Recommendations for Hepatitis C Screening and Treatment in People Who Use Drugs

Test people who use drugs (PWUD) for Hep C at least annually

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST TYPE</th>
<th>TEST RESULT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antibody Test:</td>
<td>Confirm with RNA Test (Reflex RNA testing is ideal)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RNA Test:</td>
<td>Link to Hep C medical care</td>
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</tbody>
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All PWUD with Hep C should be evaluated for treatment

- Hep C is treated with oral medications in 8–12 weeks with few side effects. See the algorithm for the management and cure of Hep C infection at www.bit.ly/simplified-hepc.
- Over 90% of PWUD with Hep C who are treated achieve a cure, less than 5% get reinfected.
- Curing Hep C prevents ongoing transmission to drug-sharing and sexual partners.
- Patient-centered care practices including Hep C patient navigation can help PWUD get care and complete treatment. To find a program, visit: ____________________________

Health Insurance approves Hep C medications for PWUD

- [add a sentence about your locality’s insurance requirements]
  
  Specialty pharmacies can support the medication prior authorization process.
  
  Local resource for prior authorization appeals and applications (legal aid, attorney general, state medicaid office)

Prevent Hep C and Overdose

- Link people to harm reduction and syringe service programs https://nasen.org/map/
- Link people to medication-assisted treatment, such as buprenorphine SAMHSA bupe locator

Resources

- To find Hep C patient navigation programs and programs for uninsured visit: ____________________________
- Clinical Education Initiative (CEI) Hepatitis C and Drug User Health Center of Excellence: www.ceitraining.org
- American Association for the Study of Liver Disease - Identification and Management of Hepatitis C in People Who Inject Drugs: hcvguidelines.org/unique-populations/pwid
- For more information email: HepProgram @ state.gov

nastad.org/hepatitis-navigation-toolkit