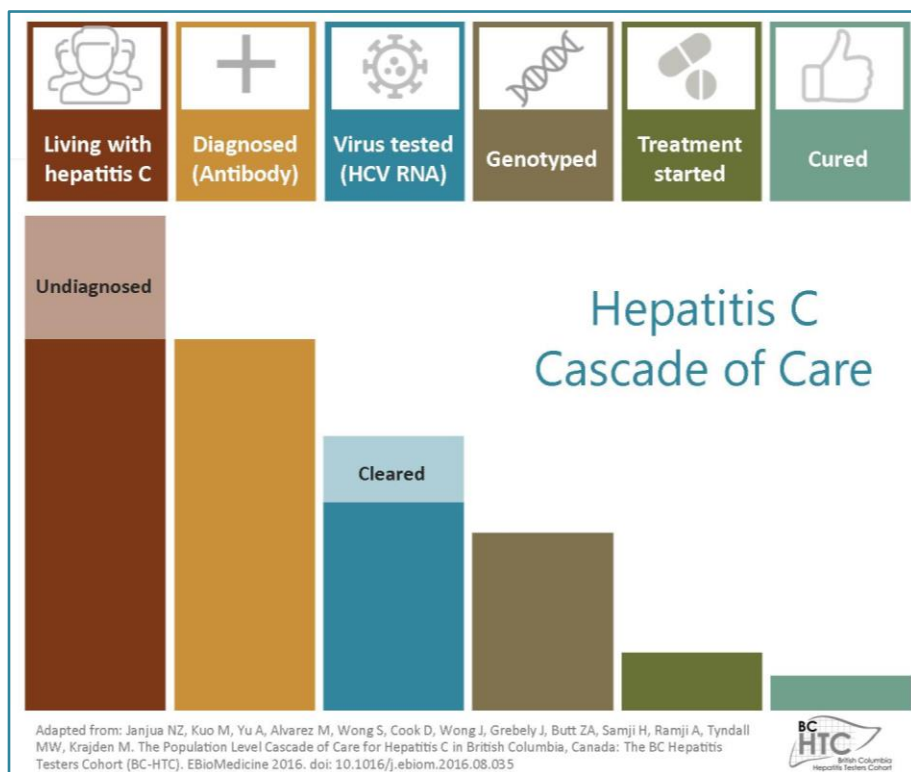


World Hepatitis Day Canada 2017

Hepatitis C

Approximately 300,000 people in Canada and 60,000 to 70,000 British Columbians are living with hepatitis C (HCV)[1]. Although there are fewer new cases of HCV[2], illness and death associated with HCV is increasing[3-5]. Living with hepatitis C for many years can lead to inflammation and scarring of the liver; liver cancer; health conditions outside the liver, such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes and kidney disease[6]; and death.

There is much excitement about the new, highly curative treatments for HCV that can reduce illness and death associated with this virus. However, the potential impact of these new drugs will be blunted if people affected by HCV are not encouraged to move along the HCV Cascade of Care.



BC data shows that many people affected by HCV either do not get into or fall out of care. For example, many people who are diagnosed as antibody positive do not receive a follow-up test to confirm that the HCV virus is still in their body. Those less likely to be RNA tested include males and people born before 1975. Also, based on 2012 data, only about one-third of those living with HCV receive liver-related care or monitoring in a given year[7]. People affected by HCV need support and encouragement to receive the care and treatment they need.

Patient resources

hepatitiseducation.ca/patients (basic video and text information)

hepatitiseducation.ca/resources (order print resources, view videos, or download PDFs)

About the data

bchtc.med.ubc.ca (BC Hepatitis Testers Cohort)

[Twin epidemics of hepatitis C in Canada](#)

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