

Development of the Healthy Nail Salon Project in Philadelphia

Hep B United Webinar
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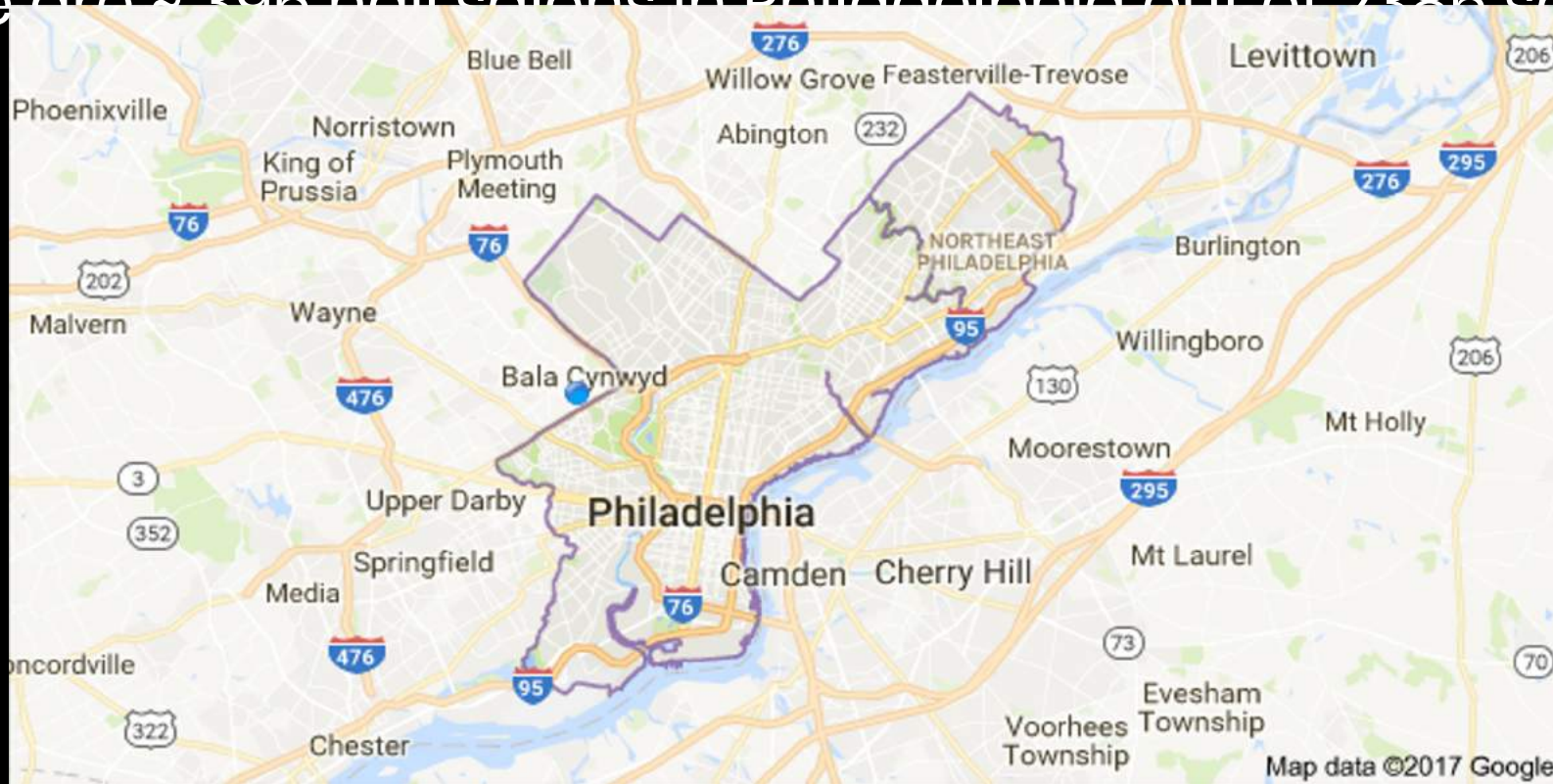
Outline

- Background
- Vietlead
- Hepatitis B project with the nail community in Philadelphia
- Future work
- Q&A



In Philadelphia

- 14,244 registered nail technicians in PA – at least 46% are Vietnamese
- There are ~ 396 nail salons in Philadelphia out of 2386 salons in PA



