



# Why HCV screening is important for your patients' health

The CDC recommends HCV screening for all patients born between 1945 and 1965

All people born between 1945 and 1965 (baby boomers) should get a onetime blood test to see if they have the hepatitis C virus.

Baby boomers make up 28% of the U.S. population, yet they account for 75% of the hepatitis C virus (HCV) cases. These patients have the greatest risk for hepatocellular carcinoma and other HCV-related liver diseases. Knowing their HCV status can help patients who are positive benefit from earlier clinical care.

Changes in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations may help you address how HCV could be affecting your patients.

## According to the CDC:

- The risk-based screening strategy has been shown to have limited effectiveness compared with the birth-cohort testing strategy in screening and treating patients with HCV infection.
- Birth-cohort testing – such as HCV screening for anyone born between 1945 and 1965 – has been shown to be more effective at helping to identify HCV-positive patients so they can get care earlier.
- New therapies now available may halt disease progression and even provide a virologic cure in most persons.
- The new testing strategy for baby boomers may help reduce future HCV-related medical expenditure.
- Other HCV-related tests, such as liver enzyme tests, reflect the level of liver inflammation at the time of the test but are not consistently correlated with the stage of liver disease. As a preventive measure, screening for HCV is recommended to reduce potential liver damage later.

## MACL can help you be part of the preventive solution.

### Why HCV testing is important

- An estimated 2.4 million persons are living with hepatitis C virus infection
- In 2016, nearly 2,967 cases of acute hepatitis C cases were reported in the U.S.
- In 2016, 18,153 deaths were caused by hepatitis C

Test Name	Test Code	Specimen Requirements
Hepatitis C Antibody with Reflex to HCV Quant, Real-time PCR	8472	4mL serum

For more information about HCV detection, speak to your MACL sales representative or visit [maclonline.com](http://maclonline.com)

