



# Are You at Risk for Viral Liver Disease? Find Out on National Hepatitis Testing Day

May 19, 2016

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May 19, 2016 marks the fifth annual observance of National Hepatitis Testing Day in the United States, the peak of National Hepatitis Month, a monthlong awareness campaign led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that focuses on viral liver disease treatment and prevention.

The event is an opportunity to educate both healthcare providers and people across the country about who should be tested for hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV), which today kill more Americans than any other infectious disease, including HIV. Currently, the CDC recommends one-time testing for all baby boomers, those individuals born between 1945 and 1965, anyone who received a blood transfusion or organ transplant prior to the early '90s and former injection drug users. Other groups targeted via National Hepatitis Testing Day initiatives include Asian Americans, American Indians, incarcerated individuals and people who currently use injection drugs.

The CDC's latest "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report" also includes [two new studies](#) focused on HCV testing, care and curative treatment in the United States. The first evaluates comprehensive hepatitis C testing policies recently set in place by the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma. The second report examines the impact of a new program by the Indian Health Service to promote HCV testing among Native American baby boomers.

To become involved with National Hepatitis Testing Day online, follow [@cdchep](#) on twitter or head to the [CDC's website](#) for free hepatitis resources, testing tools, publications, campaign updates and a running list of events taking place across the country. Or check out the hashtags [#HepAware](#), [#HepTestingDay](#) and [#hepatitis](#) to spread awareness on social media.

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