Source: PA Board of Cosmetology (2017)

National nail industry statistics

- 390,000+ nail technicians nationwide
- 56% are Vietnamese; 36% Caucasian; 8% Other (New York is an exception)
- 97% female and 3% male
- Age
 - 12% 30 or younger
 - 24% 31 – 40
 - 35% 41 – 50
 - 29% 51 or older
- Highest level of completed school
 - 28% finished high school
 - 44% some college/AA degree
 - 17% finished college

Reported Health Effects

- Mostly from cross-sectional studies
- **Respiratory irritation** (Roelofs et al 2008, Quach et al 2008, Quach et al 2011, NIOSH 1998)
- **Dermatitis** (Roelofs et al 2008, Quach et al 2011)
- **Cognitive symptoms** (LoSasso et al, 2001 and 2002)
- **Musculoskeletal disorders**(Roelofs et al 2008, NIOSH 1998)
- No cancer excess was found in cosmetologists and manicurists in California (Quach et al, 2010)

Indoor Air Quality Study

- IAQ conducted in Boston by Goldin et al (2011)
- **CO₂** in 15 out of 21 salons **exceeded 800 ppm (25cfm/person)**
- Median **Total VOCs** = 4,800 ppb (61 – 38,000 ppb) (typical VOCs for homes is about 337 ppb)
- Improving ventilation conditions in salons to meet minimum outdoor air delivery requirements can reduce exposures to TVOCs.

Our overarching goal

- Develop an evidence-based health and safety multilevel intervention program for nail salon owners and workers

The pilot study (summer 2020)

Health and safety needs assessment

Hepatitis B knowledge and access to care

Recruit 4 nail salon consultants

Develop self-assessment tools for owners and informational resources

Provide training and on-going assistance for owners and technicians

Train community health consultants

Pre-test intervention materials with a 1 or 2 test salons

Feasibility study

- 12 salons
- Baseline assessment (indoor air monitoring, health survey, checklist of workplace conditions)
- Deliver intervention
- Post-intervention assessment (after 6 months)

Health and safety needs assessment

- Recruited 2 owners and 15 technicians (from different salons) to participate in the interviews and focus groups
- Most participants reported having some adverse health symptoms such as respiratory and irritation, headaches, dry skin, and musculoskeletal pain
- Owners and workers had already implemented some protective practices
 - Chemical protection: keeping door opens, using gloves and surgical masks, take out trash at the end of the day
 - Musculoskeletal pain: sitting straight up, standing up to walk between customers, taking pain relievers, getting help from family members to cover their shifts
- Protective practices were not consistently implemented across participating salons



