***Hep Talk****: 1st Step in Linkage Continuum*

Topics Required for Clients Chronically Infected with HCV

* The importance of liver health
* Symptoms and disease progression of chronic HCV
* Transmission routes
* Prevention
  + Strategies to protect needle or sex partners
  + Tattoo guidelines
* Next steps
  + A long journey
  + 1st step: Primary Care – critical to a stable, healthy life in recovery
  + Additional testing to “stage” liver disease, genotyping to determine the best medication for you
* Managing HCV
* Coping skills, stigma, and disclosure
* Evaluate eligibility for Medicaid or community support for care

Teaching Tools

* Desk top model of the liver
* *Understanding Hepatitis C –* power point ([www.hiveis.com](http://www.hiveis.com), CLICK: Hepatitis)
* *Take Action Against Hepatitis C* ([www.hiveis.com](http://www.hiveis.com), CLICK: Hepatitis)
  + Booklet for client
  + Power Point
  + Trainer’s guide
* HepVu.com