

Criteria Grid
Hepatitis C Research Studies, Tools, and Surveillance Systems

Best Practice/Intervention:	Southern et al. (2010). Hepatitis C testing practices and prevalence in high-risk urban ambulatory care setting. <i>Journal of Viral Hepatitis</i> . Available online at: http://www.natap.org/2011/HCV/j13652893.pdf			
Date of Review:	May 7, 2011			
Reviewer(s):	Alison Marshall			
Part A				
Category:	Basic Science <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Science <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health/Epidemiology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Science <input type="checkbox"/> Programmatic Review <input type="checkbox"/>			
Best Practice/Intervention:	Focus: Hepatitis C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis C/HIV <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ Level: Group <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ Target Population: <u>≥ 18 years; patients from Hepatitis C Assessment and Testing Project (HepCAT) and who visited one of three clinics between 1/1/08 to 2/29/08</u> Setting: Health care setting/Clinic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>3 primary care clinics</u> Country of Origin: <u>Bronx, NY, USA</u> Language: English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
Part B				
	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
<i>Is the best practice/intervention a meta-analysis or primary research?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Primary Research Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To examine the association between patient characteristics and HCV testing practices among physicians • To estimate prevalence of HCV in high-risk, urban population What risk factors do physicians consider important when deciding to test for HCV?
<i>Has the data/information been used for decision-making (e.g. program funding developments, policies, treatment guidelines, defining research priorities and funding)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not known.

Do the methodology/results described allow the reviewer(s) to assess the generalizability of the results?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are the best practices/methodology/results described applicable in developed countries?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
Are the best practices/methodology/results described applicable in developing countries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Possibly. However, with regards to methodology, the respective country would need to have similar demographic and clinical patient information that was provided in the Electronic Medical Record (EMR)
The research study/tool/data dictionary is easily accessed/available electronically	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there evidence of cost effective analysis with regard to interventions, diagnosis, treatment, or surveillance methodologies? If so, what does the evidence say? Please go to Comments section	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are there increased costs (infrastructure, manpower, skills/training, analysis of data) to using the research study/tool/data dictionary?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How is the research study/tool funded? Please go to Comments section	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; The Clinical Investigation Core of the Center for AIDS Research; and the CTA Grants UL1 RR025750; KL2 RR025749; and TL1 RR025748
Is the best practice/intervention dependent on external funds?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other relevant criteria: Notable Findings <hr/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-- Limitation: It would have been more beneficial if the article provided further discussion on the limitations of this study --Physicians seem to use a risk-based screening strategy -- Factors associated with anti-HCV testing: born in high prevalence cohort;

				<p>male sex; African-American race; Latino ethnicity; substance abuse; alcohol abuse; HIV; STD; cirrhosis, end-stage renal disease; psychiatric disease; and elevation of ALT</p> <p>--Factors associated with testing positive for anti-HCV: born in high prevalence cohort; male sex; substance abuse; HIV cirrhosis; and elevation of ALT</p> <p>--A high % (28.8%) of persons with no identified risk were tested and 3.0% were positive with HCV</p> <p>--Authors suggest universal testing may be more appropriate than the risk-based screening strategy for high-risk urban populations</p> <p>--Estimated prevalence of overall HCV infection in high-risk urban patient population was 7.7%</p> <p>--Screening recommendations should include high prevalence birth cohort (born 1945-1964); however, testing based on birth cohort alone is not recommended</p>
WITHIN THE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FOR REVIEW				
<i>Are these data regularly collected?</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data in EMR regularly collected
<i>Are these data regularly collected at and/or below a national level?</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data in EMR regularly collected
<i>Are these data collected manually or electronically?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electronically
RESEARCH REPORTS				
<i>Has this research been published in a juried journal?</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Journal of Viral Hepatitis
<i>Does the evidence utilize the existing data/surveillance information or has it generated new data and/or information?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Both. Data from EMR were utilized. Research found physicians used risk-based screening strategies. Evidence also found for including high prevalence birth cohort in screening procedures.