**Protocol for Hepatitis C Viral Infection Testing and Treatment**

**Adapted from Berkshire Harm Reduction Program, Berkshire Health System**

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| CRITERIAFor Use Of This Protocol | * Positive/Reactive HCV RNA detected
* Bloodwork results consistent with active HCV infection
* Adults with chronic HCV (any genotype) who do not have cirrhosis and have not previously received HCV treatment
* **Exclude and refer\*:** patients who have any of the following characteristics:
* Prior HCV treatment
* Cirrhosis
* HIV or HBsAg positive
* Current pregnancy
* Known or suspected hepatocellular carcinoma
* Prior liver transplantation
* **Exclude and refer\*:** patients allergic to recommended treatment regimens
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| RECOMMENDED TREATMENT | Glecaprevir (300mg)/pibrentasvir (120mg) **(MAVYRET)** PO taken with food for a duration of 8 weeks ORSofosbuvir (400mg)/velpatasvir (100mg) **(EPCLUSA)** PO for a duration of 12 weeks |
| PATIENT EDUCATION | * Patients can get re-infected with the same strain of HCV, or with a different strain.
* Having the infection and/or treating the virus does not give immunity in the future, and there is no vaccine.
* HCV can live up to several weeks on surfaces in the environment
* Do not share needles or any drug equipment, including water, cookers, filters or tourniquets
* Do not share personal products with anyone in your household that could be contaminated by blood, including razors, toothbrushes and nail clippers
* Use condoms and lubricant durinf sex, especially anal sex, which has a greater risk of transmitting HCV
* Only get tattoos from licensed locations with proper cleaning equipment
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| FOLLOW UP | * HCV Care Navigator will call/text patient during the 1st week of medication treatment
* Monitoring labs during 3rd week consisting of:
* Quantitative HCV RNA (required by MassHealth)
* Basic metabolic panel (BMP)
* Liver Function panel
* Qualitative serum HCG (female up to age 59 not using reliable method of contraception)
* PT/INR (if on warfarin)
* SVR12 labs due 3 months after completion of medication regimen
* Ongoing screening for re-infection if risk factors remain
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| SEXUAL & IDU PARTNER(s) | Although not common, HCV can be transmitted through sexual activity. Recent sexual partners should be evaluated and screened for HCV.Avoid sharing needles or other equipment to inject drugs |

\*Refer to Physician, APRN or PA with knowledge and experience in diagnosis, management, and treatment.

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