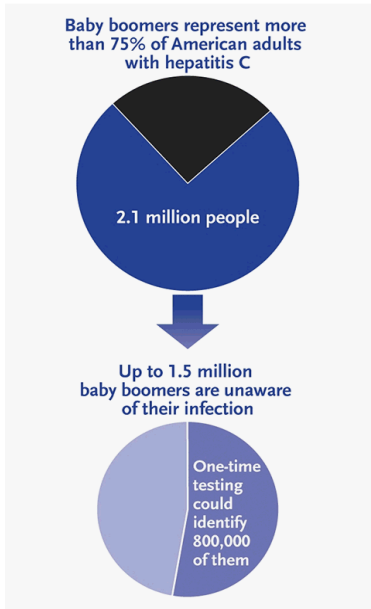




GREENLIGHT HEPATITIS C – BABY BOOMERS

TEST → IDENTIFY → REFER → CURE

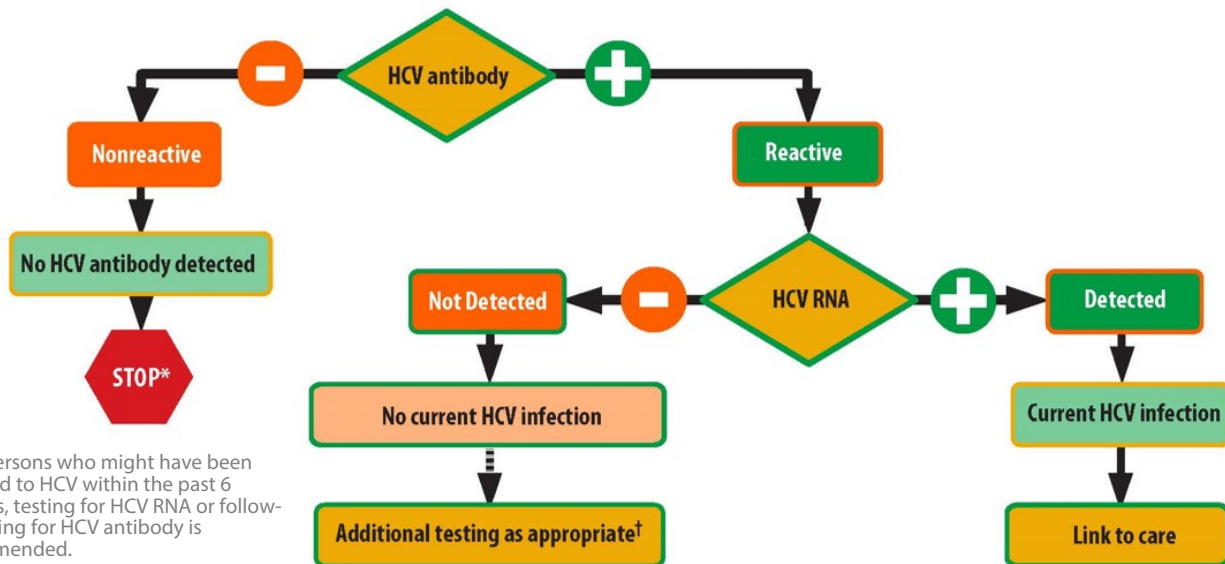
Why the concern about Baby Boomers and hepatitis C (HCV)?



HCV causes more deaths in US than all other infectious diseases combined.¹

- Age **IS** the risk factor.
- 75% of the ~4 million Americans with Hepatitis C are Baby Boomers²
- Few have symptoms and most are unaware they were exposed
- Over time, HCV can lead to cirrhosis, liver disease and liver cancer
- HCV-related deaths are on the rise
- Recent advancements in HCV treatment have made HCV a **CURABLE** condition
- CDC and Medicare recommend 1-time screening for Americans born 1945-1965^{3,4}
- HCV tests can be ordered by healthcare providers. Rapid tests are available for community use

HCV TESTING ALGORITHM⁵



* For persons who might have been exposed to HCV within the past 6 months, testing for HCV RNA or follow-up testing for HCV antibody is recommended.

† To differentiate past, resolved HCV infection from biologic false positivity for HCV antibody, testing with another HCV antibody assay can be considered. Repeat HCV RNA testing if the person tested is suspected to have had HCV exposure within the past 6 months or has clinical evidence of HCV disease, or if there is concern regarding handling or storage of specimen.

