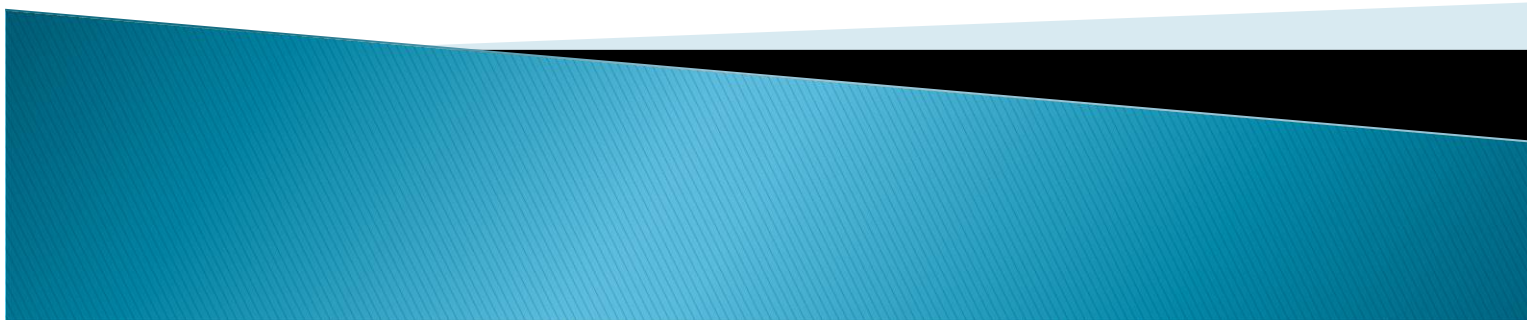




# Hepatitis C Treatment & Management Program (TMP)

Nik Alexander  
Senior Program Manager, Harm  
Reduction Services



# Treatment and Management Program

- ▶ A comprehensive Hepatitis C Treatment program targeted for People Who Inject Drugs (PWID)
- ▶ Funded by QLD Health via Communicable Diseases Branch (CDB)
- ▶ Started as a collaborative partnership between QuIHN & Hepatitis Qld
- ▶ Research partnership between QuIHN and University of Qld research Dept. QADREC



# QuIHN Services: At A Glance

## HARM REDUCTION



- Needle & Syringe Programs
- Peer Education Programs/Workforce development
- State wide Information Service
- Health Promotion campaigns & partnerships

## DEMAND REDUCTION



- Out Patient Rehabilitation Programs for illicit drugs
- Out Patient Rehabilitation Programs for Alcohol
- Specialist Dual Diagnosis Programs

## PRIMARY CARE



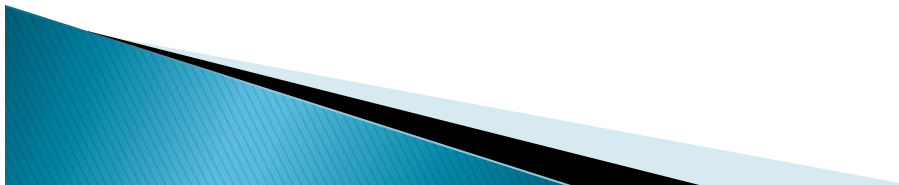
- Better Access General Practice (GP) Clinics. (BNE & GC)
- Outreach Nursing Services to vulnerable communities

