


# Hepatitis C Treatment

Oakland County Health Division





# Objectives

- Approval process
  - Training
  - Referral process
  - Standing orders
  - Unexpected cost
  - Sustainability
  - Barriers
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# Approval

MEDICAL DIRECTOR SUPPORT

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graph TD; A[MEDICAL DIRECTOR SUPPORT] --> B[ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL]; B --> C[LIABILITY]; C --> D[PRACTITIONER WILLINGNESS AND AVAILABILITY];
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ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL

LIABILITY

PRACTITIONER WILLINGNESS AND AVAILABILITY



Nurse  
Practitioners

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Jacqueline Howe, DNP,  
APRN, FNP-BC, AAHIVS

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Ruby Nzoma, DNP, APRN,  
FNP-BC

# Hepatitis C Resource & Training

- Henry Ford Hospital free consultation line:  
Monday – Friday from 8 am – 5pm #313-575-0332
- Midwest AIDS Training + Education Center (MATEC) Michigan
- Hepatitis C Training Modules from the University of Wisconsin:  
<https://www.hepatitis.uw.edu>
- Dr. Cohn from Wayne State University offers monthly consultation.
- Dr. Cohn’s presentation on treating Hepatitis C in Michigan:  
<https://mediasite.mihealth.org/Mediasite/Play/a09b36bae91149eb99baa39a001666ab1d>

Internal/External  
referral process

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Internal – Clients HCV+ RNA  
at OCHD

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External – MDSS  
surveillance

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Antibody only screening  
requiring HCV RNA Viral  
load

# Referrals

- Referrals assessed by Hepatitis C – Emerging disease RN
- Referrals emailed directly to NP regarding case specifics and MDSS ID
- OCHD referrals distributed based on client demographics
  - Southfield: Jacqueline
  - Pontiac: Ruby


\*\*Max capacity/caseload to be determined by individual practitioner

\*\*Communication/collaboration with Hep C RN is essential



## Simplified Hep C treatment in Adults

- **Referral to Specialist**

- Prior HCV treatment
  - HIV or HBV coinfection
  - Pregnancy
  - Decompensated cirrhosis
  - Known/suspected hepatocellular carcinoma
  - Prior liver transplantation
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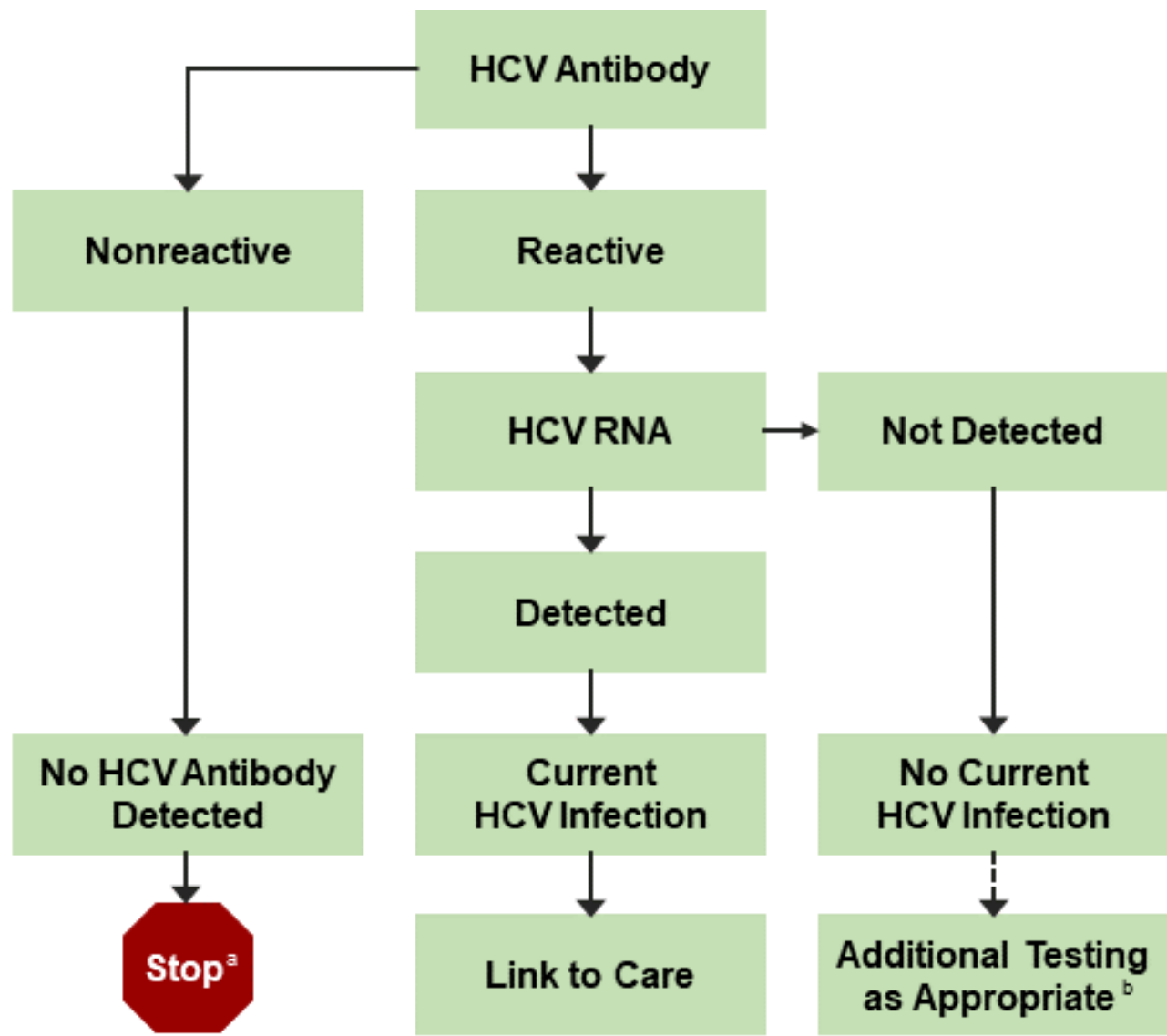
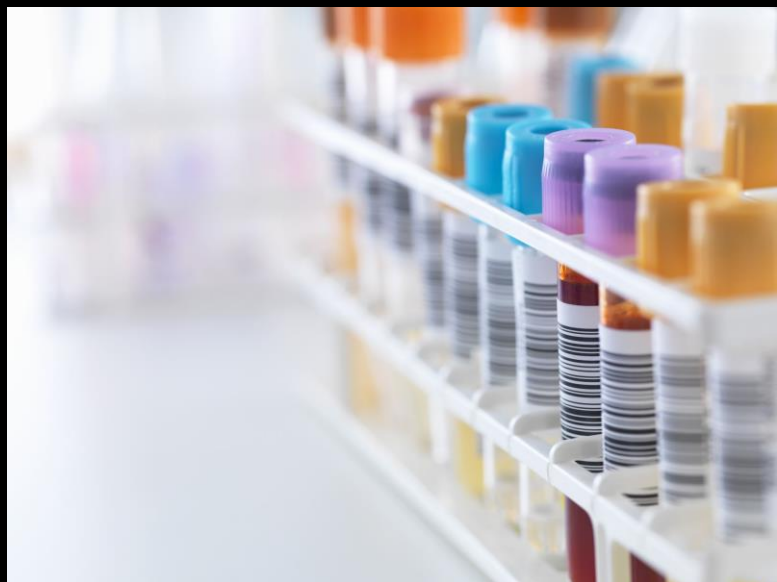




