



## Program Directors

### GREENLIGHT HEPATITIS C – BABY BOOMERS

**HCV test for ALL patients born between 1945-1965<sup>1</sup>**

**TEST → IDENTIFY → REFER → CURE**

**Hepatitis C (HCV) kills more Americans than all other infectious diseases combined,<sup>2</sup> but you can help save lives.**

#### BE A CHAMPION:

- ✓ **GREENLIGHT HCV** - let everyone know they have the "GO" to prioritize HCV testing
- ✓ **RECOGNIZE** Age **IS** the risk factor
- ✓ **DISCUSS** ways to make HCV testing a ROUTINE part of your programs
- ✓ **PROMOTE** the CDC recommended 1-time HCV test with other "boomer" services, like colonoscopy
- ✓ **INTEGRATE** HCV testing into existing programs (education, awareness, discussion)

#### LEARN:

- ✓ About 1 in 30 Boomers has HCV
- ✓ Most with HCV have no obvious symptoms nor know how they were exposed
- ✓ Treatment can cure most people quickly with few side effects
- ✓ Resources are available to support you and your program

#### FACILITATE:

- ✓ **DISTRIBUTE** information to staff and clients
- ✓ **TRAIN** staff about HCV and how to discuss it with clients
- ✓ **LEVERAGE** existing program and community resources
- ✓ **DEVELOP** partnerships with organizations in your community
- ✓ **ADD** HCV testing to your programs



**A few small steps can take your practice a long way toward preventing liver disease and liver cancer.**

<sup>1</sup><http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/newsroom/2016/hcv-press-release.html>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.cdc.gov/knowmorehepatitis/Media/PDFs/FactSheet-boomers.pdf>



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](http://www.caringambassadors.org)





# GREENLIGHT HEPATITIS C – BABY BOOMERS

## HOW CAN YOU INCORPORATE HCV TESTING IN YOUR PRACTICE?

FREE resources are available.

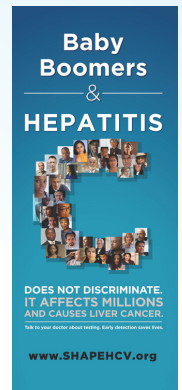
Visit [www.CaringAmbassadors.org](http://www.CaringAmbassadors.org) to view and order materials to help you:

### INCREASE AWARENESS

- ✓ **INFORMATION STATIONS** - display brochures & posters
- ✓ **DISTRIBUTE** educational material to all staff

### PROMOTE TESTING

- ✓ **ENCOURAGE** clients to request HCV testing from healthcare providers
- ✓ **DISTRIBUTE** "request HCV test" cards\*
- ✓ **CONNECT** with state or local health departments and viral hepatitis coordinators
- ✓ **IDENTIFY** agencies conducting community-based testing
- ✓ **CONSIDER** adding HCV ab testing to other screenings (like BP and diabetes)



### COORDINATE TESTING


- ✓ **SCHEDULE** testing events with community agencies
- ✓ **DEVELOP** testing procedures within YOUR organization
- ✓ **PREPARE** to discuss test results with your clients
- ✓ **CONSIDER** adding a HCV patient navigator to your staff

**\* Take One and Share This with Your Physician** Request that the hepatitis C antibody test be done as part of your visit today!

75% of those who have hepatitis C were born between 1945 and 1965. You could be one of them. Your age puts you at risk.

Not a Baby Boomer? Additional risks are:

- Served in the military, especially Vietnam
- Received blood or blood products prior to 1992
- Shared paraphernalia while using or experimenting with drugs



[www.SHAPEHCV.org](http://www.SHAPEHCV.org)

### COUNSEL and REFER

- ✓ **LEARN** to interpret HCV test results
- ✓ **PREPARE** your staff for conversation with clients
- ✓ **ENGAGE** your clients in follow-up care
- ✓ **REMIND** clients that HCV can be cured

| Test                 | Result       | Meaning  | Take-Home Message   |
|----------------------|--------------|--|---|
| Hepatitis C antibody | Not detected | Indicates absence of hepatitis C antibody  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No need to worry</li> <li>• No need to repeat antibody test unless you have symptoms</li> </ul>  |
| Hepatitis C antibody | Detected     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indicates exposure to hepatitis C virus (HCV)</li> <li>• Does not indicate if you have hepatitis C</li> <li>• You will need to get a second test called HCV RNA test</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For results</li> <li>• Schedule a follow-up appointment with your doctor to get the HCV RNA test</li> <li>• The RNA test will determine if you have hepatitis C</li> </ul> |
| Hepatitis C RNA      | Not detected | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indicates absence of hepatitis C virus (HCV)</li> <li>• You do not have hepatitis C</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No need to worry</li> <li>• No need to repeat RNA test unless you have symptoms</li> </ul>   |
| Hepatitis C RNA      | Detected     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indicates presence of hepatitis C virus (HCV)</li> <li>• You have hepatitis C</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule an appointment with your doctor to discuss treatment options</li> <li>• Many people can be cured of hepatitis C</li> </ul>  |

#### Key Messages for Patients

- There is a cure for hepatitis C
- Seek treatment and remain under the care of a healthcare provider when living with hepatitis C
- Eat a healthy, low fat diet
- Stay active - Exercise regularly
- Get vaccinated for hepatitis A and B
- Avoid from using alcohol (water - unless advised) for alcohol or addiction treatment
- Don't share needles, equipment, razors, toothbrush, or other items that may have blood on them
- Only receive tattoos and piercings from licensed artists and shops

[www.SHAPEHCV.org](http://www.SHAPEHCV.org)



Visit [CDC.gov/hepatitis](http://CDC.gov/hepatitis) and your local health department for additional information



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