Advocates Support New U.S. Task Force Hep C Recommendation

June 25, 2013

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force has updated its recommendation for hepatitis C virus (HCV) testing, according to a statement by the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable, a coalition of more than 200 advocacy groups, which supports the change. The new recommendation supports testing all people in the United States for hep C who were born from 1945 to 1965, which aligns with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendation. People born between those years represent 75 percent of the more than 4 million HCV cases nationwide, most of which don't know they're infected. The task force gave the recommendation a grade of B, meaning it could have a moderate benefit. Under the Affordable Care Act (a.k.a. the health care reform law), health insurance companies are required to cover preventive services recommended by the task force and receiving a grade of A or B.

To read the statement, click here.

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http://beta.docker.hepmag.com/article/hepatitis-C-testing--24151-568979273