# QuIHN's TMP: QLD Regions

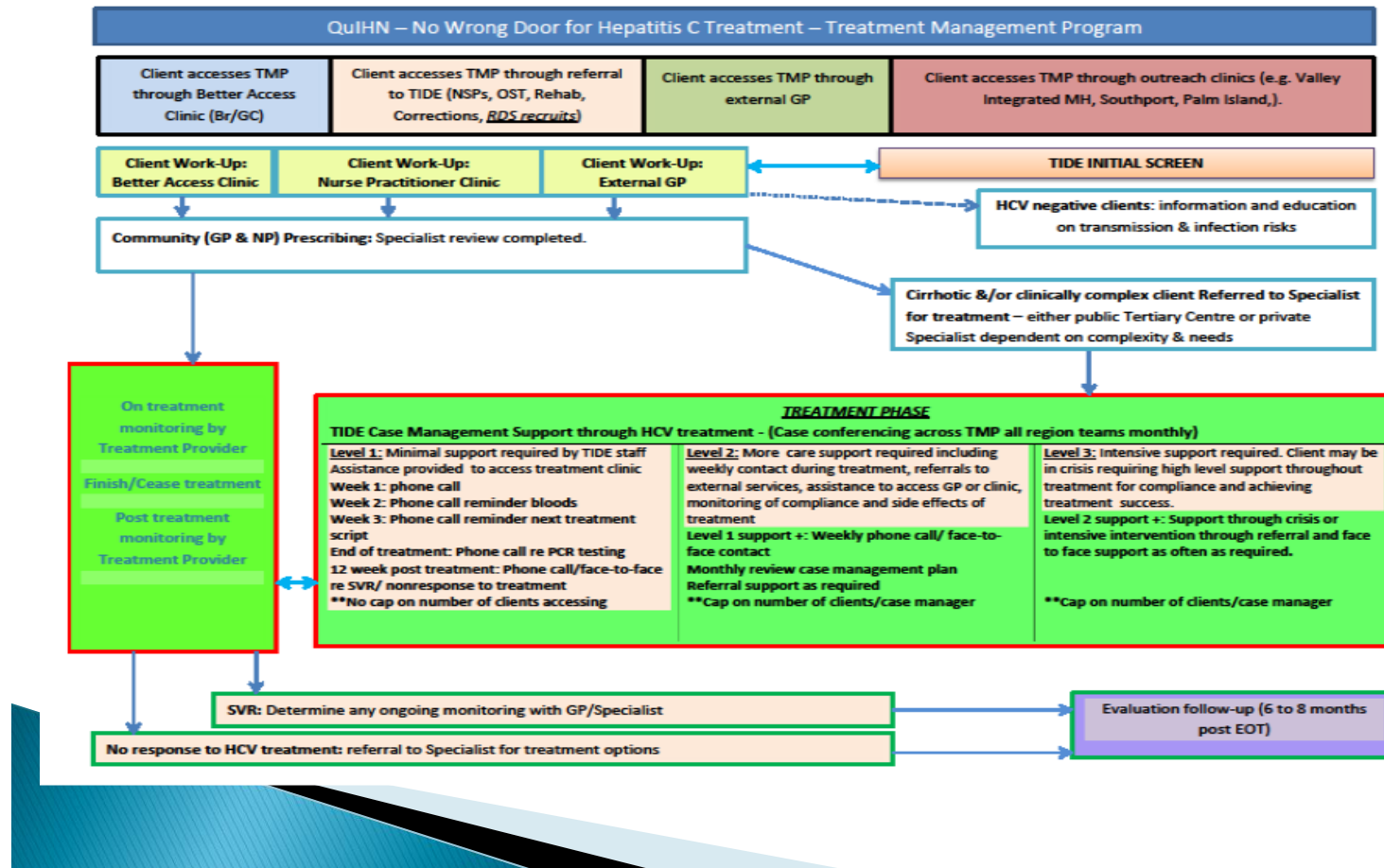


# TMP: Governance

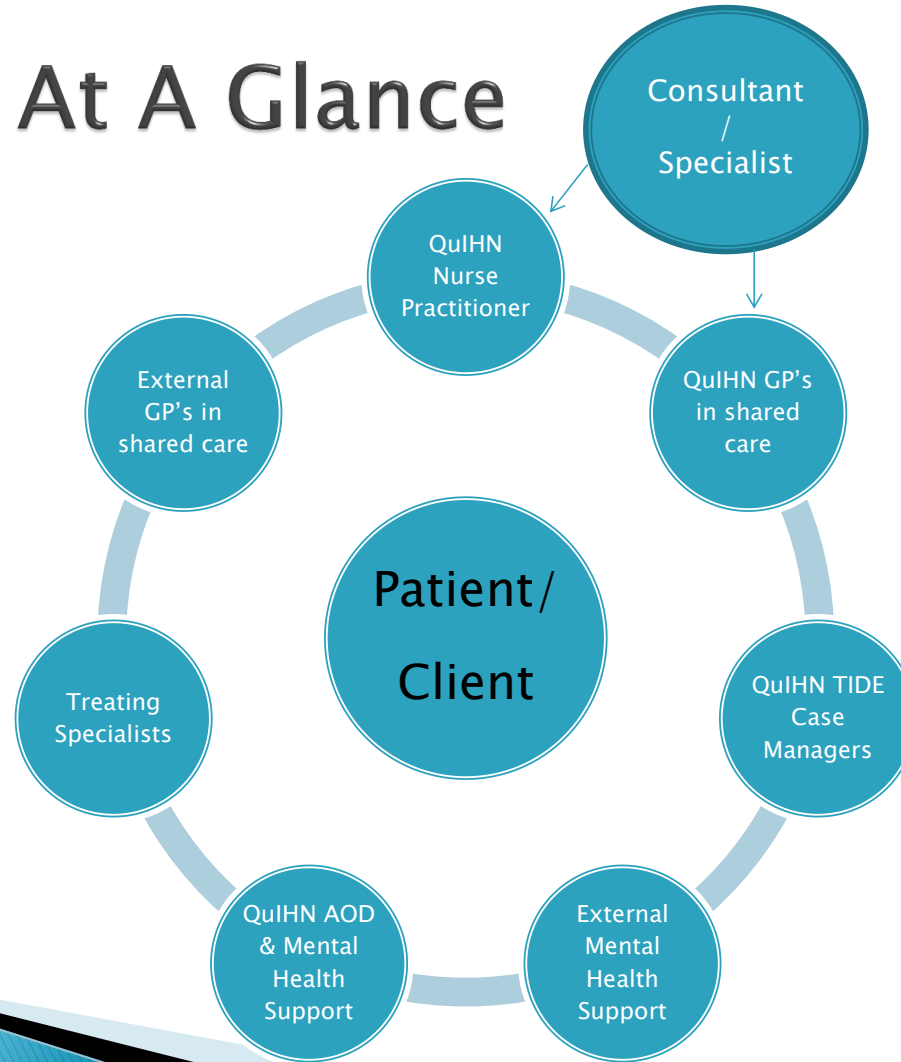
- ▶ Expert Advisory Panel (EAP) established October 2015
- ▶ Reps from across sector Inc.
- ▶ Qld Health
- ▶ QuIHN – Case Managers, Clinical Nurse, General Manager, Program Manager, Project Officer
- ▶ Hepatitis Queensland
- ▶ Corrections
- ▶ Senior Hepatology Consultant
- ▶ University of Queensland (QADREC)



# TMP: No Wrong Door

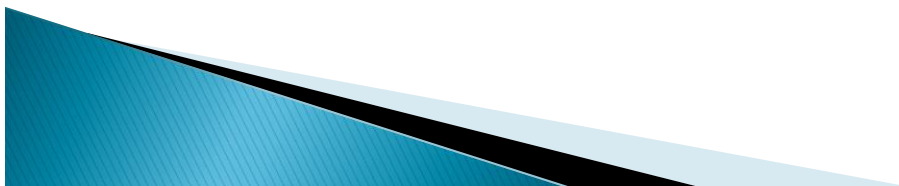


# TMP: At A Glance



# TMP: 4 Key Strategies for flexibility

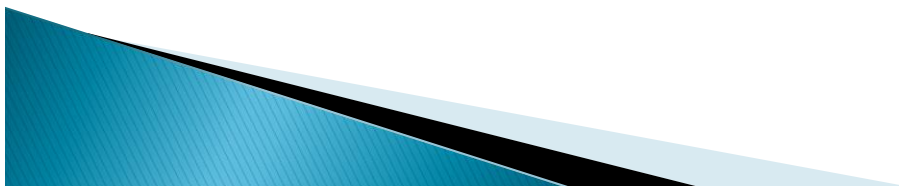
- ▶ **GP Clinics**
- ▶ Shared Care Services delivered through QulHN's Better Access General Practice (G.P) Clinics & external G.P. clinics willing to provide treatment via a shared care model
- ▶ QulHN Brisbane and Gold Coast – internal referral from NSP\*
- ▶ Townsville & Sunshine Coast – Partnerships established with external G.P. clinics
- ▶ Links to Hepatology Specialists
- ▶ Learning & Mentoring





