second Presidential appointment. From 1999 to 2001, Mr. Hickton served on the President’s Advisory Committee on the Arts for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts at the request of then-President Bill Clinton. Mr. Hickton is a 1978 graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and a 1981 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

Scott Holmberg, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief
Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch, Division of Viral Hepatitis
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Scott Holmberg, M.D., M.P.H, is the chief of the Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch, Division of Viral Hepatitis (DVH) at CDC. His unit is responsible for national surveillance for and outbreak investigations of hepatitis A through E. Additional current projects include the Chronic Hepatitis Cohort Study (CheCS) involving 3,500 hepatitis B and 13,000 hepatitis C patients at four urban health care systems; analysis of ‘NHANES’ data from more than 5,000 randomly selected households/year in the United States; and analyses of several large national datasets related to hepatitis morbidity and mortality. Dr. Holmberg’s work with outbreaks started as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ethiopia (1971–1973) in the WHO Smallpox Eradication Programme, after undergraduate studies at Harvard. Thereafter, he attended Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons (1975–1979), trained in internal medicine at Roger Williams Hospital/Brown University (1979–1982) and CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service (1982–1985). For 19 years (1986–2005), Dr. Holmberg was chief of the Clinical Epidemiology Section in CDC’s Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, where he started and supervised many large studies of HIV/AIDS, including large cohort studies of HIV clinic patients generally, and of women, gay men, and injection drug users. Dr. Holmberg has authored or co-authored over 230 medical journal articles, a book on scientific controversies in the HIV/AIDS epidemic and is the recipient of several high U.S. Public Health Service and CDC awards.

Kraig Humbaugh, M.D., M.P.H.
Senior Deputy Commissioner
Kentucky Department for Public Health, Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Kraig Humbaugh, M.D., M.P.H., senior deputy commissioner at the Kentucky Department for Public Health, has been with the department for 11 years. He began his career with the department as director of the Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning and also held the position of director of Public Health Preparedness. Prior to joining the state health department, he served as interim director of health at the Louisville (KY) Metro Health Department, where he had formerly been the medical director.

As a board-certified pediatrician, Dr. Humbaugh has practiced medicine both at home and abroad, in addition to filling academic and public health roles. Dr. Humbaugh earned an undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt University, studied as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Otago in New Zealand, received his medical degree from Yale University, and holds a Master of Public Health from the Johns Hopkins University.
Timothy Jones, M.D.
State Epidemiologist
Tennessee Department of Health

Timothy Jones, M.D., completed medical school at Stanford University and a residency in Family Medicine and a Maternal/Child Health Fellowship at the Brown University/Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island program. He practiced in an underserved population in Utah before joining the CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service in 1997. He now serves as the state epidemiologist for the Tennessee Department of Health, overseeing programs including Immunizations, TB, HIV/STD, Emergency Preparedness, Foodborne Diseases, Healthcare Associated Infections, Vectorborne and Zoonotic Diseases, Environmental Epidemiology, Prescription Drug Overdose Epidemiology and general communicable disease surveillance and control. He serves on CDC’s Board of Scientific Counselors and the MMWR Editorial Board. He is active on the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) including serving as president (2013–2014) and vice president (2014–2015). Dr. Jones has over 140 peer-reviewed publications on a variety of public health topics.

Yury Khudyakov, Ph.D.
Team leader
Laboratory Branch, Division of Viral Hepatitis
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Yury E. Khudyakov, Ph.D., is chief, Molecular Epidemiology and Bioinformatics Laboratory, Laboratory Branch, Division of Viral Hepatitis, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP) at CDC. He received his M.Sc. in Genetics from the Novosibirsk State University, Novosibirsk, Russia in 1977 and his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the D.I. Ivanovsky Institute of Virology, Academy of Medical Sciences, Moscow, Russia in 1985. He started his research career in the laboratory of Gene Chemistry at the M.M. Schemyakin Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Academy of Sciences, Moscow. He was a research fellow in the laboratory of Viral Biochemistry and chief, Genetic Engineering Section in the laboratory of Chemistry of Viral Nucleic Acids and Proteins at the D.I. Ivanovsky Institute of Virology, Moscow, Russia. In 1991 he joined the Hepatitis Branch (HB), Division of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases (as a National Research Council Research Associate, National Academy of Sciences, USA. Since 1996 he served as chief, Developmental Diagnostic Unit, Molecular and Immunodiagnostic Section at CDC, and later as chief of computational molecular biology activity, and deputy chief of the Developmental Diagnostic Laboratory at CDC.

