



RNs & Medical Assistants

GREENLIGHT HEPATITIS C – BABY BOOMERS

HCV test for ALL patients born between 1945-1965¹

TEST → IDENTIFY → REFER → CURE

Hepatitis C (HCV) kills more Americans than all other infectious diseases combined,² 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
- ✓ **PROMOTE** the CDC recommended 1-time HCV test with other "boomer" services, like colonoscopy
- ✓ **DISCUSS** ways to make HCV testing streamlined in your practice

PROMPT:

- ✓ **ASK** for what you need to make HCV testing **ROUTINE**
- ✓ **REMIND** providers to consider HCV testing
 - No special consent needed - can be combined with other blood-work
 - No special requirement for pre-test or post-test counseling
- ✓ **DISTRIBUTE** testing information, CPT and ICD-10 codes in the practice

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
- ✓ A positive antibody test does not mean chronic disease
 - Follow up diagnostic (RNA/PCR/viral load) test is needed
- ✓ Resources are available to support you and your patients



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

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

² <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





GREENLIGHT HEPATITIS C – BABY BOOMERS

HOW CAN YOU INCORPORATE HCV TESTING IN YOUR PRACTICE?

FREE resources are available.

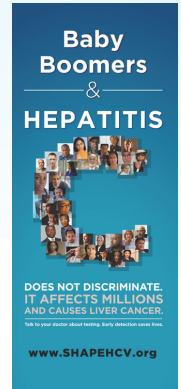
Visit www.CaringAmbassadors.org to view and order materials to help you:

INCREASE AWARENESS

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

PROMOTE TESTING

- ✓ **ENCOURAGE** patients to request HCV testing from healthcare providers
- ✓ **DISTRIBUTE** “request HCV test” cards*
- ✓ **PROVIDE** testing events within your practice



COORDINATE TESTING

- ✓ **DEVELOP** testing procedures within YOUR practice
- ✓ **NORMALIZE** HCV testing by mentioning it to ALL Baby Boomers

* **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

COUNSEL and REFER

- ✓ **LEARN** to interpret test results and how to clearly communicate them to clients
- ✓ **PREPARE** for conversation with clients
- ✓ **ENGAGE** your clients in follow-up care
- ✓ **REMINDE** clients that HCV can be cured
- ✓ **SUMMARIZE** patient tests (include genotype & medical history for specialist)
- ✓ **SUPPORT** patients with visit summaries, printed information, and making appointments

Test	Result	Meaning	Take-Home Message
Hepatitis C antibody	Not detected	Indicates no evidence of hepatitis C infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To rule out infection, you may need to have your test re-run 3-6 months later.
Hepatitis C antibody	Detected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicates evidence of hepatitis C infection • Does not indicate how long you have had hepatitis C • Does not indicate how severe your hepatitis C is • You will need to have a blood test to check for liver damage • You will need to have a blood test to check for liver cancer • You will need to have a blood test to check for liver failure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver damage • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver cancer • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver failure
Hepatitis C RNA	Not detected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicates no evidence of hepatitis C infection • You may still have hepatitis C antibodies in your blood • You may still have liver damage • You may still have liver cancer • You may still have liver failure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver damage • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver cancer • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver failure
Hepatitis C RNA	Detected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicates evidence of hepatitis C infection • You may still have hepatitis C antibodies in your blood • You may still have liver damage • You may still have liver cancer • You may still have liver failure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver damage • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver cancer • You may need to have a blood test to check for liver failure

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, tobacco, -smoke, and/or other drugs for medical or addictive 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



Visit CDC.gov/hepatitis and your local health department for additional information



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