Factors influencing adoption of safety practices

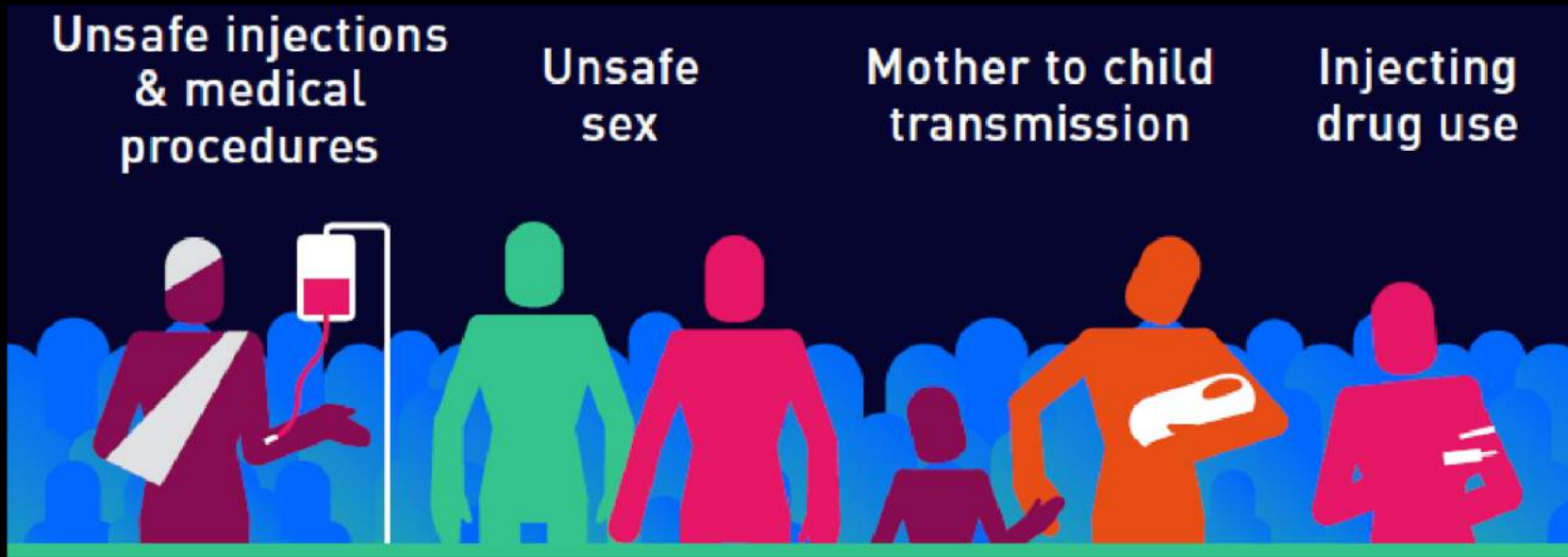
- Perceived health benefits/concerns. Workers do care about their health.
 - Quote: *“Because there are many nails disease that you may not know. When someone who has a disease gets cut, you can get infected. So the gloves are a must-have.*
- Knowledge of hazards at nail salons varied. Most people have a general idea that chemicals are bad. Knowledge does not necessarily translate to action because of many barriers
 - Quote: *“At that time I did not know, but after working for a while, I realized it.”*
- Low perceived susceptibility/severity for most work-related hazards at the salons
- Protective equipment-specific challenges
 - Discomfort, blurriness in their glasses when using masks, slipperiness, and slowing them down (gloves use)
 - Some salons do not provide PPE

Factors influencing adoption of safety practices

- Owners establish and enforce salon's management and policies
- Client influence
 - *Quote: "There are also people who are allergic to latex gloves that so they let you know. So I do not wear gloves at their request."*
- External regulations
 - *Quote: "When opening the shop [in the mall], they required me to install a ventilation system. . . Here this [general] ventilation costs thousands of dollars." (owner)*

Infection control practices and Hepatitis B at nail salons

- Sanitation and infection control to prevent bloodborne pathogens transmission (e.g., HIV, hepatitis B) and fungal infection at nail salons is of high public health importance to the health department and consumers
- In most healthcare settings where bloodborne pathogen exposure risk is high, hepatitis B vaccination is typically required for those workers
- In nail salon settings, OSHA thinks the risk is low so hepatitis B vaccination is only encouraged not required.
- Most nail salons overlooked this guidance



Hepatitis B Transmission

Why is it important to test and vaccinate nail salon worker population?

- Hepatitis B infection disproportionately impacts Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI), partly due to immigration from foreign countries with high rates of hepatitis B and the asymptomatic nature of the infection
- The majority of nail salon workers come from Asian American and Pacific Islander communities
- While exposure to blood risk during nail service is relatively small, accidental cuts do occur.
- Some nail tools are used multiple times so there is a transmission risk if tools are not disinfected properly

Qualitative Assessment of Hepatitis B within the Greater Philadelphia Vietnamese Nail Salon Community

- Co-led by HBF, Drexel University, and Vietlead
- Recruited nail salon owners and workers to ask about screening practices, and identify future public health intervention methods

VietLead Practice & Programs



heal

We Heal together as a community through reclaiming our histories, interdependence, and ancestral traditions.

Chúng tôi hàn gắn lại với nhau thông qua việc giành lại lịch sử, sự tương thân tương hỗ, cùng các truyền thống văn hoá tổ tiên.



resist

We Resist structures and policies that destabilize and harm communities through community organizing and mobilization.

Chúng tôi chống lại các cấu trúc và chính sách gây mất ổn định và gây hại cho cộng đồng thông qua việc tổ chức và huy động cộng đồng.



grow

We Grow community solutions that promote ecological wellbeing for earth and people and allow us to reclaim our labor.

Chúng tôi phát triển các giải pháp mang tính cộng đồng nhằm cải thiện sức khỏe sinh thái cho trái đất cũng như con người, và cho phép chúng tôi giành lại sức lao động của mình.

