

## **Hepatitis C - Documentation**

### **Request**

Please could you supply the following information:

- Referral Pathways / Care Pathways / Prescribing Guidelines for Hepatitis-C

### **Our Response**

Our pathways are currently under revision, but will include the following:

Those entering treatment for drug or alcohol issues are offered testing for Hepatitis B and C and HIV at assessment and at other times during their treatment episode. This is done by an oral swab or a dried blood spot test. Service users are also offered a vaccination programme for hepatitis A and B, which is usually done on an accelerated schedule of 0, 7 and 21 days and a fourth vaccine after 12 months. Should a service user test 'reactive' for Hepatitis C we refer directly to the specialist nurse at the Leicester Royal Infirmary Infectious Diseases Unit, who will provide treatment if presence of the virus is confirmed by venous bloods. Blood borne viruses are a very important area for our service and so as to provide our service users with accurate information we also provide a range of nationally recognised literature to our service users to complement the work of our team.

We have no prescribing guidelines for Hepatitis C, as treatment is provided by the Infectious Diseases Unit at the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

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