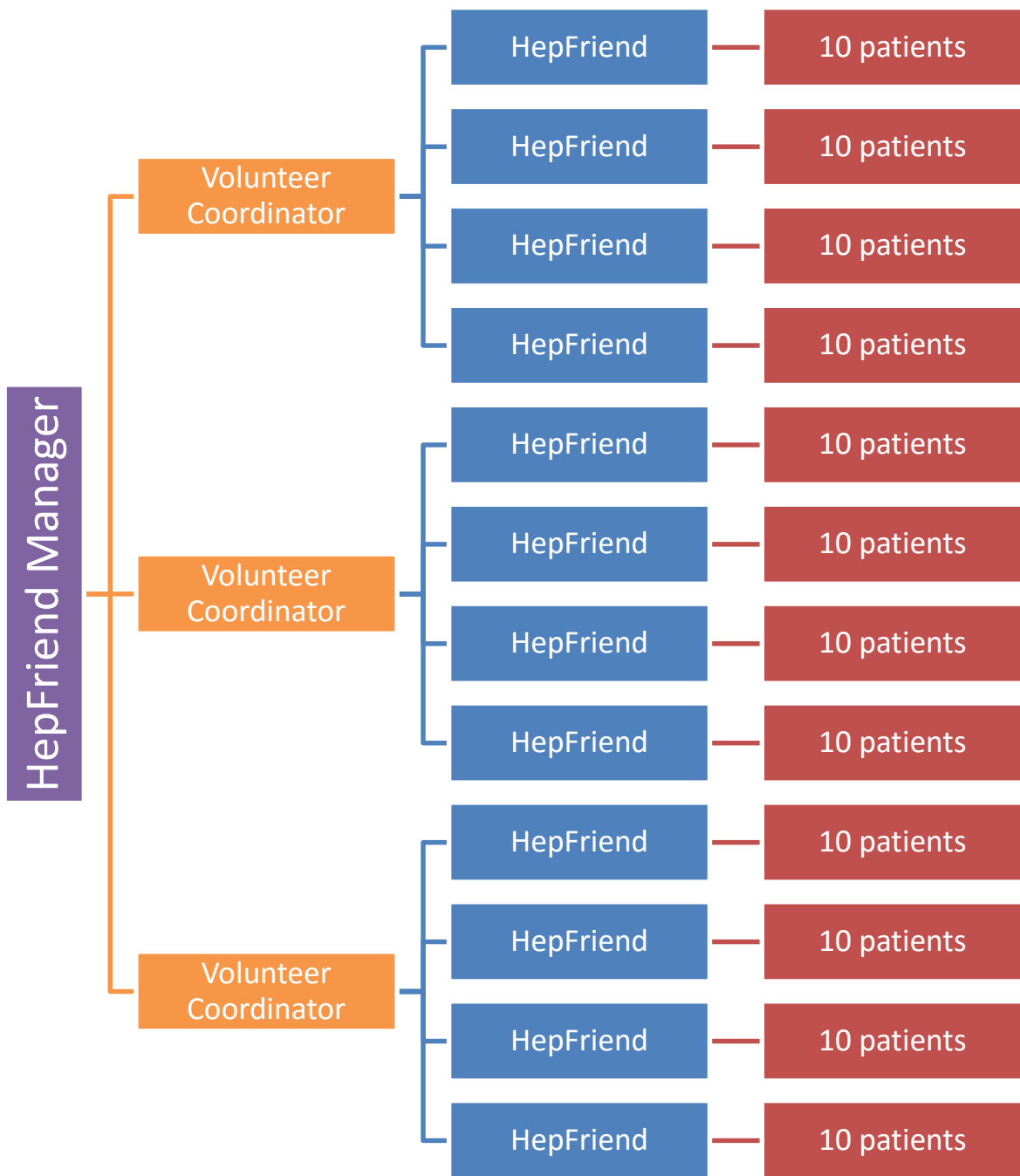


## HepFriend Project plan

- HepFriend is a proof of concept study in Dublin, Ireland, which aims to assess the efficacy of a peer support (also known as 'buddying') model to enable vulnerable people living with the hepatitis C to access specialist care and complete treatment
- HepFriend is a collaboration between The Hep C Partnership, The Mater Hospital, and the following community organisations: Community response; Crysalis; SAOL and is supported by the pharmaceutical industry – Namely Gilead Sciences and Abbvie
- The objective of the study is to provide an evidence base for the effectiveness of the HepFriend concept with a view of scaling up and exporting the model to other geographies through community partnerships



## HepFriend Role

- Each community group will recruit and manage a total of 12 HepFriends (4 HepFriends per community group)
- HepFriends will be certified after completing a 2 day training course, delivered by members of the stakeholder group in May 2017
- The project will run for 12 months from June 2017- June 2018
- Each HepFriend will be assigned 10 patients over the course of the study
- There will be approximately 10 'one-to-one' meetings between the HepFriend and patient (variable upon the needs of the patient)
- 'one-to-one' meetings may involve
  - Meeting the patient
  - Taking patient to hospital
  - Attending clinical appointment with the patient
  - Post appointment coffee where they can help the patient understand the care pathway and treatment
  - Calling texting and reminding patient of upcoming appointments

## Volunteer Coordinator

- Each Community organisation will provide a volunteer coordinator to manage to Hepfriends
- They will meet each hep friend month to discuss progress and collect data from previous month
- Volunteer coordinator will collate data for their 4 hep friends and submit data to HepFriend Manager

## HepFriend Manger

- Will collate data for analysis

# HepFriend Project Timeline

**10 March**  
Project Plan Meeting –  
Documents finalised

Third stakeholder  
meeting

**27 March**  
HepFriends Recruited

HepFriend Training  
**27 April** Day 1: HCV  
**4 May** Day 2: HepFriend

Initial Stakeholder  
meeting



Second Stakeholders  
meeting

**11 May**  
HepFriend HCV  
Masterclass

**Monthly** meeting with Volunteer coordinator and  
HepFriend Manager (progress report)

Mapping Exercise with  
HepCare team -

**24 March**  
Community group  
ratification of plan and  
docs

**6 April**  
1pm HepFriend  
Induction  
2-4pm HepFriend  
Stakeholders Meeting

HepFriend Project commences