Our Programs:

Community
Defense

Health &
Healing

OurRoots
Youth

Resilient
Roots
Farm

Coop
Project

Civic
Empower-
ment

Check out the rest of the calendar to see the latest updates & announcements from our programs!



BREAST HEALTH & SCREENING PROJECT

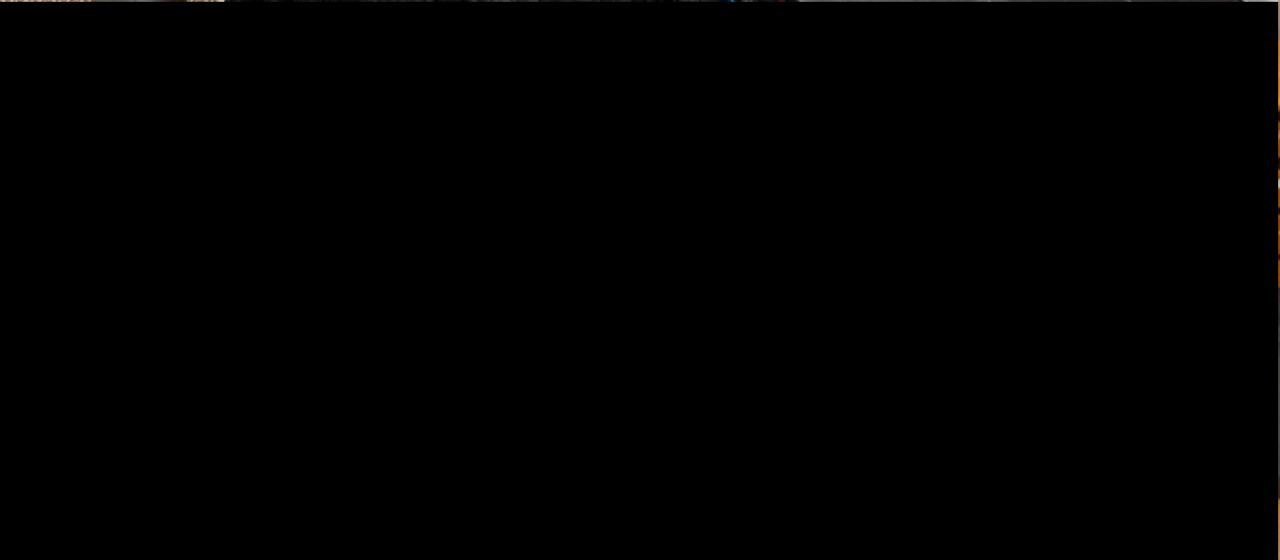
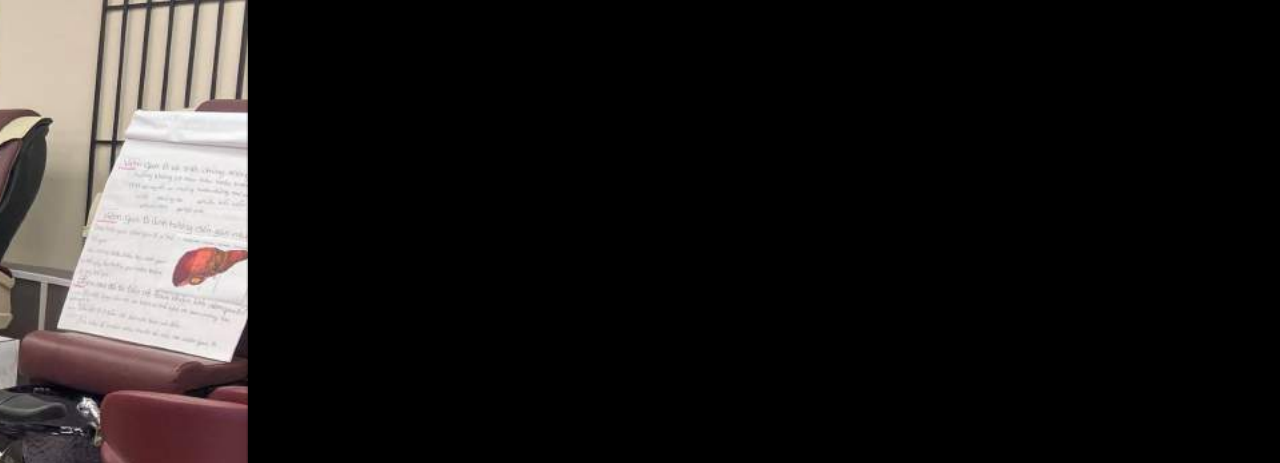
ELDER BENEFITS APPLICATION SUPPORT & NAVIGATION

