



Adult Preventive Care

Purpose

To recommend clinical preventive medicine services for adult patients in the primary care setting for better health outcomes.

Key Message for Healthy Aging

Clinical preventive services are important tools for healthy aging that can lower health risks and prevent or delay the onset of disease. Fewer than twenty-five percent of adults aged 50 to 64 years are up to date on services. Fewer than 50% of adults aged 65 years or older are up-to-date with core preventive services despite regular checkups.

Adult Preventive Care

HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICE	RECOMMENDATION	SCREENING TEST
Health Assessment Screening, History and Counseling	<p>A health maintenance visit every 1-3 yrs. for 19-49 yrs, according to risk status & history. Age 50-64 every 1-3 years based on need, then annually thereafter at age 65+ Each exam may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Height, weight and body mass index (BMI) • Risk evaluation and/or counseling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accidental Injury Prevention Folic acid supplementation 0.4 mg/day for women during childbearing years Alcohol/drug/opioid abuse screening Review immunization history Medication Reconciliation Nutrition Blood pressure Tobacco use Obesity Sexual health Calcium supplement as necessary Intimate Partner Abuse/Elder Abuse Dental health Cognitive Decline Physical Activity • Assessment areas for those >65 yrs: Sodium restriction; social supports; polypharmacy including over the counter and herbal preparations; hypothyroidism; foot care; dental care; environment support; functional assessment like Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) i.e. feeding, dressing, grooming or Instrumental ADLs i.e. cooking, climbing stairs, etc. Encourage periodic eye exam by specialist and ask about hearing. Counsel as appropriate. • OTHER ITEMS AS LISTED BELOW (this is where Fall Risk & Depression are already noted) 	
Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm	<p>At 65-75 yrs, one time screening by ultrasonography for men who have ever smoked (>100 cig over lifetime)</p>	<p>Abdominal ultrasonography</p>
Advance Care Planning/Health Care Proxy	<p>Recommend completion of health care proxy >18 yrs; additional advance care directives (MOLST) as needed.</p>	
Aspirin Prophylaxis	<p>Counsel men & women 55-80yrs on prescribing or deprescribing aspirin, based on assessment of risks and benefits.</p>	
Breast Cancer Screening	<p>Every 1-2 yrs for women 40-74 yrs and 40-49 yrs on different schedule based on discussion with patient. If women >74 yrs, make decision on a case-by-case basis.</p>	
Cervical Cancer Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen women 21 to 65 yrs with cytology every 3 yrs. • Screen women 30 to 65 yrs with a combination of cytology and HPV testing every 5 yrs (this method is for those who want to lengthen the screening interval to 5 yrs instead of 3 yrs). • >65 yrs, screen women who had CIN2 or greater in the previous 20 yrs (or without adequate documentation of prior negative screening). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cytology or • combination of cytology and HPV
Colorectal Cancer Screening	<p>Screen between 50–75 yrs. Screening after age 75 is made on an individual basis. Cost effectiveness is an important consideration in ordering these tests; in most situations, the first three modalities listed here are currently the most cost-effective.</p>	<p>Screen using any of the following modalities including::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • high-sensitivity FOBT or FIT every 1 yr • sigmoidoscopy every 5 yrs • colonoscopy every 10 yrs • CT colonography every 5 yrs • Multi-targeted FIT-DNA (every 3 yrs)
Depression Screening	<p>Screen for depression.</p>	<p>Refer to <u>MCMS Community-wide Guideline for Major Depressive Disorder</u></p>
Diabetes Screening for Type 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing to detect type 2 diabetes and prediabetes in asymptomatic people should be considered in adults of any age who are overweight or obese (BMI ≥ 25 kg/m²*) or Asian Americans with BMI ≥ 23 kg/m² and who have one or more additional risk factors for diabetes. *At-risk BMI may be lower in some ethnic groups. • In those without risk factors, testing should begin at age 45 yrs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three tests have been used to screen for diabetes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fasting plasma glucose (FPG) ○ 2-hour post load plasma ○ Hemoglobin A1c • Refer to the <u>MCMS Community-wide Guideline for Adult Diabetes Care</u>
Fall Prevention	<p>Assess and counsel those at increased risk (age 65+)</p>	

