

Hepatitis C Virus Recommendation Checklist

Clinicians & Pharmacists-
Level 1



The current state of the issue

The number of acute HCV cases has been steadily increasing in the United States between 2012-2019, with an estimated 133% increase in acute cases reported in 2019 compared to 2012. While the cure cascade for HCV is well-defined, disparities in testing and treatment prevent many patients from accessing treatment. The greatest gap occurs between diagnosis and treatment. In Washington, only an estimated 12% of patients with diagnosed HCV infections start direct-acting antiviral treatment. Together, we can support the screening and treatment of individuals with HCV to reach our goal of eliminating Hepatitis C in Washington State by 2030.

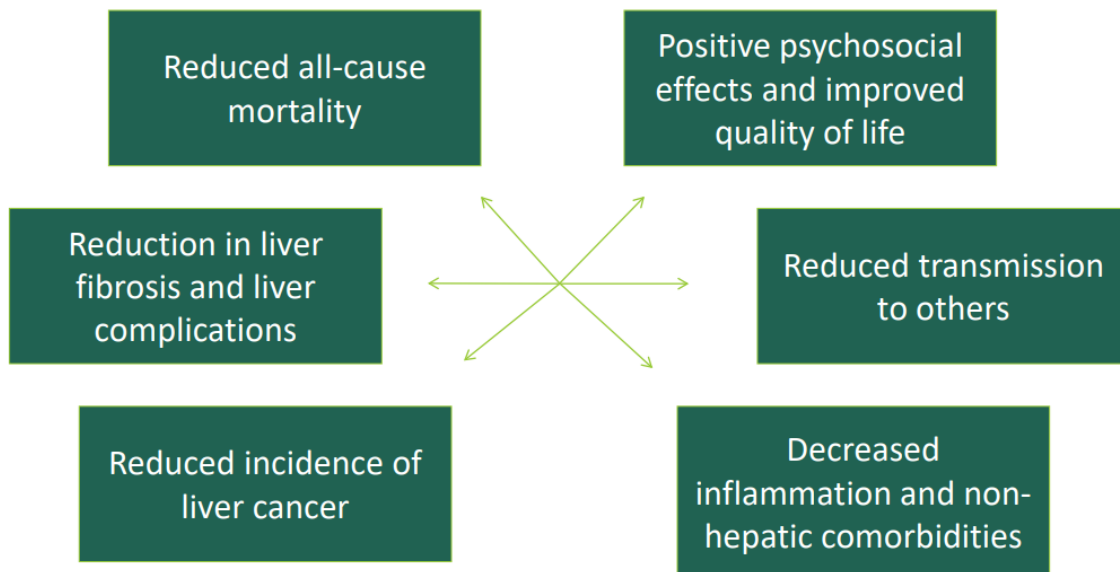
Increase screening opportunities

- Ensure screening is offered to all patients aged 18 to 79 and pregnant people during each pregnancy.
- Confirm that if an HCV antibody screening test is reactive in a laboratory, the lab automatically reflexes to a PCR test to confirm the diagnosis.

Strengthen the capacity to treat and cure individuals

- Become trained on HCV by using resources like Project ECHO or the University of Washington's Hepatitis C Online training.
- Follow AASLD/IDSA guidelines for treating HCV, while adopting a non-stigmatizing, person-centered approach. Allow for flexibility in the treatment plan for patient's needs and preferences.
- Offer vaccination for Hep A and Hep B to prevent other new viral hepatitis infections.
- Prescribe direct-acting antivirals (DAAs) as appropriate.
- Accept new patients living with HCV, especially when referred by care coordinators or case managers.

Benefits of Eliminating HCV



Resources

- The Bree Report on HCV is meant to supplement these resources.
- Full Bree Report on HCV: <https://www.qualityhealth.org/bree/topic-areas/hep-c/>
- AASLD/IDSA: <https://www.hcvguidelines.org/>
- Hep C Free Washington (DOH): <https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/illness-and-disease-z/hepatitis-information/hepatitis-c/eliminating-hepatitis-c>
- Hep C Free Washington (HCA): <https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/clinical-collaboration-and-initiatives/eliminating-hepatitis-c>
- Project ECHO Viral Hepatitis: for UW, contact Pam Landinez at landinez@uw.edu
- UW HCV Training: <https://www.hepatitisc.uw.edu/>
- CDC Hepatitis C Virus: <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/index.htm>
- Hepatitis C Medical Case Management Toolkit: Creating and Expanding Services: https://hepeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/HEP_MCM_Toolkit.pdf

Read the full Bree Report on HCV online by scanning the QR code:



Connect with the Bree Collaborative at bree@qualityhealth.org

References: 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. Viral Hepatitis Statistics and Surveillance: Figure 3.1 Number of reported acute hepatitis C virus infection cases and estimated infections – United States, 2012-2019. Accessed August 2022. Available: <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/statistics/2019surveillance/Figure3.1.htm>. 2. Hep C Free Washington. 2019. Plan to Eliminate Hepatitis C in Washington State by 2030. Washington Department of Health. <https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs/150nonDOH-HepCFreeWA>