HEPATITIS C IN CANADA:
PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS ARE
THE 1ST POINT OF SCREENING

WHY SCREEN FOR HEPATITIS C?

Hepatitis C is a liver disease which can progress to cirrhosis, liver cancer and ultimately death from liver failure.

New treatments can cure almost everybody in 8 - 12 weeks!

Screen for early detection and intervention.

Why screen for hepatitis C?


RISK-BASED SCREENING: A) Injection or intranasal drug use or shared drug paraphernalia (past or present) B) Born or resident in a region where hepatitis C is more common (i.e.: Central, East and South Asia; Australasia and Oceania; Eastern Europe; Sub-Saharan Africa and North Africa; Middle East) C) Blood, blood products or an organ transplant before July 1992 in Canada D) Needle stick involving hepatitis C positive blood E) Signs of liver disease (i.e.: abnormal liver enzyme tests) or other infectious diseases (i.e.: hepatitis B, HIV, etc.) F) Health care services where there is a lack of infection prevention and control practices, including kidney/haemodialysis treatment G) Children born to hepatitis C positive mothers H) Tattoos or body piercings I) Risky sexual activity (i.e.: multiple partners; traumatic or rough sex, etc.) J) Shared personal care items with someone who has hepatitis C (i.e.: razors, toothbrush, etc.)

THE CANADIAN LIVER FOUNDATION RECOMMENDS ADDING BIRTH-COHORT SCREENING:

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ALL ADULTS

PROBABILITY OF IDENTIFYING UNDIAGNOSED HEPATITIS C

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PROBABILITY OF IDENTIFYING UNDIAGNOSED HEPATITIS C

Resolve - What to do after testing

Refer to your preferred specialist or search for a specialist in your area at www.liverca/liverdocs

Respond - How to test

Screen with HCV antibody test

If antibody detected:

Presumptive hepatitis C infection

Follow up with HCV RNA test

If confirmed:

Hepatitis C infection

If negative:

No hepatitis C infection

Refer to your preferred specialist or search for a specialist in your area at www.liverca/liverdocs

Evaluate/monitoring

Follow up with additional testing according to test results noted above.

Screen for mental health/substance use disorders, and if present, treat or refer as appropriate. Ongoing mental health or substance use disorders should not exclude patients from being immediately referred for treatment.

www.clf.ca/HepC/HCP

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