

## Testing for Hepatitis C in Alaska

### Why Get Tested?

- Roughly 75% of people who have hepatitis C are unaware of their infection.
- Most people with an acute hepatitis C infection do not have symptoms.
- Individuals may still transmit hepatitis C to others even if they do not feel any symptoms.
- Early detection allows for timely treatment of the disease before it develops into a more serious condition.
- When left untreated, chronic hepatitis C may lead to cirrhosis (scarring of the liver) and liver cancer. Fortunately, hepatitis C can be cured. [For more information, see the Alaska Viral Hepatitis Resource Guide.](#)

### Populations Recommended for Hepatitis C Testing

- The following list details some of the highest risk populations for hepatitis C. [For more complete information, see the CDC's Testing Recommendations for Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection webpage.](#)
- Hepatitis C testing is recommended for the following populations:
  - People born between 1945 and 1965
  - People born to mothers with hepatitis C
  - People with a history of multiple sex partners
  - People with exposure to sexually transmitted diseases or infections
  - Men who have had sex with men
  - People who have ever used injection drugs
  - People living with HIV
  - People who have been exposed to needle sticks, sharps, or mucus from potentially HCV-infected sources
  - People with an amateur tattoo or piercing
  - People who are or were long-term hemodialysis patients
  - People who received clotting factor concentrated produced before 1987
  - People with persistently abnormal alanine aminotransferase (ALT) levels
  - People who received a blood transfusion or organ transplant before July 1992

### Testing Sites

- Anchorage:
  - Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center
    - To schedule an appointment, call (907) 743-7200.
    - [For more information, see the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center's website.](#)
  - Municipality of Anchorage Reproductive Health Clinic
    - 20 minute rapid hepatitis C antibody test is available here.
    - To schedule an appointment, call (907) 343-4623.
    - Be sure to call at least 24 hours ahead of your desired appointment time.
    - [For more information, see the Muni Reproductive Health Clinic's website.](#)
- Fairbanks:
  - Interior Aids Association (IAA)
    - 20 minute rapid hepatitis C antibody test is available here.
    - To schedule an appointment, call (907) 452-4222 extension 103 or 115.
    - [For more information, see IAA's website.](#)
  - Interior Community Health Center
    - To schedule an appointment, call (907) 452-1776.
    - [For more information, see the Interior Community Health Center's website.](#)
- Other Locations
  - Many towns have Public Health Centers that provide hepatitis C tests. [Click here for a list of Public Health Centers in Alaska.](#)

- Other towns and villages have health care sites that offer hepatitis C tests. [Click here for a directory of health care sites in Alaska.](#)
- Alaska Health Fairs offer hepatitis C testing as well as many other health screening services. They travel around the state from early spring to autumn. [Click here to view the schedule.](#)