# TMP: 4 Key Strategies for flexibility

- ▶ **Case Management**
- ▶ Treatment In an Injecting Drug Environment (TIDE)
- ▶ Experienced harm reduction staff able to quickly build rapport with clients
- ▶ Professional development and mentoring
- ▶ 3 levels of support from minimal required to crisis management to engage, motivate, assist with compliance of treatment regimes
- ▶ Utilising existing and building new partnerships to advocate for and enable pathway through treatment for clients
- ▶ The back-bone of TMP



# TMP: 4 Key Strategies for flexibility

- ▶ Nurse-Practitioner Led Viral Hepatitis Management Clinic
- ▶ Outreach clinic to community based mental health service by NP & Harm Reduction Worker
- ▶ Work in collaboration with client, clients MH support & treatment team
- ▶ Process begins with establishment of chronicity of infection
- ▶ Dedicated referral pathway for this cohort to facilitate care
- ▶ Supporting client's access to Primary Health Care services



# TMP: 4 Key Strategies for flexibility

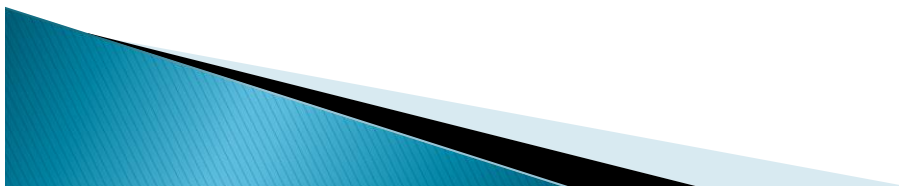
- ▶ **Brokered specialist care** for clinical HCV treatment including:
  - Mentoring for Better Access Clinic GPs
  - Review and consultation for scripts
  - Referral to Specialists for medically complex clients
  - Specialists willing to work with client group
  - Ease the burden on the public tertiary system



# TMP Results & Outcomes: Progress to date

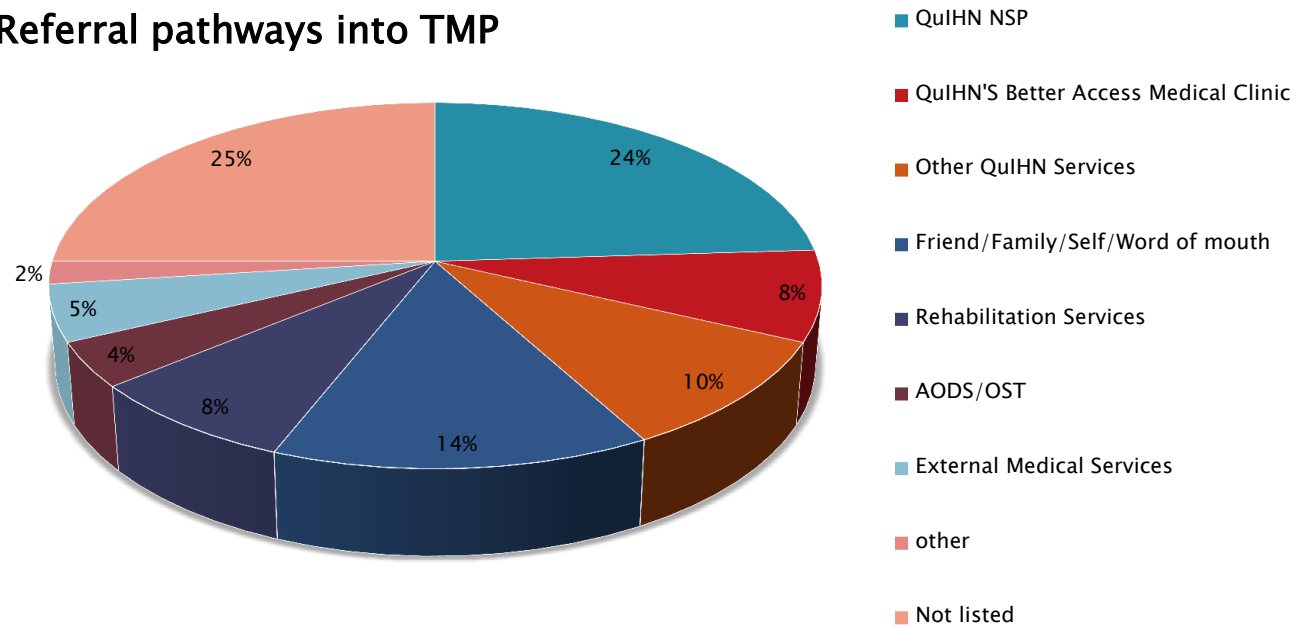
► January 2016 to September 2016:

