Happy New Year!

2016 brings some changes to our program.

**Our patient navigators will no longer be tasking you with your patient’s positive HCV results!**

We remain committed to helping providers integrate HCV testing into workflow providing linkage to subspecialty care for patients who test positive for HCV.

If your patient tests positive for HCV, please refer them to either The Viral Hepatitis Clinic at the Partnership Comprehensive Care Practice (215.762.6721) or The Hahnemann Hospital Liver Transplant and Center for Liver Disease (215.762.3900).

If you feel your patient can benefit from Patient Navigation services, please call or task Carla Coleman (267.507.6599).

Please be aware that sometimes positive HCV results do not show up as “red beakers” in Allscripts. It is important to look at every HCV test result carefully. If you have any questions regarding HCV test results, please call us!

The seroprevalence of HCV among patients tested in Drexel primary care practices is 6.78%. This is significantly higher than published estimates of seroprevalence in the US, which traditionally are around 2%.

Remember, please screen your patients born between 1945-1965 and those who have had high risk exposure to blood (including transfusions before 1992).

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**Announcements**

HCV testing prompts will continue for members of the birth cohort who have not yet been tested. As of January 2016, there are 5616 patients eligible for HCV screening in our system.

It is not unusual of LabCorp or Quest to make modifications to HCV test codes. If you have trouble with your orders, please contact us immediately.

HCV is curable, with treatment durations of anywhere from 8 to 24 weeks and very few side effects. Everyone deserves a cure. Please test and refer your patients!

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**Important**

**Help us help you!**

We are very interested in identifying barriers to HCV testing at your practice and with your patients. We recognize there are so many demands on providers, such as keeping up with Meaningful Use and learning the new ICD-10 codes. If there is anything preventing adherence to the CDC testing guidelines, please contact Lora Magaldi

Lora.Magaldi@Drexelmed.edu or 267.507.6631