Dr. Khudyakov’s main research interests are molecular epidemiology of viral diseases, development of new diagnostics and vaccines, molecular biology and evolution of hepatitis viruses and bioinformatics. Dr. Khudyakov has published more than 180 research papers and book chapters. He has edited books such as Artificial DNA, CRC Press (2002), Medicinal Protein Engineering, CRC Press (2009) and Viral Nanotechnology, CRC Press (2015). He is an author of several issued and pending patents. He is a member of the editorial board for the Journal of Clinical Virology and the academic editor for PLoS One.

Alain Litwin, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor
Montefiore Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University

Alain Litwin, M.D., M.P.H., earned his B.A. in Neurobiology at the University of California and his M.D. and M.P.H. from Tulane University School of Medicine. Dr. Litwin then moved to New York, where he completed his internship and residency in the Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program at New York University/Bellevue Hospital Center, as well as a Clinical Research Training Program and Clinical Addiction Research and Education Faculty Development Fellowship at Albert Einstein College of
Medicine. Dr. Litwin joined the Albert Einstein College of Medicine faculty in 2000. He is currently professor in medicine and psychiatry & behavioral sciences at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and is an Attending Physician at Montefiore Medical Center. Dr. Litwin joined Einstein’s Division of Substance Abuse in 2000 and developed a comprehensive, on-site hepatitis C (HCV) treatment program, including HCV support groups and a peer educator program, to improve medical care of HCV-infected substance users. Dr. Litwin’s research is focused on developing and studying models of HCV care for people who use drugs, and advocating for increasing access to effective care for all HCV-infected patients. He has been providing medical care to people who use drugs with complex social, psychiatric and medical needs within an integrated primary care and methadone maintenance treatment program for fifteen years. Dr. Litwin has led multidisciplinary efforts to expand primary care-based HCV care at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. Dr. Litwin is on the Executive Board of the International Network on hepatitis in Substance Users (INHSU), the only international organization devoted exclusively to the epidemic of HCV among substance users.

**Shruti Mehta, Ph.D.**
Professor and Deputy Chair
Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Shruti Mehta, Ph.D., is a professor and the deputy chair of the Department of Epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Mehta received an M.P.H. (1997) and a Ph.D. (2002) in Epidemiology also from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her research focuses on HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection among people who inject drugs (PWID) in the Unites States and in India with a particular interest and focus on identifying and overcoming barriers to access care and treatment for HIV and HCV. She is the principal investigator of the AIDS Linked to the IntraVenous Experience (ALIVE) cohort of PWID, which has been ongoing since 1988. She is also the co-principal investigator of a cohort of PWID in Chennai, India and of a large-scale cluster randomized trial to evaluate the effectiveness of integrated care health delivery models on HIV and HCV outcomes among PWID throughout India.

**Jonathan Mermin, M.D., M.P.H.**
Director
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Jonathan Mermin, M.D., M.P.H., is the director of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention at CDC, overseeing a broad range of public health programs, surveillance, research, and policy, and an annual budget of $1.1 billion. From 2009 to 2013, he was director of the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, leading the agency’s domestic HIV prevention activities. He also served as the director of CDC-Kenya for 3 years and the director of CDC-Uganda for 7 years.

Dr. Mermin worked in the California Department of Health Services, and was an internal medicine resident at San Francisco General Hospital, and a preventive medicine resident at CDC. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Stanford University School of Medicine, and received his M.P.H. from Emory University.
Verla Neslund, J.D.
Vice President for Programs
CDC Foundation

Verla Neslund, J.D., joined the CDC Foundation in 2005 as the vice president for programs. In this capacity, she oversees collaborative public health research and fellowship programs that involve CDC and the non-profit CDC Foundation, an organization that was specifically created by federal statute as a means to foster partnerships among private sector businesses, non-profit organizations and CDC on important public health priorities.