NUTRITION & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Our Health & Healing Program offers interpretation, patient navigation, and benefits application support for Vietnamese adult and elders in Philadelphia and South Jersey. Need support? Call 856-320-6668.

Chương trình Sức khỏe & Chữa bệnh của chúng tôi cung cấp dịch vụ thông dịch, điều hướng bệnh nhân và hỗ trợ xin trợ cấp và các quyền lợi cho người Việt lớn tuổi và cao niên tại Philadelphia và South Jersey. Cần sự giúp đỡ? Xin gọi 856-320-6668.

Health & Healing Program



Themes of the Hepatitis B project

- Knowledge of HBV
- Barriers to healthcare
- Discrimination/barriers
- Screening practices
- Nail training
- Programmatic recommendation

Knowledge

- Overall lack of knowledge related to HBV.
- Many misconceptions related to transmission, symptoms and prevention were found related to HBV.

Quotes: Hepatitis B is spread “through food and water intake,” one suggested transmission occurs through “mosquito,” and others thought hepatitis B was “spread genetically.”

Barriers

- Lack of health insurance, long work hours
 - **Quotes:** “Quotes: “Inconvenience... like a nail technician usually have a hard time to schedule things around their work hours. They work 7 days a week, and the doctors usually opens late, sometimes not until 9, and it is often crowded. That is why I do not want to go, because I have to wait in line and then be late for work. That is why many people in the nails field could not schedule for things to happen. The exception would be when they are really sick, only then will they take a day off to go.”

Discrimination/Stigma

- Most participants felt that people with hepatitis B should not be treated differently but a few quotes suggest otherwise.
 - **Quotes:** “people are afraid of being infected. Like when talking, the saliva can do this or that. Eating/drinking, stuff like that, they don’t like it. They don’t like to use the same stuff as well.”
 - “I am afraid of socializing with people as well. Use the same item. In general, using the same items. Being more careful eating/drinking... eat separately. Eating utensils are separate, not sharing it.”

Provider Screening & Prevention

- Many individuals did not know they should be tested, reported that it was not recommended to them by a doctor, or assumed that a blood test at their primary visit annually would include HBV.
 - “If the doctor tells me to get my blood tested, to get complete checkup, and the doctor says that everything okay, then I think nothing more of it, and I do not ask anything further. Due to the doctor saying everything is okay, there is really nothing to ask.”
 - Others noted that they have received a shot or vaccine, but they did not know what the shot was for, “yes, I have to get the shot, but I don’t know what the shot is for...”

Nail Training

- A few participants did not receive formal training and learned the trade in the nail salon while the majority had licenses and formal nail training. Most mentioned HBV training did not occur.

“I recently went through training, there is no talk of it (hepatitis B).”

“There were brief mentioning of things like HIV that are transmittable, but nothing else.”

Outreach recommendations

- Postings in common areas like Vietnamese supermarkets, Vietnamese nail salons, or Vietnamese newspapers.
 - “I think for the Vietnamese community; you can go to churches or temple. It is because the majority of people in our community visits the temples or churches more often. I think that if you go in there to outreach, like, let’s say you want to open a day for free checkups for the Vietnamese community in the church, you want to talk to the priest.”

Next step

- Waiting for a grant to implement the pilot study in Philadelphia (summer 2020)
- Offer covid-19 resources to nail salons
 - Airborne transmission and surface contamination will pose a significant risk to these workers once the stay-at-order is lifted.
 - Developing a website offering covid19 resources and safe return to work guidance for nail salons
- Incorporate Hep B information and offer free testing to research participants.
- Document percentages of workers actually get tested and/or vaccinated
- Determine the extent of nail salon workers influencing their personal network to get tested/vaccinated for HBV for future work
- Implement pilot healthy nail program in different states (e.g., Minnesota)

Questions and Advice?