Kentucky Testing Recommendations for Hepatitis C Virus Infection


- Pregnant Women (On April 10, 2018, Governor Bevins amended SB 205 KRS 214.160 to establish that all pregnant women in Kentucky be tested for hepatitis C and recommend testing for children born from a pregnant woman who has a positive hepatitis C test result)

- HCV-testing is recommended for those who:
  - Have current injecting or intranasal drug use
  - Ever injected drugs, including those who injected/ intranasal once or a few times many years ago
  - Unregulated body piercing and/or tattoos
  - Sexual contact with a known HCV-positive person
  - History of high risk sexual behavior
  - History of sexually transmitted infection
  - Have certain medical conditions, including persons:
    - who received clotting factor concentrates produced before 1987
    - who were ever on long-term hemodialysis
    - who have HIV infection
    - who have Hepatitis B infection

- Were prior recipients of transfusions or organ transplants, including persons who:
  - were notified that they received blood from a donor who later tested positive for HCV infection
  - received a transfusion of blood, blood components or an organ transplant before 1992

- HCV-testing based on a recognized exposure is recommended for:
  - Healthcare, emergency medical, and public safety workers after needle sticks, sharps, or mucosal exposures to HCV-positive blood
  - Children born to HCV-positive women


Note: For persons who might have been exposed to HCV within the past 6 months, testing for HCV RNA or follow-up testing for HCV antibody is recommended.