Before joining the CDC Foundation in June 2005, Ms. Neslund served in a number of positions within the immediate office of the CDC Director. Prior to joining the CDC Foundation, she served as CDC’s first chief learning officer, a position she undertook in November 2003 at the request of CDC Director Dr. Julie Gerberding. Before her appointment as chief learning officer, Ms. Neslund was Dr. Gerberding’s acting chief of staff from November 2002–November 2003. Prior to that, Ms. Neslund served as director of CDC’s executive secretariat office, a position she accepted in September 2001. She began her career at CDC in 1983 as an attorney advisor in CDC’s office of the general counsel (OGC), and served as CDC’s deputy legal advisor from 1990-2001.

Ms. Neslund received her bachelor of arts degree in journalism from the University of Minnesota, and her J.D. degree from Emory University School of Law. Prior to attending law school, Ms. Neslund was a television reporter in Minneapolis Minnesota and managing editor of a local newspaper in Prince Frederick, Maryland. Ms. Neslund has also served as an adjunct professor of law at the Emory University School of Law.

Pam Pontones, M.A.
State Epidemiologist
Indiana State Department of Health

Pam Pontones, M.A., has a career at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) that spans 25 years. Since 2009, Ms. Pontones has served as the state epidemiologist/director of the Epidemiology Resource Center (ERC) supervising a program that includes four epidemiology divisions with approximately 50 epidemiologists, investigators and support staff. She also serves as an epidemiology subject matter expert, presenter and media spokesperson for various communicable diseases, serves on various committees, and represents the ISDH at national meetings. Ms. Pontones most recently served as the incident commander for the MERS response in May, 2014 and for the Indianapolis response to the HIV outbreak in Scott County, Indiana in the spring of 2015, in addition to providing leadership for many outbreak investigations. Ms. Pontones is an adjunct faculty member for the IU Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health. She was a scholar in the 2010 National Public Health Leadership Institute and a fellow in the 2001 Mid-America Regional Public Health Leadership Institute. Prior to serving as state epidemiologist, Ms. Pontones served as the director of surveillance and investigation, field epidemiology director, enteric epidemiologist, and as a microbiologist in the ISDH Laboratory.
Daniel Raymond  
Policy Director  
Harm Reduction Coalition  

Daniel Raymond advocates on health issues for people who use drugs. As policy director for the Harm Reduction Coalition, Mr. Raymond has worked to develop innovative trainings, educational materials and social marketing campaigns addressing hepatitis C prevention, care and treatment, and stigma. He advises programs and advocates across the country on effective strategies and evidence-based policies to end the hepatitis C epidemic in current and former substance users. He works to educate and engage federal, state and local elected officials and policymakers on the importance of mobilizing leadership and resources to fight hepatitis C and related drug user health issues, including overdose, addiction and HIV. Mr. Raymond currently serves as community representative to the Hepatitis C Guidance Panel convened by the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) and Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), and has formerly served on the Food and Drugs Administration Antiviral Drug Advisory Committee and the American Medical Association Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement Hepatitis C Workgroup. He is a past chair of the steering committee of the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable, and currently chairs the Injection Drug User Health Alliance and the board of trustees for the Washington Heights CORNER Project. His current work focuses on advancing coordinated public health responses to the opioid overdose crisis, expanding syringe access and harm reduction programs, ensuring access to hepatitis C treatment for people with histories of substance use and advocating for novel health care payment and delivery models to support quality health care for people who use drugs.

Gerlinda Gallegos Somerville, M.P.H., C.H.E.S.  
Chief  
Health Systems Branch, /Center for Division of Services Improvement  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  

