

# Cirrhosis Care

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
Quality Enhancement Research Initiative

# QUERI Partnered Evaluation Initiative

Using Data-Driven Implementation Strategies  
to Improve the Quality of Cirrhosis Care

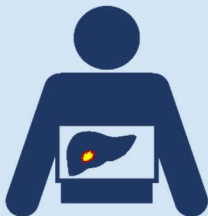
## Background

Over 80,000 Veterans in VA care have cirrhosis, or advanced liver disease, and this number is rapidly rising. **Millions of Veterans are at risk for cirrhosis** due to alcohol use, hepatitis C, fatty liver disease, and other causes. While there are life-saving measures that can slow the progression of cirrhosis, only about one third of Veterans receive care aligned with these evidence-based practices.

**HIV, Hepatitis, and Related Conditions Program Office (HHRC)** and the **National Hepatic Consortium for Redesigning Care** created a quality improvement learning collaborative called the **Hepatic Innovation Team (HIT) Collaborative**. The HIT supports VA regional teams of providers with the goal of promoting the **uptake of evidence-based liver disease care**.

This Evaluation aims to develop a data-driven approach to selecting and tailoring implementation strategies while building an intervention to improve VA cirrhosis care.

### Evidence-Based Cirrhosis Care



#### Surveillance for Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)

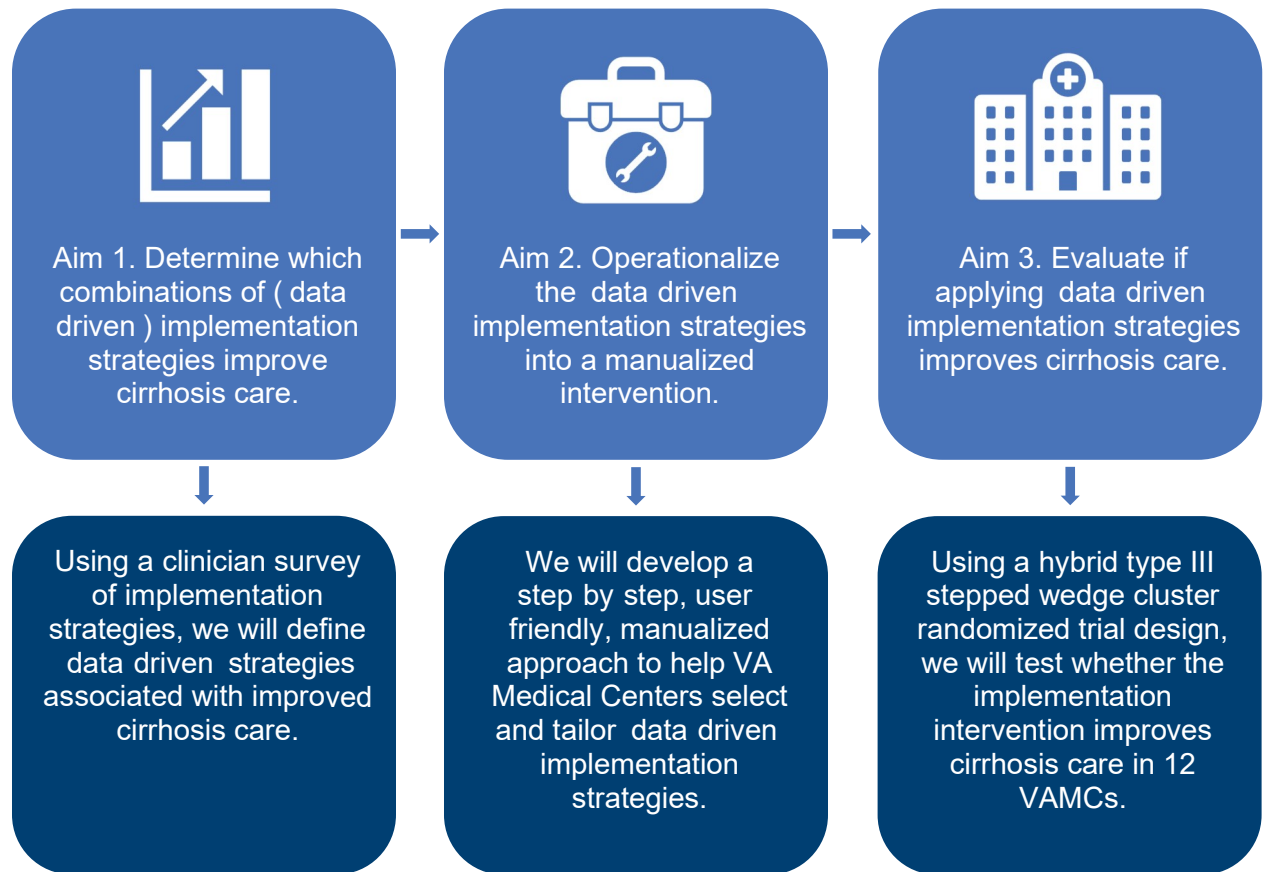
- HCC is the most common type of liver cancer
- **Abdominal imaging every 6 months** facilitates early diagnosis and treatment



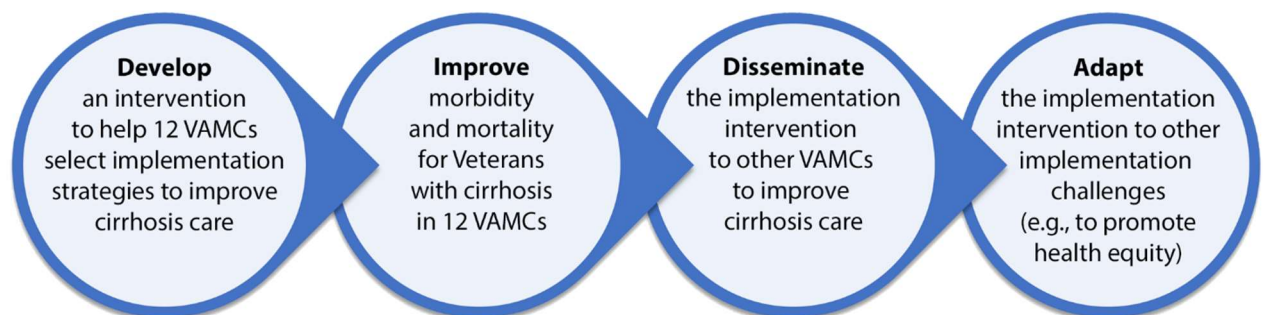
#### Surveillance for and Treatment of Varices

- Varices are enlarged veins in the stomach or esophagus that can rupture and cause life-threatening bleeding
- **Endoscopic surveillance every 3 years** can prevent bleeding and mortality

# A new approach to help providers implement evidence-based care



## Anticipated Outcomes and Future Directions



For more information, go to:  
<https://www.queri.research.va.gov>

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