

**What is Hepatitis C?**

**Why does it matter to  
Community?**

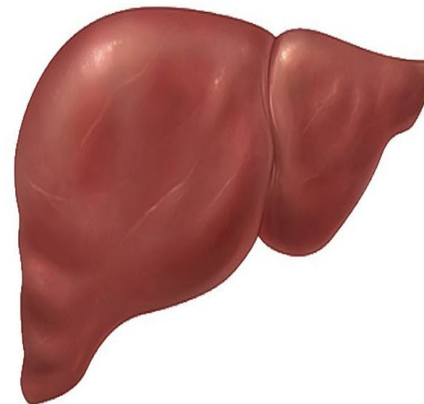
**How can we make a difference?**



- **Filters blood coming from digestive system**
- **Makes proteins that help digest food and stop bleeding**
- **Stores vitamins and minerals**
- **Boosts the immune system**
- **Changes medications into usable form**
- **Filters toxins, alcohol, drugs and other chemicals**

# What Does My Liver Do?

Normal Liver



Liver with Cirrhosis



# What is Hepatitis C (HCV)?

- Hepatitis A, B, C
- Blood to Blood Transmission
- Risk Groups;
  - Born 1945-1975
  - Received blood transfusion
  - Tattoo/piercing by unlicensed
  - Dental work - nonsterile
  - Sharing Needles, Pipes, Straws

Hep C is passed  
blood to blood.  
Know the risks.

Hepatitis C is passed on when the blood of a person with Hep C gets into the bloodstream of another person. By knowing how Hep C enters the body, everyone can take steps to stay safe.



There are different kinds of hepatitis. Know the ABCs.



Not just needles. Everything new, every time. Prevent Hep C.



Living with Hep C? Take care of your liver. And yourself.



Treatment can cure Hep C. Know your options.



Hepatitis C. You can have it and not know it. Get tested.



# What Does It Feel Like?

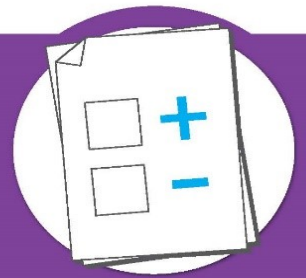
You may not have any symptoms, or you may start to feel;

- Tiredness
- Headaches
- Joint/Muscle Pain
- Nausea
- Forgetfulness
- Belly Pain
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Itchy skin

## Hepatitis C.

You can have it and not know it. Get tested.

A person can have hepatitis C for many years without having symptoms or feeling sick. The only way to know if you have Hep C is to get tested.



**Hep C is passed blood to blood.**  
Know the risks.



There are different kinds of hepatitis. **Know the ABCs.**



Not just needles. **Everything new, every time.**  
Prevent Hep C.



Living with Hep C? **Take care of your liver.**  
And yourself.



**Treatment can cure Hep C.**  
Know your options.



# What Can We Do About Hepatitis?

- Get Screened
- Get Treated
  - 1-3 pills/day
  - 8-12 weeks
- Get Cured
- Get Talking

**TREATMENT  
CURES  
OVER 95% OF  
PEOPLE WITH  
HEPATITIS C**

Talk to your nurse  
or doctor about your  
treatment options



 **CATIE** Canada's source for  
HIV and hepatitis C  
information

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# What is elimination according to the WHO?

Global Health Sector Strategy – HCV targets at a glance



## Incidence targets

30% reduction in new HCV infections by 2020

90% reduction in new HCV infections by 2030



## Mortality targets

10% reduction in mortality by 2020

65% reduction in mortality by 2030



## Harm reduction

Increase in sterile needle and syringes provided per PWID/year from 20 in 2015 to:

- 200 by 2020
- 300 by 2030



## Testing targets

90% of people aware of HCV infection by 2030



## Treatment targets

80% of people treated by 2030

# HEPATITIS C IN CANADA



1%

OF CANADIANS HAVE BEEN INFECTED WITH HCV IN THEIR LIFETIME (2011)<sup>1</sup>

OF THOSE

43% are found in former and current persons who inject drugs



while

35% are found in foreign-born populations<sup>1</sup>



Up to **246,000** Canadians are living with **CHRONIC HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) INFECTION** (2011)<sup>1</sup>



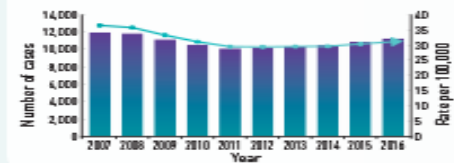
An estimated **44%** are unaware of their infection

## AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES OF REPORTED HCV CASES PER 100,000 (2012-2016)<sup>2</sup>

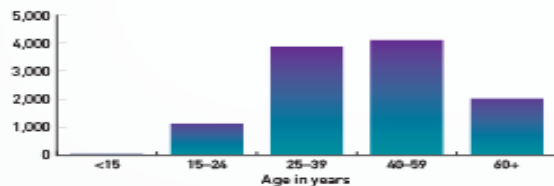


**1 in 4** prevalence of HCV among **FEDERAL INMATES** (2005-2012)<sup>2</sup>

## TRENDS IN REPORTED HCV CASES (2007-2016)<sup>3</sup>



## NUMBER OF REPORTED HCV CASES BY AGE (2016)<sup>3</sup>



## REPORTED HCV CASES BY SEX (2007-2016)<sup>3</sup>

63% MALES



37% FEMALES

## REFERENCES:

1. Trubnikov M, Van P, Archibald C. (2014). Estimated prevalence of Hepatitis C virus infection in Canada, 2011. CDR: 40(19):429-436.
2. CSC. (2016). Health Services Quick Facts: Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Age, Gender and Indigenous Ancestry.
3. PHAC. (2017). Canadian Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System.



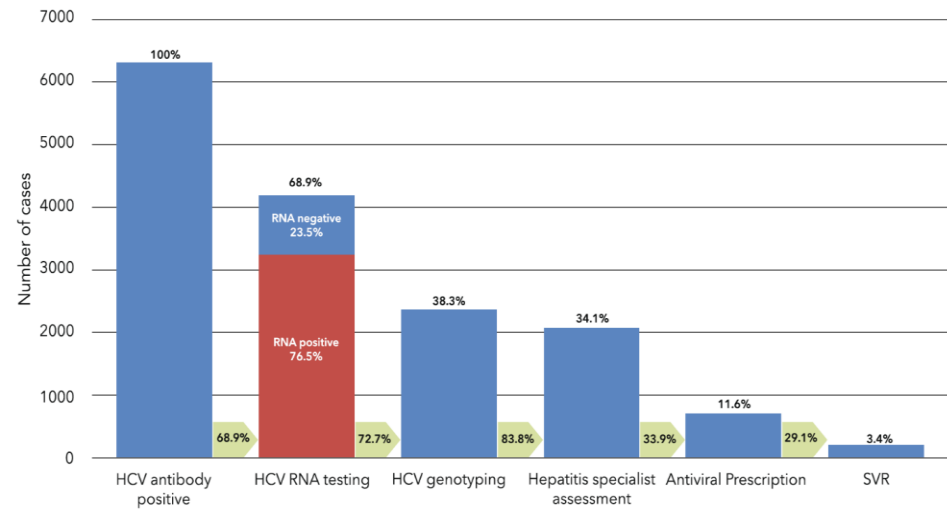
Public Health Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé publique du Canada