Gerlinda Gallegos (GG) Somerville, M.P.H., C.H.E.S., is chief of the Health Systems Branch at the HHS/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Ms. Somerville leads three national programs: Targeted Capacity Expansion-HIV (TCE-HIV), Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) and the new Targeted Capacity Expansion: Medication Assisted Treatment – Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction (MAT-PDOA). As a member of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment leadership team, Ms. Somerville impacts national behavioral health policy and strategies. These program under her direction address the intersection of substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders with HIV and hepatitis; integration of SBIRT into primary care for increased access to treatment in generalist and specialists settings for persons at risk for substance use or dependence; and expansion of medication assisted treatment service systems and other recovery support services to individuals with opioid use disorders seeking or receiving MAT. Prior to her tenure at SAMHSA, Ms. Somerville served as deputy director-at-large for the CDC Russia/Ukraine and other international country offices; chief of the Extramural Services Activity responsible for umbrella cooperative agreements with key CDC national partners; founder of the national CDC/Capacity Building Assistance network that delivered joint grantee technical assistance to organizations along the U.S.-Mexico border serving migrant workers and public health advisor in the National Immunization Program. She has 15 years of public health experience in the public and private sectors including service as a volunteer on medical missions to Honduras serving as an interpreter for practitioner/patient interactions. Ms. Somerville is a strong advocate for her daughter and other individuals with disabilities.
Scott Stokes
Director of Prevention Services
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
Scott Stokes is director of prevention services for the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW). He has been working in the field of HIV and Substance Abuse prevention since 1988, and doing so at ARCW for the past 21 years. During his tenure at ARCW he has developed prevention programs targeting those most at risk for HIV infection. Scott is in long term (September 1984) recovery from an opiate addiction and his passion is working with injection drug users. Scott developed and implemented ARCW’s first needle exchange program in the City of Milwaukee in 1994. Since then, ARCW expanded needle exchange services to an additional 10 cities. In addition to needle exchange services HIV & HCV testing is provided throughout all of our sites. Scott serves as a citizen appointee on the Governor’s State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and is the chairperson of the prevention sub-committee. He has served in a number of capacities in the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous, including their World Service Board of Trustees.

Peter Vickerman, D.Phil.
Professor
School of Social and Community Medicine, University of Bristol
Peter Vickerman, D.Phil., is a professor in infectious disease modelling at the University of Bristol and has an honorary position at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Originally trained as a mathematician, he has a D.Phil. in mathematical epidemiology and 20 years of experience in modelling infectious diseases. He leads a group of infectious disease modellers in Bristol and London. Dr. Vickerman has published over 90 publications in peer reviewed journals and is PI or co-PI on 14 current grants worth over $30,000,000 involving collaborations with 13 institutions over seven countries. He has contributed to six international advisory groups (WHO and NICE Public Health guidance committees, UK Advisory Council for the Misuse of Drugs, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction HCV treatment as prevention working group). His research focuses on the use of mathematical modelling to help understand the transmission of different infectious diseases and impact and cost-effectiveness of prevention measures. Specific expertise focuses on modelling the transmission of HIV and other STIs amongst different high risk groups and blood borne viruses (HIV and HCV) amongst injecting drug users. Dr. Vickerman’s considerable work has included evaluating the impact and cost-effectiveness of interventions to reduce the transmission of HIV and HCV through injecting risks. Recently, his group has been influential in increasing the interest in using HCV treatment as a prevention strategy amongst injecting drug users and other groups. He has extensive experience of conducting collaborative research with organizations in Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe and the UK.

In other areas, he has jointly led the economic modelling group evaluating the world’s largest targeted HIV prevention intervention for high risk groups (Avahan intervention in southern India), reaching over 300,000 female sex workers, men who have sex with men and IDUs since 2004. This intervention and the novel modelling methods used in its evaluation have had considerable influence and interest.
Jon Zibbell, Ph.D.  
Health Scientist  
Prevention Research Branch, Division of Viral Hepatitis  
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  

Jon E. Zibbell, Ph.D., is a health scientist at CDC in the Division of Viral Hepatitis where he conducts research on the prevention and care of hepatitis C virus (HCV) among persons who inject drugs. Dr. Zibbell is a medical anthropologist with over 15 years of field experience in the areas of illicit drug use, addiction, accidental overdose and injection-related health. In addition to research, Dr. Zibbell has served as primary investigator conducting rapid ethnographic needs assessments for syringe exchange programs, including assisting in the design and evaluation of city-wide, syringe access program, and he continues to assist state health departments on issues related to infectious disease transmission and accidental injuries caused by drug use behaviors. Dr. Zibbell’s work has appeared in both academic and professional journals and he currently holds a joint, adjunct appointment in the Center for the Study of Human Health and the Department of Anthropology at Emory University.