

# Closing the door on Hepatitis C in one Queensland Prison

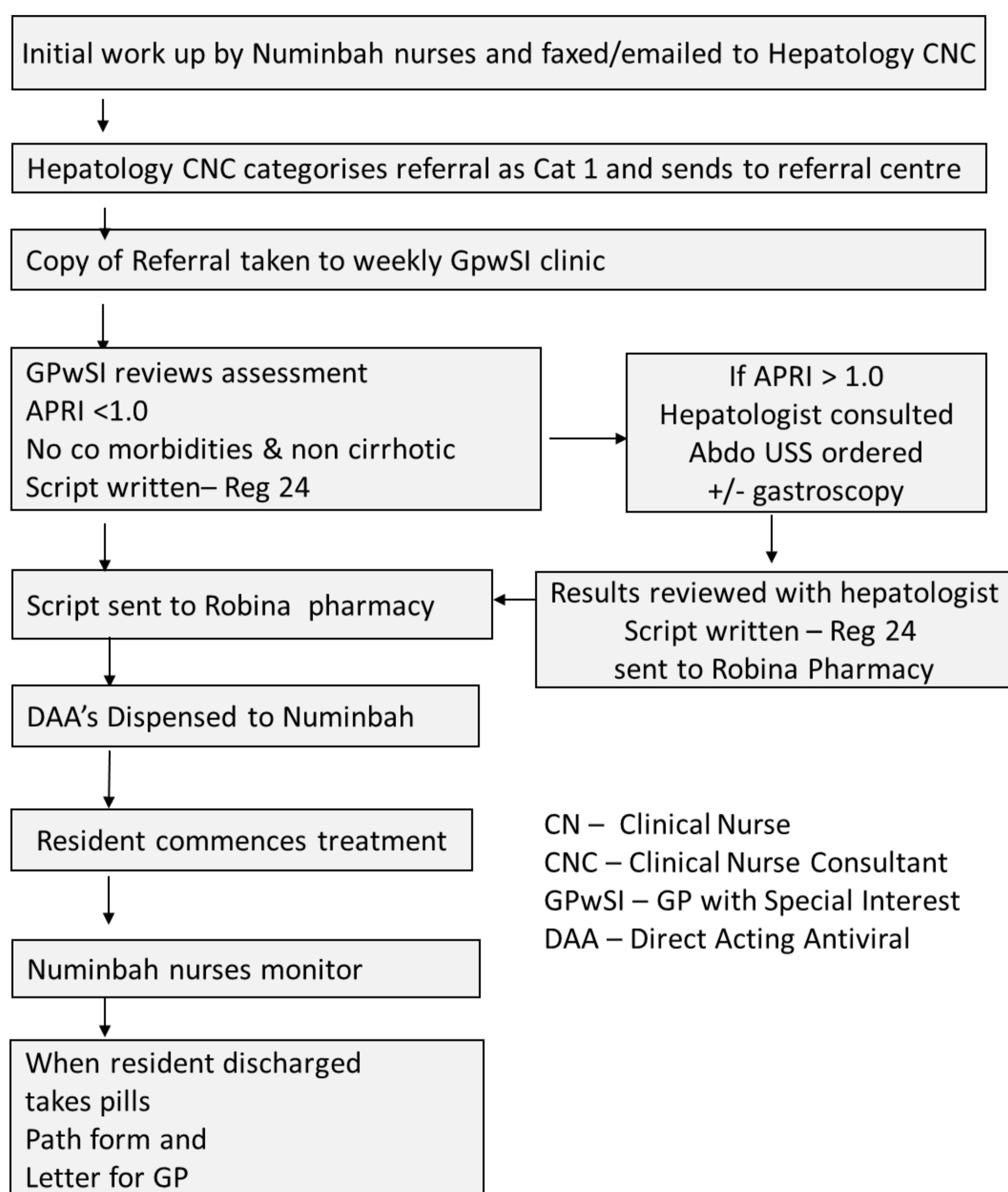
## Collaborative Approach to the Management of Hepatitis C at Numinbah Queensland Female Correctional Facility

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### In the community

- For many health access and support is inconsistent/ difficult to access
- Many have complex psycho-social backgrounds
- Lack of personal agency

