

CHAPTER 2
HEPATITIS PROGRAMS

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 8/14/29

VIRAL HEPATITIS PROGRAM—VACCINATIONS AND TESTING

641—2.1(135) Definitions. For the purpose of these rules, the following definitions shall apply:

“*Contracted agencies*” means local health departments, clinics, and community-based organizations that are funded by the department to provide HCV testing and vaccination services.

“*HCV*” means the hepatitis C virus as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

“*HIV*” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 141A.1.

“*Viral hepatitis*” means inflammation of the liver caused by one of several viruses: hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E.

[ARC 8123C, IAB 7/10/24, effective 8/14/24]

641—2.2(135) Exposure risks for hepatitis C virus. The following individuals are at increased risk of exposure to HCV as described by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services:

1. People living with HIV;
2. People who have ever injected drugs;
3. People with selected medical conditions, including those who ever received maintenance hemodialysis;
4. Recipients of clotting factors made before 1987;
5. Recipients of blood transfusions, blood products, and organ transplants that occurred before 1992;
6. Health care, emergency medical, and public safety personnel after needle sticks, sharps, or mucosal exposures to HCV-positive blood; and
7. Infants born to mothers living with HCV.

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641—2.3(135) Information for public distribution. The department will make available educational materials to the public on hepatitis C infection, transmission, and where to seek testing services as defined on the department’s website.

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641—2.4(135) Hepatitis vaccination and testing program.

2.4(1) When sufficient state and federal funds are available, the department will maintain a vaccination and testing program. The program shall offer HCV testing and hepatitis A and B vaccinations through local health departments, clinics, and community-based organizations to individuals at an increased risk of exposure to viral hepatitis as described in the Viral Hepatitis Prevention and Testing Services Manual dated December 2023 and available on the department’s website. Contracted agencies offering testing and vaccination services shall be required to provide integrated HIV, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted infection education; pretest and posttest counseling; and referral services.

2.4(2) Contracted agencies shall provide individuals presenting for testing or vaccination services with education explaining viral hepatitis and how to reduce the risk of acquiring it.

2.4(3) Contracted agencies shall provide individuals testing positive for viral hepatitis with information about the diagnosis and treatment options and with a referral list of health care providers to aid in seeking treatment, additional follow-up testing, and other hepatitis-related services.

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These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 135.19.

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