



## Practice Manager

### 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

#### FACILITATE:

- ✓ **DISTRIBUTE** CPT, ICD-10, and billing codes to appropriate staff
- ✓ **ADD** HCV testing prompts to EMR
- ✓ **DETERMINE** HCV testing statistics in your practice and share with your providers
- ✓ **DEVELOP** HCV visit summary sheet with test results and patient information handouts
- ✓ **UNDERSTAND** reimbursement pathways
- ✓ **DEVELOP** HCV referral processes to complete "warm hand-off" to specialists
- ✓ **DESIGN** processes to engage clients in care post **CURE**

#### 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
- ✓ There are existing programs and community resources you can leverage to support your clients
- ✓ Billing information is available in the **GREENLIGHT** series



**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/nchhstp/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 and patients
- ✓ **ENCOURAGE** providers to mention HCV testing to all boomers

### PROMOTE TESTING

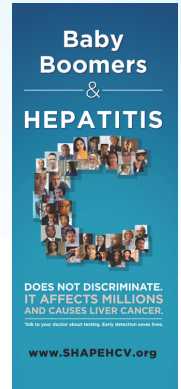
- ✓ **ENCOURAGE** clients to request HCV testing from healthcare providers
- ✓ **DISTRIBUTE** "request HCV test" cards \*
- ✓ **ADD** HCV Testing prompts to EMR
- ✓ **IDENTIFY** agencies conducting community-based testing
- ✓ **CONSIDER** adding HCV ab testing to other screenings (like BP and diabetes)

### COORDINATE TESTING

- ✓ **PROVIDE** system wide support for testing from EMR to billing
- ✓ **DEVELOP** testing procedures within YOUR practice
- ✓ **PREPARE** to providers to discuss test results with their patients

### COUNSEL and REFER

- ✓ **DEVELOP** a list of specialists who are experienced treating HCV in your area
- ✓ **LEARN** what specialists require to quickly see your patients
- ✓ **ENGAGE** your clients in follow-up care
- ✓ **REMIND** your staff and patients that HCV can be **CURED**
- ✓ **IDENTIFY** HCV learning opportunities for medical providers




**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



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Test	Result	Meaning	Take-Home Message
Hepatitis C antibody	Not detectable	Indicates no evidence of hepatitis C infection	• To date, no cure for hepatitis C • If not treated, can cause serious liver disease • Get tested regularly
Hepatitis C antibody	Detectable	Indicates evidence of hepatitis C infection. Does not indicate if you have liver damage or if you are still infectious.	• Get medical attention • Consider liver biopsy • Avoid alcohol • Don't share needles, syringes, razors, toothbrushes, or other items that may have blood on them • Only receive tattoos and piercings from licensed artists and shops
Hepatitis C RNA	Not detectable	Indicates no evidence of hepatitis C infection	• If you receive a false negative result, you should be retested • If you receive a false positive result, you should be retested
Hepatitis C RNA	Detectable	Indicates evidence of hepatitis C infection. Does not indicate if you have liver damage or if you are still infectious.	• Get medical attention • Consider liver biopsy • Avoid alcohol • Don't share needles, syringes, razors, toothbrushes, or other items that may have blood on them • Only receive tattoos and piercings from licensed artists and shops

#### 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 raw alcohol intake - assess and/or wait for medical or addiction treatment.
- Don't share needles, equipment, razors, toothbrushes, 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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