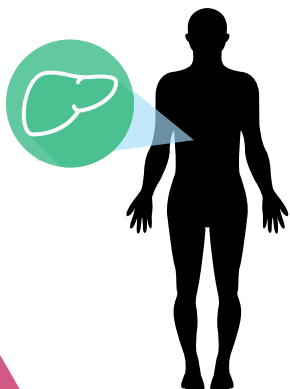


What is Hepatitis C?

- Hepatitis C (HCV) is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus.
- Not everyone has symptoms.
- It can become a long term condition (chronic), leading to liver failure, liver cancer, or even death.



Common Symptoms:

- Lack of appetite
- Dark urine
- Joint pain
- Fatigue
- Yellow skin or eyes
- Upset stomach
- Nausea
- Fever

How is HCV spread

Shared drug injection equipment.

Tattoos or piercings in non-sterile environments (prisons or unlicensed).

Sharing personal items such as razors, straws, and pipes for snorting, with people who have HCV.

Blood transfusions and organ transplants prior to 1992.

Non-sterile, contaminated medical items.

Contact with blood during sex.

Mother to baby transmission.

Looking for HCV testing and / or treatment?

There are plenty of options in Marin County!

Here are testing sites around you:

Marin County Health & Human Services

HCV Treatment Coordination
3240 Kerner Blvd, San Rafael, 94901
Appt. only. Phone: 628.667.5600

The Spahr Center

Harm reduction, HCV Treatment Coordination
150 Nellen Ave #100, Corte Madera, 94925
Phone: 415.457.2487 or 415-573-5407

Here are the testing & treatment sites around you:

Marin Community Clinics / Primary Care

HCV Treatment Coordination
3260 Kerner Blvd, San Rafael, 94901
Phone: 415.448.1500

Ritter Center

HCV Treatment Coordination,
Mobile Medical Services
16 Ritter St, San Rafael, 94901
Phone: 415.457.8182 ext. 111

Center Point

Drug Rehabilitation
135 Paul Dr, San Rafael, 94903
Phone: 415.492.4444

Marin City Health and Wellness Center

Medical & Behavioral Health
630 Drake Avenue, Marin City, 94965
Phone: 415.339.8813

Marin Treatment Center

Drug Rehabilitation
1466 Lincoln Avenue, San Rafael, 94901
Phone: 415.457.3755

Kaiser Permanente / Primary Care

1033 3rd St, San Rafael, 94901
Phone: 415.482.6800

How well
do you know
HCV?

Hepatitis C

✓ Prevent

✓ Test

✓ Treat



Millions of Americans have **HCV**. Many don't know it!

Testing

Who Should Get Tested?

- All adults aged 18+ should get tested at least once in their lifetime.
- People with risk factors noted on previous page of brochure.
- Women during pregnancy.

Testing Process

- HCV antibody test (by blood draw or fingerstick) is the most common test to determine HCV exposure. A positive antibody test result does not mean that you have the virus.
- A confirmatory viral test will find out if you have active infection and need to seek treatment.

Time between exposure and when virus produces antibodies:

Date of exposure

6 weeks later

3 months later



Earliest signs of HCV antibodies

Everyone infected will have antibodies

Note: Some people will clear the virus on their own.

Did you know?



Easy testing options are available.

Hepatitis C can be cured. Treatment is easier than ever.



Hepatitis C is a leading cause of liver cancer.

Prevention

There is no hepatitis C vaccine to prevent infection, so protect yourself with these simple steps:

- Avoid sharing needles or other injection equipment. Syringe access services are available.
- Avoid sharing snorting or smoking equipment.
- Avoid personal care items that have come into contact with infected blood.
- Avoid getting tattoos or body piercings from an unlicensed facility or informal setting.
- Ask your provider for hepatitis C testing.

MarinHHS.org/Hepatitis-C

Cure

Hep C treatment in most cases leads to full recovery

- One antiviral pill a day.
- Fast & effective (8-12 weeks).
- Few side effects.
- Liver biopsy rarely needed.



Hep C positive? Protect your liver

- Ask your doctor about treatment.
- Get vaccinated against Hep A & Hep B.
- Limit or fully stop drinking alcohol.
- Check with your doctor before taking any prescription pills, over-the-counter medications, herbs, or supplements.
- Get tested for HIV. Co-infection with HIV is more likely to cause liver disease (liver cirrhosis).

If you have Hep C, resources are available.

YOU'RE NOT ALONE !

Find HCV treatment:
MarinHHS.org/Hepatitis-C