



Dear Provider,

Many adults, as well as pregnant women and their infant(s) are not being tested appropriately for hepatitis C virus in Tennessee.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends one-time hepatitis C virus testing of all adults (18 years and older) and all pregnant women during every pregnancy, except in settings where the prevalence is less than 0.1%. (April 2020)

- <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/guidelinesc.htm>

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends testing for hepatitis C virus in adults aged 18 to 79 years. (Grade B, March 2020)

- <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/document/RecommendationStatementFinal/hepatitis-c-screening>

The American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) and Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) recommend one-time routine hepatitis C virus testing for all individuals aged 18 years or older, one time testing for persons less than 18 years old with activities, exposures, conditions, or circumstances associated with an increased risk of hepatitis C virus infection, and prenatal testing as part of routine prenatal care with each pregnancy. (April 2018)

- <https://www.hcvguidelines.org/>

AASLD and IDSA also recommend hepatitis C virus testing for children perinatally exposed and siblings of children with HCV infection.

- <https://www.hcvguidelines.org/unique-populations/children>

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) is actively reviewing the new CDC and USPSTF guidance.

We need your feedback! Please help us understand testing practices among pregnant women in Tennessee by taking the brief provider assessment survey at:

- https://redcap.link/HCVTestingPractices_PregnantWomen

Information on required reporting to the Tennessee Department of Health is available at:

- <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/reportable-diseases.html>

Information on learning to treat hepatitis C virus is available through a Tennessee-based training center at:

- Southeast AIDS Education and Training Center
 - <https://www.vumc.org/seaetc/48113>
- Hepatitis C Toolkit and Resources
 - <https://www.seaetc.com/provider-resources/hcv-toolkit/>
- Hepatitis C Consultation Services **Free!**
 - <https://www.seaetc.com/hepatitis-c-consultation-services/>

For printable copies of the Hepatitis C General Fact Sheet or the Hepatitis C Testing One-Pager developed by the CDC, visit the following links:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/pdfs/hepcgeneralfactsheet.pdf>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/pdfs/HepCScreening2020RecsSummary.pdf>

For printable copies of the Hepatitis C and Pregnant Women brochure in English, Spanish and Arabic and the Infant Testing Recommendations One-Pager developed by the Tennessee Department of Health, visit the following link:

- <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/viral-hepatitis/hepatitis-c.html>

If you have additional questions, please contact Laura Price at the number or email listed below.

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