




HCV Testing and Treatment in Correctional Settings

Recommendations for Screening and Treatment of HCV Infection in Jails	
RECOMMENDED	RATING 
<p>Jails should implement opt-out HCV testing consisting of HCV-antibody testing followed by confirmatory HCV-RNA testing if antibody-positive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronically infected individuals should receive counseling about HCV infection and be provided linkage to follow-up community healthcare for evaluation of liver disease and treatment upon release. • Chronically infected individuals whose jail sentence is sufficiently long to complete a recommended course of antiviral therapy should receive treatment for chronic HCV infection according to AASLD/IDSA guidance while incarcerated. Upon release, patients should be provided linkage to community healthcare for surveillance for HCV-related complications. 	<p>IIa, C</p>

Recommendations for Screening and Treatment of HCV Infection in Prisons

RECOMMENDED	RATING 
Prisons should implement opt-out HCV testing. Chronically infected individuals should receive antiviral therapy according to AASLD/IDSA guidance while incarcerated. Upon release, patients should be provided linkage to community healthcare for surveillance for HCV-related complications.	IIa, C
To prevent HCV reinfection and reduce the risk of progression of HCV-associated liver disease, prisons should provide harm reduction and evidence-based treatment for underlying substance use disorders.	IIa, C

Recommendation for Continuation of HCV Treatment in Jail and Prison Settings

RECOMMENDED	RATING 
Jails and prisons should facilitate continuation of HCV therapy for individuals on treatment at the time of incarceration.	IIa, C

Last reviewed: December 19, 2023