

# Hepatitis C Pre-Referral Checklist

**If a patient tests positive for hepatitis C (HCV) antibody and RNA, remember to:**

- ✓ **Test for HIV.**
- ✓ **Screen for alcohol, substance use and depression using standardized screening instruments:**
  - **Alcohol Use** - Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT)
  - **Substance Use** - Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST) or Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST)
  - **Depression** - Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-2 or PHQ-9)

If a patient screens positive for drug use, alcohol use or depression, conduct or refer for an assessment and possible treatment.

Find these screening and assessment tools at [www.integration.samhsa.gov/clinical-practice/screening-tools](http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/clinical-practice/screening-tools)

- ✓ **Counsel patient on liver health and preventing transmission of HCV.**

## **Most HCV Patients Can Be Treated and Cured**

- Patients with previous, recent or active alcohol use, drug use or depression should be evaluated for HCV treatment.
- Studies of HCV treatment in people who inject drugs have shown comparable adherence and efficacy rates to patients who do not inject drugs.
- If HCV medication coverage is denied by health insurance, the patient or provider can file an appeal, request a fair hearing or contact patient assistance programs to cover medication costs. Learn more at [HepFree.nyc](http://HepFree.nyc).

To find HCV treatment referral locations in New York City, visit [nyc.gov/health/sitelocator](http://nyc.gov/health/sitelocator)