Clients seeking treatment	304
Clients starting treatment	149
Clients completed treatment	82



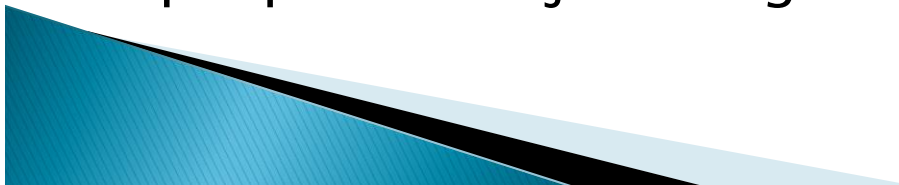
# TMP: Treatment As Prevention – In Action

Referral pathways into TMP



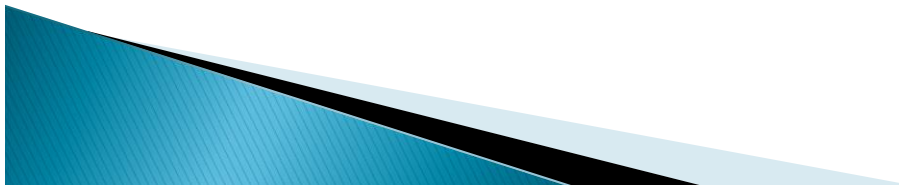
# TMP: Research & Evaluation

- ▶ Partnership with University of Queensland (QADREC)
- ▶ On-line Survey
- ▶ Respondent Driven Sampling (RDS) designed to access hidden population of people who inject drugs into treatment services
- ▶ Evaluation of model as a way forward for future community treatment
- ▶ Evaluation of efficacy of treatment amongst people who inject drugs



# TMP: To The Future

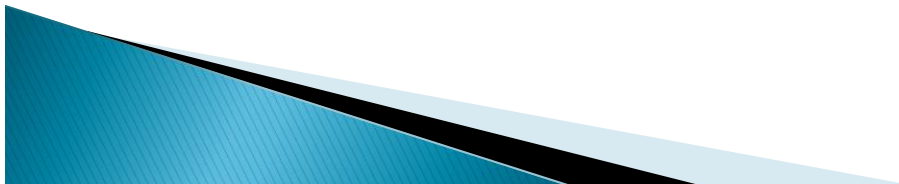
- ▶ Flexibility in model
- ▶ Outcomes from Treatment for PWID
- ▶ Outcomes from RDS as a way for motivating/encouraging people into treatment
- ▶ Correctional services
- ▶ Complex clients
- ▶ Partnerships with external organisations



# Client Feedback

“It is like (the TIDE program worker) is going out of his way. It is like he cares who you are rather than just about the disease. It is a different atmosphere here. I get treated equally rather than as another dude in the system with no hope for me”

Man, aged 30





# Contact Us:

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- ▶ QulHN Sunshine Coast:
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