

## HCV in Pregnancy

### Testing

| Recommendation for Universal Hepatitis C Screening in Pregnancy                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RECOMMENDED                                                                                                                                                                                                        | RATING  |
| As part of prenatal care, all pregnant persons should be tested for HCV infection with each pregnancy, ideally at the initial visit. (See <a href="#">Recommendations for Initial HCV Testing and Follow-Up.</a> ) | I, B                                                                                       |

### Whom to Treat

| Recommendation Regarding HCV Treatment and Pregnancy                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RECOMMENDED                                                                                                                                                                                                                | RATING  |
| For women of reproductive age with known HCV infection, antiviral therapy is recommended <b>before</b> considering pregnancy, whenever practical and feasible, to reduce the risk of HCV transmission to future offspring. | I, B                                                                                         |

### Monitoring During Pregnancy

| Recommendations for Monitoring HCV-Infected Women During Pregnancy                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RECOMMENDED                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | RATING  |
| HCV RNA and routine liver function tests are recommended at initiation of prenatal care for HCV-antibody-positive pregnant persons to assess the risk of mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) and severity of liver disease.                                                 | I, B                                                                                         |
| All pregnant persons with HCV infection should receive prenatal and intrapartum care that is appropriate for their individual obstetric risk(s) as there is no currently known intervention to reduce MTCT.                                                                 | I, B                                                                                         |
| In HCV-infected pregnant persons with pruritus or jaundice, there should be a high index of suspicion for intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy (ICP) with subsequent assessment of alanine aminotransferase (ALT), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), and serum bile acids. | I, B                                                                                         |

## Recommendations for Monitoring HCV-Infected Women During Pregnancy

HCV-infected persons with cirrhosis should be counseled about the increased risk of adverse maternal and perinatal outcomes. Antenatal and perinatal care should be coordinated with a maternal-fetal medicine (ie, high-risk pregnancy) obstetrician.

I, B

## Postpartum Issues

### Recommendations Regarding Breastfeeding and Postpartum Care for HCV-Infected Women

#### RECOMMENDED

RATING 

Breastfeeding is not contraindicated in women with HCV infection, except when the mother has cracked, damaged, or bleeding nipples, or in the context of HIV coinfection.

I, B

Women with HCV infection should have their HCV RNA reevaluated after delivery to assess for spontaneous clearance.

I, B

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