Adult Preventive Care

HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICE	RECOMMENDATION	SCREENING TEST
Hepatitis C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer a one-time screening for HCV infection to adults born between 1945 – 1965. • Screen for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in persons at high risk for infection. 	Enzyme immunoassay (refer to Appendix A for recommended testing sequence)
Hypertension	Screen adults aged 40 years or older and those who are at increased risk for high blood pressure. Persons at increased risk include those who have high-normal blood pressure (130 to 139/85 to 89 mm Hg), those who are overweight or obese, and African Americans. Adults aged 18 to 39 years with normal blood pressure (<130/85 mm Hg) who do not have other risk factors should be rescreened every 1-3 years.	Refer to MCMS Community-wide Guideline for Management of Adult Hypertension.
Lipid Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen men >35 yrs. If at increased risk for CHD, screen women and men > 20 yrs. Increased risk = diabetes; tobacco use, hypertension, obesity, previous personal hx; family hx (e.g. cardiovascular disease in male relative < 50 yrs or in female relative <60 yrs). • Once screening begins, screen every 5 yrs for low risk; more frequent for high risk. • The National Heart Lung, Blood Institute and AAP recommend universal cholesterol screening between 9-11 yrs and again between 18-21 years. The AAP and NHLBI recommend that cardiovascular risk be assessed at other ages between 2-21 and recommend risk-based cholesterol screening if one or more risk factors are present. The USPSTF concludes evidence is insufficient to recommend for or against routine screening for lipid disorders in infants, children, adolescents & young adults to age 20. 	
Lung Cancer Screening	Offer shared decision making including benefits and harms among patient who are eligible: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Age 55-80 2) Current smokers and former smokers who quit within 15 years 3) ≥30 pack years of smoking 	Refer to MCMS Community-wide Guideline for Lung Cancer Screening
Osteoporosis Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen women aged 65 yrs or older. • Screen women under 65 whose fracture risk is equal to or greater than that of a 65-year-old white woman who has no additional risk factors. 	Screen using dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DEXA) of the hip and lumbar spine
Prostate Cancer Screening	Discuss pros and cons of screening for men 55-69 yrs. Offer PSA if patient requests.	PSA
STI Screenings		
Gonorrhea, Chlamydia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen all pregnant women; screen all women to age 25; and women over 25 who have risk factors. • Annual screen of men who have sex with other men, and testing of other males based on risk factors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For males, <u>first-catch urine</u> is the specimen of choice for gonorrhea/chlamydia <u>NAAT</u>
Genital Herpes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type-specific HSV serologic testing should be considered for men/women presenting for an STD evaluation (especially for men/women with multiple sex partners) • Evidence does not support routine HSV-2 serologic screening among asymptomatic adolescents and adults, including those who are pregnant. However, type-specific serologic tests might be useful for identifying pregnant women at risk for HSV infection and guiding counseling regarding the risk for acquiring genital herpes during pregnancy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type-specific serological tests
HIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening for patients <65 yrs. • Preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) of HIV in high risk patients. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First, enzyme immunoassay (EIA) or Rapid HIV antibody test • In both tests, you can use blood, oral fluid, or urine • Second, a confirmatory western blot or immunofluorescent assay
Syphilis, Hepatitis B	Screen for those at increased risk, and all pregnant women.	Two-step process involving initial nontreponemal test (VDRL) or RPR), followed by a confirmatory treponemal test (FTA-Abs or TPPA)

Adult Preventive Care

Tobacco Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen for tobacco use and offer interventions (counseling, pharmacotherapy) for those who use tobacco products. • E-cigs may be used by patients to quit combustible tobacco, but long-term use should not be encouraged, as the health effects of extended use of e-cigs are not known. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask (part of the 5 A's) every patient about tobacco use • Refer to the <u>MCMS Community-wide Guideline for Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence</u>
Tuberculosis	Screen those at increased risk.	Tuberculin skin test (if positive, do chest X-ray)
Vitamin D Deficiency	<p>Do not screen for vitamin D deficiency in healthy adults or children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On a case-by-case basis, consider selective testing for vitamin D deficiency in high-risk individuals such as patients with malabsorption syndromes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D test • Refer to the <u>MCMS Community-wide Guideline for Vitamin D Screening</u>
Other Things to Consider	Psychological trauma (associated with substance abuse, etc.), gun safety, seat belts, bike helmets, literacy	

