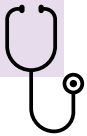


## Recommendations for Hepatitis C Screening and Treatment in People Who Use Drugs in New York City

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

TEST TYPE	TEST RESULT	
	If positive (+)	If negative (-)
<b>Antibody Test:</b> Use to test people who have never tested Hep C positive.	Confirm with RNA Test (Reflex RNA testing is ideal)	Retest in 12 months with antibody test
<b>RNA Test:</b> Use to test people who have ever tested Hep C positive.	Link to Hep C medical care	Retest in 12 months with RNA test



#### 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](http://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: [www.nyc.gov/health/hepc](http://www.nyc.gov/health/hepc)



#### Health Insurance approves Hep C medications for PWUD

- In NYS, there are no Hep C medication restrictions based on sobriety, stage of liver disease or prescriber experience. People actively using drugs or alcohol can be treated.
- Specialty pharmacies can support the medication prior authorization process.
- Local resource for prior authorization appeals and applications (legal aid, attorney general, New York State Office of Health Insurance Programs [omcmail@health.state.ny.us](mailto:omcmail@health.state.ny.us))



#### Prevent Hep C and Overdose

- Link people to harm reduction and syringe service programs [www.nasen.org/map](http://www.nasen.org/map)
- Link people to medication-assisted treatment, such as buprenorphine [www.nyc.gov/nycwell](http://www.nyc.gov/nycwell) or SAMHSA [bupe locator](#)
- Provide Naloxone <https://nextdistro.org/naloxone> and prevention tips [www.bit.ly/opioid-overdose-basics](http://www.bit.ly/opioid-overdose-basics)

#### Resources

- To find Hep C patient navigation programs and programs for uninsured visit: [www.nyc.gov/health/hepc](http://www.nyc.gov/health/hepc)
- Clinical Education Initiative (CEI) Hepatitis C and Drug User Health Center of Excellence: [www.ceitraining.org](http://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](http://hcvguidelines.org/unique-populations/pwid)
- For more information email: [Hep@health.nyc.gov](mailto:Hep@health.nyc.gov)