



For Immediate Release

Contact:

Alena Groopman, MHS
Global Community Health Coordinator
Tel: 650-721-6630
E-mail: groopman@stanford.edu
Website: <http://liver.stanford.edu/>

Your Life: Protected from Hepatitis B for Just \$30.

San Jose, CA (July 31, 2008)- The Asian Liver Center (ALC) at Stanford University began partnering in March 2008 with Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and the Jade Ribbon Campaign to provide hepatitis B screenings and vaccinations twice a month for the low-cost of \$30 in San Jose.

“Hep B Free” Screenings and Vaccinations

Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)
10AM – 1PM, 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month
2400 Moorpark Ave, Suite 111, 1st floor
San Jose, CA 95128

This campaign specifically targets the adult Asian Pacific Islander (API) community, which is disproportionately affected by hepatitis B. One in 10 Asian and Pacific Islanders are chronically infected with hepatitis B; two out of three are unaware they are infected. It is important for everyone to get screened for hepatitis B.

Hepatitis B is a disease caused by infection with the hepatitis B virus (HBV). Chronic, or lifelong, infection with HBV can lead to liver cirrhosis, liver failure, and liver cancer. One in 4 of those chronically infected with HBV will die from liver cancer.

An effective vaccine can protect individuals from hepatitis B infection. “Hep B Free” screenings and vaccinations provide low-cost hepatitis B vaccines, as well as hepatitis A vaccines. Screening and the hepatitis B vaccine series cost \$30, screening and the hepatitis A vaccine series cost \$35, and screening and combined hepatitis A and B vaccinations cost \$50. Screenings and vaccinations will be available to anyone 18 years of age or older regardless of their health insurance status.

These Saturday screening events are in full swing and hundreds of people have already been tested and vaccinated. The next screening and vaccination will be held on Saturday, August 2nd from 10 AM – 1 PM. B Sure, B Tested, B Hep B Free!

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About the Asian Liver Center at Stanford University: The Asian Liver Center at Stanford University was the first non-profit organization in the United States to address the high incidence of

hepatitis B and liver cancer in Asians and Asian Americans. Founded in 1996, the ALC has grown to become a national and international leader in fighting this global epidemic through outreach, education, advocacy, and research.

About Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI):

Founded in 1973, AACI is the largest community-based organization for the Asian American community in Santa Clara County. Current programs include mental health and primary care health services, health education, HIV/AIDS prevention and testing, substance abuse treatment, programs for drinking drivers, a center for survivors of torture, programs and shelter for women and children who are domestic violence victims, a senior center, after-school youth programs, community advocacy, and English and citizenship classes.

About the California Department of Public Health:

The California Department of Public Health protects and promotes California's health by making it a place where all people can enjoy the best health possible, where we all can live, grow and prosper in clean and safe communities. Its goals are to improve access to quality public health services, to improve health outcomes, and to reduce health care costs through prevention with services such as disease screenings and vaccinations, and patient safety initiatives. The California Department of Public Health plays a vital role in these efforts, collaborating with local health departments, agencies and organizations throughout the State.

About the Jade Ribbon Campaign:

The objective of the campaign is to increase awareness and provide culturally-sensitive health information to the API community and health professionals in an effort to reduce this major health disparity and improve API health. In May 2001, the Asian Liver Center launched the Jade Ribbon Campaign in the San Francisco Bay Area to spread awareness about hepatitis B and liver cancer in the Asian community. Since then, the Jade Ribbon Campaign has spread across the country and the world uniting people from all walks of life in the fight against hepatitis B and liver cancer. Partners of the Jade Ribbon Campaign include over 400 groups, including community organizations and federal agencies.