IMMUNIZATIONS	FOR UP-TO-DATE RECOMMENDATIONS CONSULT ACIP WEBSITE - WWW.CDC.GOV/VACCINES/ACIP/INDEX.HTML
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Measures Commonly Used by National Organizations

- Breast Cancer Screening: 1) Percentage of women 50-74 years of age who had a mammogram to screen for breast cancer 2) Percentage of women 50 through 74 years of age who had a mammogram to screen for breast cancer within 27 months (*MIPS*)
- Colorectal Cancer Screening: Percentage of adults 50-75 years of age who had appropriate screening for colorectal cancer. (*MIPS*)
- Screening or Therapy for Osteoporosis for Women Aged 65-85: Percentage of female patients aged 65-85 years of age who ever had a central dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) to check for osteoporosis (*MIPS*)
- Screening for Future Fall Risk: Percentage of patients 65 years of age and older who were screened for future fall risk during the measurement period (*MIPS*)

High Risk Populations/Disparities

There are many large disparities in the prevalence, morbidity and mortality of various diseases and conditions faced by the low income and racial/ethnic minority populations in our region. Inequities in both the access to quality health care and social determinants of health lead to significantly worse outcomes across most conditions including cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, COPD and obesity. It is important to familiarize yourself with this information, to help focus efforts in screening. Data on disparities can be found in the Health Equity Chartbook, collated by Common Ground Health:

<https://www.commongroundhealth.org/Media/Default/Publications/Health%20Equity%20Chartbook%202018-20181128113414.pdf>.

References are included.

Health Maintenance Checklist for HEALTHY WOMEN AT AVERAGE RISK 19 Years and Older

Name: _____

DOB: _____

COUNSELING/SCREENING	FREQUENCY	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
Age appropriate history & physical	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Alcohol misuse – screen, counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Advance directives – counsel	At >18, and as needed				
Calcium – assess, encourage	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Dental health – counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Depression screening	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Diet/nutrition – counsel or refer	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Physical Activity - counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Folate – encourage	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Injury prevention - counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Obesity – counsel or refer	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Sexual health - counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Tobacco Use – screen, counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
IMMUNIZATIONS					
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	9-26 yrs, 2-3 doses depending on when started				
Influenza	Q 1 yr for all adults				
Meningococcal	1 or more doses if higher risk				
MMR - if no evidence immunity	1 -2 doses<50 yrs, 1 dose if increased risk & ≥50 yrs				
Pneumococcal vaccine (Sequential administration & recommended intervals for PCV13 & PPSV23 – CDC/ACIP, Sept 2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pneumococcal vaccine-naïve persons ≥ 65 yrs: PCV13 at ≥ 65 yrs; f/u PPSV23, 6-12 mos later* • PPSV23 already rec'd at ≥ 65 yrs: PCV13 ≥1 yrs since dose of PPSV23 • PPSV23 rec'd <65 yrs, persons now ≥ 65 yrs: PCV13 ≥ 1 yrs since dose of PPSV23; f/u PPSV23, 6-12 mos later* • Routine use of PCV13 for ≥ 19 yrs at increased risk 				
Tetanus-diphtheria (TD) / Tdap	Substitute 1 time dose of Tdap for TD; boost Q 10 yr – TD; ≥65 yrs Td (Tdap) if contact w/<12 mo. child. Td or Tdap can be used if no infant contact				
Varicella - if no evidence immunity	2 doses 4-8 wks apart				
Zoster	2 doses ≥ 50 yrs (Shingrex preferred)				
PROPHYLAXIS					
Aspirin – Discuss to prevent stroke	If at increased risk of stroke				
TESTS/EXAMS					
Breast cancer screening	Q 1-2 40-74 yrs; >74 yrs as needed				
Blood pressure	Q 1-3 yrs				
Cervical cancer screening	Q3 21-65 yrs. w/cytology or Q5 30-65 yrs w/cytology &HPV; >65 ≥CIN2 in last 20 yrs or w/out documentation of negative screening				
Colorectal cancer screening	50-75 yrs frequency varies with test selected; >75 individual basis				
Diabetes	Based on risk (Refer to Diabetes guideline)				
Gonorrhea, Chlamydia	Screen all pregnant women; screen all women to age 25; and women over 25 who have risk factors.				
Hearing impairment	≥65 yrs				
Height & weight, BMI	19-49 yrs Q 1-3yrs; 50+ yrs Q1				
Hepatitis C	1 time screen for patients born between 1945-1965 and based on risk for others				
HIV screening	<65 yrs				
Lipids screening	Q 5 yrs ≥ 20 yrs & at increased risk				
Osteoporosis screening	≥65 yrs; post menopausal if increased risk				
Other STI testing	Based on risk				
TB testing (PPD)	Based on risk				
Visual impairment	≥65 yrs				