## Standing Orders

- Importance of screening
- One time, routine, opt out HCV testing is recommended for all individuals 18 years and older
- Periodic testing for those with increased risks
- Annual testing recommended for PWID, PLWH, MSM who are taking PrEP

# CDC recommended testing






## Initial labs & costs

- MDHHS Lab
  - HCV screening & HCV RNA viral load
  - Hepatitis A total antibody
  - Hepatitis B surface antibody
  - Hepatitis B surface antigen
  - HIV 1/2 Ag/Ab combo



## Initial labs & cost

- HCV genotype \$180-345.00
  - Hepatic Panel \$3.00
  - Creatinine \$1.25
  - CBC \$3.00
  - PT/INR\* \$3.25
  - Total Hep B Core Ab \$14.00
  - Hep B DNA Quant \$108.36
  - Serum HCG \$7.00
- 

Eligibility for  
simplified  
treatment  
**without** cirrhosis

- Adults with chronic hepatitis C (any genotype) who:
  - Do not have cirrhosis
  - Have not previously received hepatitis C treatment
  - Presumed cirrhosis FIB-4 score > 3.25
  - Mavyret (Glecaprevir/Pibrentasvir) x 8 weeks **OR**
  - Epclusa (Sofosbuvir/velpatasvir) x 12 weeks



Eligibility for  
simplified  
treatment with  
compensated  
cirrhosis

- Adults with chronic hepatitis C (any genotype) who have compensated cirrhosis (Child-Pugh A)
- Have not previously received hepatitis C treatment
- Liver biopsy is not required
- CTP  $\geq 7$  have decompensated cirrhosis and simplified treatment NOT recommended
- Ultrasound of the liver

# Goals of treatment

Virologic cure  
assessed 12 weeks  
after therapy

Sustained viral  
response

Limit disease  
progression

Stop HCV  
transmission

# Monitoring during treatment

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Adherence

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Side effects

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Special precautions for diabetes and those taking warfarin

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Monitor hepatic function during therapy if baseline labs are abnormal



# Post- Treatment

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Hepatic function and HCV  
RNA 12 weeks after  
treatment completed

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Refer to Specialist if not  
undetectable

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Annual screening if ongoing  
risk for HCV reinfection is  
present



# Sustainability

## Billing


- Minimal billing capabilities
- Medicaid and Blues
- Consideration given to hire biller

## 340b cost savings

- Private insurance
- 340b pricing vs billable price to insurance = cost savings
- Epclusa \$19,313 for 30 day supply – savings shared with MDHHS
- Mavyret \$3502 for 30 day supply – savings shared with MDHHS
- Third party SGRX oversight



# Budget considerations

- General fund vs Grant funding
  - Staffing/Salaries/Benefits
  - Laboratory fees
  - Medical supplies
  - Office supplies
  - IT
  - Advertising
  - Transportation
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# Overcoming barriers



UNINSURED AND  
UNDER-INSURED



PATIENT  
ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAMS



TRANSPORTATION



CASELOAD



COMMUNITY  
RESOURCES

# Medicare Co-Pay Assistance

- Assess eligibility for Medicaid
- GoodDays: <https://www.mygooddays.org/apply>
- PAN Foundation: <https://www.panfoundation.org/disease-funds/hepatitis-c/> (closed)
- PAF CRP: <https://copays.org/funds/hepatitis-c/> (closed)
- Health Well: <https://www.healthwellfoundation.org/disease-funds/>

# QUESTIONS





# Contact Information



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