Non-Reactive

No HCV exposure
Does **NOT** have hepatitis C
No need to retest unless new exposure to blood in past 12 weeks or after future exposure

HCV RNA Negative

Does **NOT** have hepatitis C
Has had past exposure
No presence of virus or chronic infection
The patient can become re-infected with new exposure

HCV Antibody Reactive

History of HCV exposure
Initiate HCV RNA test
Avoid alcohol until further test results
Will always be reactive for HCV antibodies

HCV RNA Positive

Has Hepatitis C
Assess current liver health
Avoid alcohol
Encourage family testing
Link to care

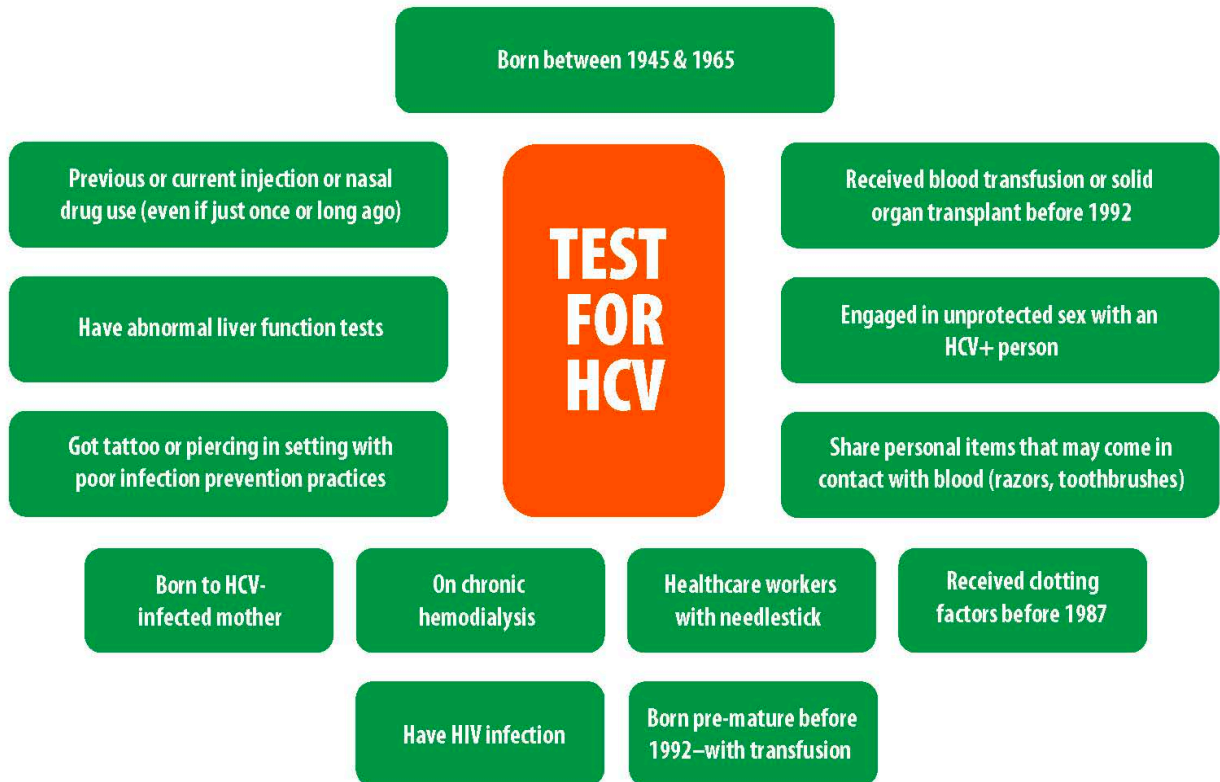


GREENLIGHT HEPATITIS C – BABY BOOMERS

If a client has HCV infection advise him or her to:

- ✓ Eat a healthy, low fat diet, stay active and exercise regularly
- ✓ Seek treatment and remain under the care of a healthcare provider
- ✓ Get vaccinated for hepatitis A and B
- ✓ Avoid/minimize alcohol intake – assess and/or refer for alcohol or substance use treatment
- ✓ Don't share needles, equipment, razors, tweezers, or other items that may have blood on them

In addition to age-based testing, CDC and USPSTF recommend persons with the following risk factors be tested for HCV. Those with ongoing risk should be screened annually.



Learn more about HCV from CDC, your state health department and references below.

VISIT www.CaringAmbassadors.org for more information and materials to support GREENLIGHTING HCV in your practice.

¹ <http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/newsroom/2016/hcv-press-release.html>
² Dennison MM, et al. Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection in the United States, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey 2003 to 2010. In *Annals of Internal Medicine* March 5, 2014.
³ <http://www.cdc.gov/knownmorehepatitis/Media/PDFs/FactSheet-boomers.pdf>
⁴ <http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Document/UpdateSummaryFinal/hepatitis-c-screening>
⁵ CDC. Testing for HCV infection: An update of guidance for clinicians and laboratorians. *MMWR* 2013;62(18).



The Greenlight Series was developed to help you make sure your HCV systems are set on GO!

SHAPE (Supporting Hepatitis Awareness through Program Enhancement) is a project of Caring Ambassadors Program, a nonprofit organization empowering people to be ambassadors for their own health since 1997.

www.caringambassadors.org

