

The SCREEN Act: Testing for Hepatitis C at Colonoscopy

The SCREEN Act (S. 1079/H.R. 2035 introduced in April 2015) establishes an innovative Medicare demonstration project, allowing for a patient office visit prior to a screening colonoscopy to ease patient fear, answer patient questions, and discuss pre-procedure preparation. This pre-screening visit also serves as an opportunity for Medicare beneficiaries to discuss and schedule a Hepatitis C screening with their provider at the same time as the screening colonoscopy.

The CDC and USPSTF recommends all Medicare beneficiaries, “Baby Boomers”

BORN FROM
1945 to 1965
BE SCREENED FOR HEPATITIS C

EVEN IF THE PATIENT IS ASYMPTOMATIC,
just like colorectal cancer screening.

These “Baby Boomers” make up

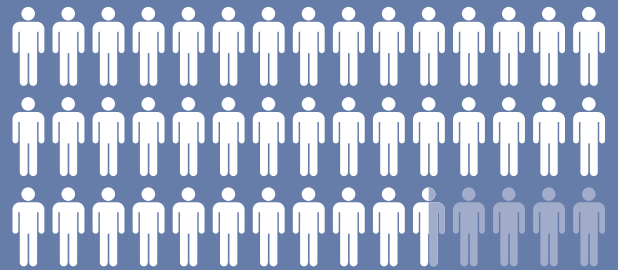
APPROXIMATELY
30%
OF THE U.S. POPULATION

AND ACCOUNT FOR **2**
INFECTED WITH
HEPATITIS C 3



85% to 90%

OF BABY BOOMERS WITH CHRONIC VIRAL
HEPATITIS C ARE ASYMPTOMATIC
meaning they have no outward signs of disease
and may be unaware that they are infected



MEDICARE ONLY COVERS...

1
ONE HEPATITIS C
SCREENING TEST...

...and YEARLY repeat
screenings for certain
HIGH RISK PEOPLE



...if ordered by a
**PRIMARY CARE DOCTOR
OR PRACTITIONER**

If there is no other
reason for an appointment
**BENEFICIARIES MAY NOT
BE GETTING THIS REFERRAL**



RECENT FINDINGS DEMONSTRATE



More patients accept
**HEPATITIS C AND COLONOSCOPY
SCREENING TESTS...**



...when offered at the
**SAME TIME A PATIENT SCHEDULES
THEIR SCREENING COLONOSCOPY**



Sears, et al. “Birth Cohort Screening for Chronic Hepatitis During Colonoscopy Appointments,” *Am J Gastro* 2013; 108:981989

Source: American College of Gastroenterology © 2015 | gi.org