A New Dawn of Collaboration

Kimberly Gill, MPH BSN RN, TN Department of Health
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Overview of State Prisons

- 14 state prisons within TN Department of Correction (TDOC)
  - Located in 11 counties throughout TN
- 30,242 inmate population (FY 2017 & 2018)
TDOC Intake Facilities

- Tennessee Prison for Women (TPW)
- Bledsoe County Correctional Complex (BCCX)
Historical Collaborations

- QuantiFERON TB testing
- HIV
- RPR
- Gonorrhea
- Chlamydia
New Viral Hepatitis Ventures (1 of 3)

- **Opt-out HCV intake screening**

**Interpretation of the HCV Results and Further Action**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PTBMS Test Result</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
<th>Further Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HCV antibody</td>
<td>Non-Reactive</td>
<td>Sample can be reported as non-reactive for HCV antibody.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV RNA</td>
<td>No result</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No HCV antibody detected; person likely not infected with HCV.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reactive</td>
<td>Reactive</td>
<td>Provide person tested with appropriate counseling and link person to care and treatment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evidence of past HCV infection. Person either cleared the virus naturally, or had successful HCV treatment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reactive</td>
<td>Non-Reactive</td>
<td>Provide counseling, including prevention measures to avoid reinfection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evidence of current HCV infection.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Test Dates**

- **07/28/2017**
  - HCV EIA SCREEN NON-RE
    - **Interpretation:** No HCV antibody detected; person likely not infected with HCV.
    - **Further Actions:** Sample can be reported as non-reactive for HCV antibody.

- **07/27/2018**
  - HCV EIA SCREEN REACT!
  - HCV RNA QUALITA NON-RE
    - **Interpretation:** Evidence of past HCV infection. Person either cleared the virus naturally, or had successful HCV treatment.
    - **Further Actions:** Provide counseling, including prevention measures to avoid reinfection.

- **07/26/2018**
  - HCV EIA SCREEN REACT!
  - HCV RNA QUALITA REACT!
    - **Interpretation:** Evidence of current HCV infection.
    - **Further Actions:** Provide person tested with appropriate counseling and link person to care and treatment.

Hepatitis C is a contagious liver disease that results from infection with the hepatitis C virus (HCV). It can range in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness that damages the liver. HCV is usually spread when blood from a person infected with the virus enters the body of someone who is not infected. Today, most people become infected with HCV by sharing needles or other equipment to inject drugs. HCV can also be transmitted from unsanitary tattooing equipment, contact with objects that have even small amounts of infected blood on them (smoking straws, medical equipment and personal items), unprotected sex, birth by an HCV-infected mother, or blood transfusions and organ transplants prior to 1992.

Based on CDC estimates, 2.7-3.9 million people in the United States have chronic hepatitis C. Approximately 15,000 HCV related deaths occur a year. From 2010 to 2014 the rates of acute HCV increased among persons aged 20-29, 30-29 and ≥ 60 years. The largest increase was among persons aged 20-29 years. In Tennessee, case rates of acute hepatitis C are among the highest in the nation and continue to increase.

In this context and in collaboration the TN Department of Health, TDOC will implement routine opt-out HCV screening on all persons upon intake at Bledsoe County Correctional Complex and Tennessee Prison for Women, effective November 26, 2018.

Resources are attached as guidance for this project.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Williams, MD, PhD
Chief Medical Officer, Clinic Services
TN Department of Corrections

Carolyn Wester, MD, MPH
Medical Director, HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis
TN Department of Health
New Viral Hepatitis Ventures (2 of 3)

- Opt-out HCV intake screening  Nov 2018
- FibroScan  Jan 2019
New Viral Hepatitis Ventures (3 of 3)

• Opt-out HCV intake screening
  Nov 2018

• FibroScan
  Jan 2019

• Peer Education Program
  Pending
Growing Relationship

- Development of data sharing processes for HCV analysis
- Complete gap analysis to facilitate HCV cascades of cure for identified priority populations
- Ongoing provider education, as needed
Program Contacts

• TDH
  • Kimberly Gill, Viral Hepatitis Clinical Services Director
  • Lindsey Sizemore, Viral Hepatitis Program Director

• TDOC
  • Dr. Kenneth Williams, Chief Medical Officer
  • Dr. Kenneth Wiley, Associate Medical Officer