### Management Pathway

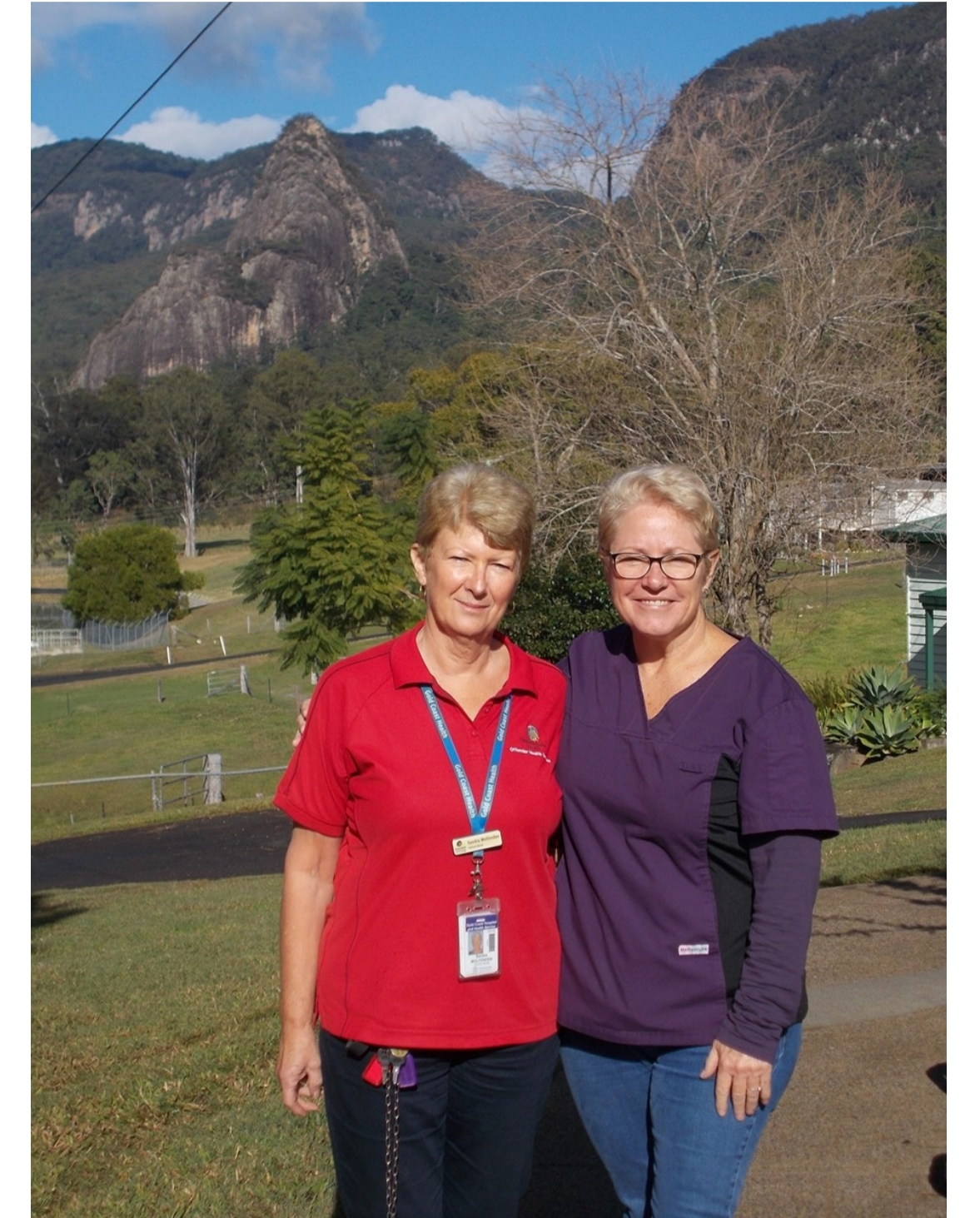


### Arriving at Numinbah Correctional Facility in Gold Coast Hinterland

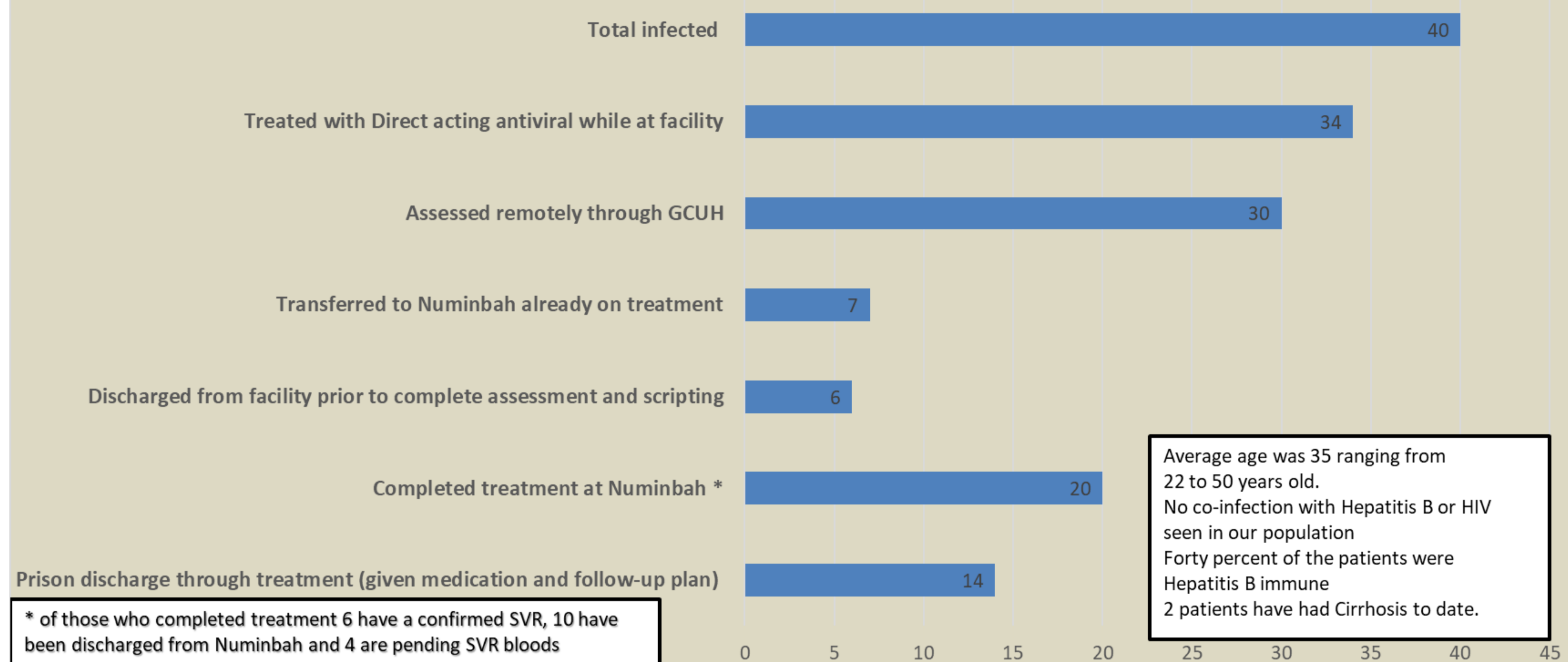
Barriers to Hepatitis C treatment at Numinbah included:

- Distance—50 minutes from GCUH
- Lack of onsite prescriber
- No access to fibro-scan
- Lack of professional connections and support

Numinbah clinical nurses (CNs) have built capacity with the assistance of the hepatology team to be the "point of care" clinicians.



### Hepatitis C Infected Patients at Numinbah



Now I'm Free of Hepatitis C.  
It is such a wonder drug!

I look forward to a healthy, Drug free future,  
thanks to the nurses and doctors that helped  
me get treatment.

### Benefits of model

- Timely access to Hepatitis C treatment in high risk population
- Improved individual health
- Improved sense of self-worth with Hepatitis treatment and "cure"
- Reduced Hepatitis C in prison community and general community on release
- Professional relationships and communications have been established, which then helps with more complex cases

### Continuing barriers/difficulties

- upon release there is potential loss to follow-up and final outcome. As long as people are given the clearest instructions to complete course, with the success rates of DAA how much of an issue is this?

### Conclusion

This Pathway has allowed women at a rural correctional facility to access Hepatitis diagnosis and management. Without this team approach they may still be Hepatitis C positive.

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### Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge the Hepatitis C infected women (female only facility) at the Numinbah correctional facility who often have complex and difficult lives, making accessing medical treatment extremely difficult. We hope this model of care has improved their lives. We wish to acknowledge the support and assistance of Pharmacy at Robina hospital/GCUH and management and administration across clinical teams.

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Gold Coast  
Health

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