

## THE BURDEN OF VIRAL HEPATITIS

### The National Burden of Viral Hepatitis

There are about 24,900 new hepatitis A infections, 22,600 new hepatitis B and 50,300 new hepatitis C infections each year in the United States. There are ~2.4million people living with hepatitis C and about 862,000 people living with hepatitis B in the United States (CDC, 2020). In 2021, there were an estimated 11,500 acute hepatitis A infections, 13,300 acute hepatitis B infections and 69,800 acute hepatitis C infections nationwide. Between January 2017 and March 2020, an estimated 640,000 adults were living with chronic HBV infection, while there were an estimated 2.2 million adults with HCV infection.

### The Burden of Viral Hepatitis in Oklahoma

The state of Oklahoma has recorded an increase in chronic hepatitis C infections from 2017 to 2020, with 2,078 cases in 2017, 4,069 cases in 2018, 6,019 cases in 2019 and 6,879 cases in 2020. The number of cases reported continued to increase by 11.2% from 2020, with 7,648 cases reported in 2021. Despite an available cure and the ease of treatment and testing, many primary care doctors do not want to treat hepatitis C.