Canada

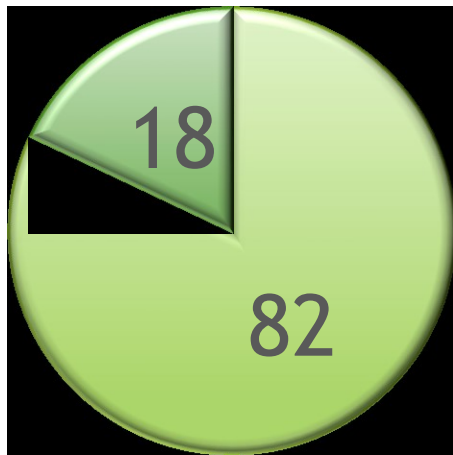


Only 3.4%  
Achieving Cure



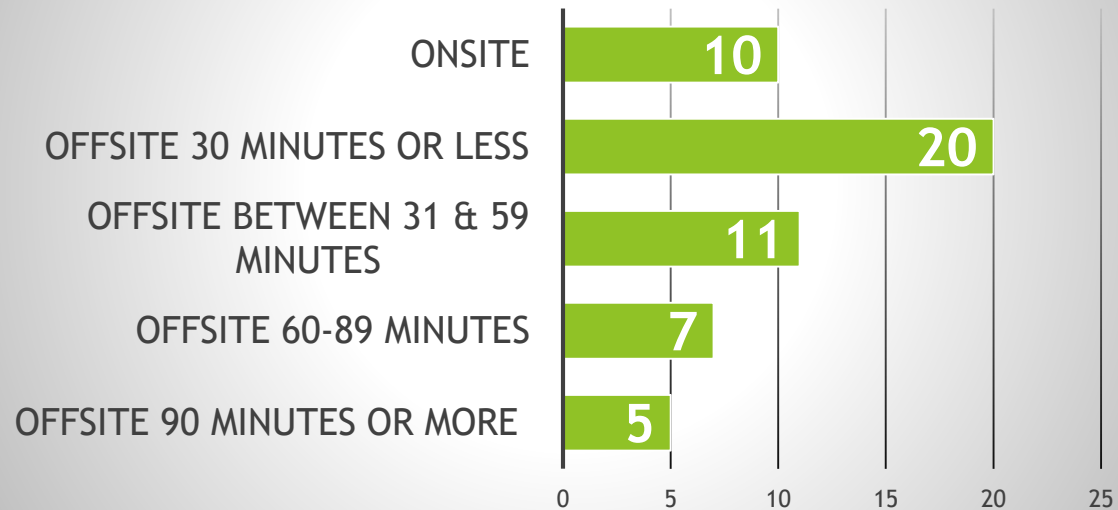
## Lab Access Barriers

Access to Lab Services Reported by  
Indigenous Communities in Alberta



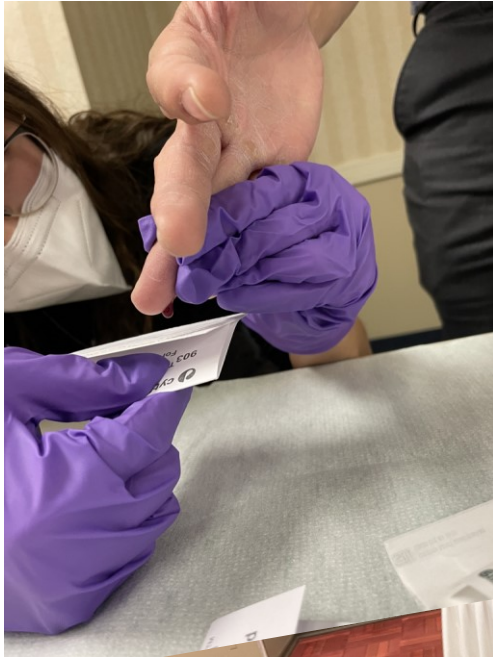
■ Barriers in Accessing Lab for  
HCV Screening

### Lab / Pharmacy Access for Indigenous Communities in Alberta (n=53)





# DBS (Dried Blood Spot) Screening





**tansisi é-nátawítacik miskwan áhkosiwin?**

oskáyí misiwepayihcikan ihtakona anoch kákí-sakaskini nanatawihetaw miskwan áhkosiwin, tapweyak peyak aphó niso tahtokísikaw iskok ayénanéw ayamihewkísikáwa áhpó ci nísosap ayamihewkísikáwa namóya taskóc kayas kákísipehtamon namóya kátáhkosehikon óhi misiwepayihcikanana. kwechihkewimakan nanatawihewíno ápho maskihkiwiskew natoniket kíya máninakis mína kipeyakowamak kispin áhkosiwík

**How is Hep C treated?**

New medications are available that have over a 95% rate of curing Hep C by taking 1-2 pills per day for 8-12 weeks. Unlike older options you may have heard about, these medications will not make you sick. Ask your medical provider or public health nurse to test you and your family.

**If I've already had Hep C, can I get the virus again?**

Yes, so it is important to always protect yourself. Be sure to use your own personal items like toothbrushes, razors, and nail clippers. Use new supplies if you are injecting, snorting, or smoking substances, and only use licensed manicure/pedicure shops or tattoo and piercing artists.

**Hepatitis C Niitsii & ksistapi**

**Édher Dáda C At'óhodih ch ú At'óhodilé**

**miskwan áhkosiwin Tápwe wina ékwa kiyáskiwina**

**Hepatitis C Facts & Myths**

**Instagram: life4liver**  
**FaceBook: echoalberta**



NOVEMBER 2022

**ECHO News**  
Caring | Connecting | Curing

**Save this link to your calendar**  
[:tps://us02web.zoom.us/j/896162950147](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/896162950147)  
 wd=cvBsQzB3dUVDVW85TWNQZy9lSm xWZz09

**ECHO Case Presentation Zoom Session**  
 Every 2 weeks on Wednesday from 4:30-5:30

Meeting ID: 896 1629 5014  
 Passcode: 503064

Nov 23, 2022 04:30 PM  
 Dec 7, 2022 04:30 PM  
 Dec 21, 2022 04:30 PM

**CELEBRATING CANADA'S DOCTORS: THE MEDICAL POST AWARDS SUPPORT NATIONAL INDEPENDENT PHYSICIAN VOICES, CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY AND PRACTICE INNOVATION.**

**November Highlights**

- Next Zoom Case Presentation Session November 23 at 4:30
- Webinar & Education Options
- Medical Post Award
- Community Events

**SAVE THE DATE**  
 October 13-15, 2023  
 ECHO CONFERENCE



# DocuStory Video







# Take the opportunity to Support Wellness



- Get Screened!
- Get Cured!
- Get Talking

- Increase awareness
- Create a micro-elimination plan
- Build partnerships
- Engage community
- Build a team
- Set an example-get screened
- Talk about it!

# Resources

- ▶ CATIE.ca (Canada's resource for HIV and Hepatitis C information)
  - ▶ Training modules & webinars
  - ▶ Printed posters, pamphlets, postcards (free and free shipping)
- ▶ INHSU.org
  - ▶ Training modules & webinars
  - ▶ Resource toolkit
- ▶ Canadian Liver Foundation - liver.ca
  - ▶ DocuStory hosted
  - ▶ Information
- ▶ ECHO - Email: [echoplusalberta@gmail.com](mailto:echoplusalberta@gmail.com) phone: 587-581-9019
  - ▶ Instagram: life4liver
  - ▶ FaceBook: echoalberta