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In 2021, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced a public health campaign, *We Treat Hep C*. It's aimed at eliminating hepatitis C virus (HCV) in Michigan. The initiative involves:

- Increasing the number of people who are tested for HCV
- Increasing the number of providers who treat HCV
- Expanding access to HCV curative treatments

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Hepatitis C is a liver infection caused by the hepatitis C virus. It's spread through contact with blood from an infected person. Hepatitis C can be a short-

The CDC recommends all adults ages 18 and older should be tested for HCV at least once in a lifetime. Pregnant women should be tested during each pregnancy. The table below outlines the CDC recommendations for HCV screening. Providers are encouraged to make this testing part of routine primary care.

<p>Universal hepatitis C screening</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hepatitis C screening at least once in a lifetime for all adults aged 18 years and older, except in settings where the prevalence of HCV infection (HCV RNA positivity) is less than 0.1%*</li> <li>• Hepatitis C screening for all pregnant women during each pregnancy, except in settings where the prevalence of HCV infection (HCV RNA-positivity) is &lt;0.1%*</li> </ul>
<p>One-time hepatitis C testing regardless of age or setting prevalence among people with recognized conditions or exposures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People with HIV</li> <li>• People who ever injected drugs and shared needles, syringes, or other drug preparation equipment, including those who injected once or a few times many years ago</li> <li>• People with selected medical conditions, including persons who ever received maintenance hemodialysis and persons with persistently abnormal ALT levels</li> <li>• Prior recipients of transfusions or organ transplants, including people who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Received clotting factor concentrates produced before 1987</li> <li>- Received a transfusion of blood or blood components before July 1992</li> <li>- Received an organ transplant before July 1992</li> <li>- Were notified that they received blood from a donor who later tested positive for HCV infection</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Health care, emergency medical, and public safety personnel after needle sticks, sharps, or mucosal exposures to HCV positive blood</li> <li>- Children born to mothers with HCV infection</li> </ul>
<p>Routine periodic testing for people with ongoing risk factors, while risk factors persist</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People who currently inject drugs and share needles, syringes, or other drug preparation equipment</li> <li>• People with selected medical conditions, including people who ever received maintenance hemodialysis</li> </ul>
<p>Any person who requests hepatitis C testing</p>	<p>These persons should receive it, regardless of disclosure of risk, because many persons might be reluctant to disclose stigmatizing risks</p>
<p>*Determining prevalence: In the absence of existing data for hepatitis C prevalence, health care providers should initiate universal hepatitis C screening until they establish that the prevalence of HCV RNA positivity in their population is less than 0.1%, at which point universal screening is no longer explicitly recommended but may occur at the provider's discretion.</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/guidelinesc.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/guidelinesc.htm</a></p>	





