



Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

Hepatitis C micro-eliminated at HMP Berwyn thanks to rapid test and treat programme

- **Partnership approach aids elimination of Hepatitis C from UK's largest prison with national targets met ahead of schedule**

Hepatitis C has virtually all but been eliminated from HMP Berwyn, the UK's largest prison, following a joint initiative between Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB), Public Health Wales NHS Trust and the charity Hepatitis C Trust.

Known as micro-elimination, 100 per cent of prisoners were offered a test, with 90 per cent tested and 90 per cent of those tested diagnosed with hepatitis C starting treatment. The team have worked over the past few years to educate, raise awareness, and reduce stigma, testing and treating using a streamlined pathway.

The rapid test and treat programme forms part of action plans from Welsh Government and it was first introduced in BCUHB in community clinics in 2019. This became an award-winning outreach project which has helped over 170 people in north Wales, including those experiencing homelessness, to get treated for Hepatitis C.