* Minimum interval between sequential administration of PCV13 and PPSV23 is 8 wks; PPSV23 can be given later than 6-12 mos after PCV13 if this window is missed.

Guidelines are intended to be flexible. They serve as reference points or recommendations, not rigid criteria. Guidelines should be followed in most cases, but there is an understanding that, depending on the patient, the setting, the circumstances, or other factors, care can and should be tailored to fit individual needs.

Health Maintenance Checklist for HEALTHY MEN AT AVERAGE RISK 19 Years and Older

Name: _____

DOB: _____

COUNSELING/SCREENING	FREQUENCY	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
Age appropriate history & physical	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Alcohol misuse – screen, counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Advance directives – counsel	At >18, and as needed				
Calcium – assess, encourage	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Dental health – counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Depression screening	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Diet/nutrition – counsel or refer	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Physical Activity - counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Injury prevention - counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Obesity – counsel or refer	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
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Tobacco Use – screen, counsel	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
IMMUNIZATIONS					
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	9-26 yrs, 2-3 doses depending on when started				
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MMR - if no evidence immunity	1 -2 doses<50 yrs, 1 dose if increased risk & ≥50 yrs				
<u>Pneumococcal vaccine</u> (Sequential administration & recommended intervals for PCV13 & PPSV23 –CDC/ACIP, Sept 2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pneumococcal vaccine-naïve persons ≥ 65 yrs: PCV13 at ≥ 65 yrs; f/u PPSV23, 6-12 mos later* • PPSV23 already rec'd at ≥ 65 yrs: PCV13 ≥1 yrs since dose of PPSV23 • PPSV23 rec'd <65 yrs, persons now ≥ 65 yrs: PCV13 ≥ 1 yrs since dose of PPSV23; f/u PPSV23, 6-12 mos later* • Routine use of PCV13 for ≥ 19 yrs at increased risk 				
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Varicella - if no evidence immunity	2 doses 4-8 wks apart				
Zoster	2 doses ≥ 50 yrs (Shingrex preferred)				
PROPHYLAXIS					
Aspirin – Discuss to prevent stroke	If at increased risk of stroke				
TESTING/EXAMS					
AAA	Once, 65-75 yrs if ever smoked				
Blood pressure	Q 2 yrs				
Colorectal cancer	50-75 yrs frequency varies with test selected; >75 individual basis				
Diabetes	Based on risk (refer to Diabetes guideline)				
Gonorrhea, Chlamydia	Annual screen of men who have sex with other men, and testing of other males based on risk factors.				
Hearing impairment	≥65 yrs				
Height & weight, BMI	19-49 yrs Q 1-3 yrs; 50+yrs Q1				
Hepatitis C	1 time screen for patients born between 1945-1965 and based on risk for others				
HIV	<65 yrs				
Lipids	Q 5 yrs ≥ 20 yrs & at increased risk				
Other STI testing	Based on risk				
Prostate cancer	Discuss pros and cons of screening for 55-69 yrs. Offer PSA if patient requests.				
TB testing (PPD)	Based on risk				
Visual impairment	≥65 yrs				

* Minimum interval between sequential administration of PCV13 and PPSV23 is 8 wks; PPSV23 can be given later than 6-12 mos after PCV13 if this window is missed.

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Adult Preventive Care

Resources for Physicians

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

- [CDC Vaccine Schedules App for Clinicians and Other Immunization Providers](#) - The app visually mimics the printed schedules, reviewed and published annually. Users can identify correct vaccine, dosage, and timing with 2 or 3 clicks. Any changes in the schedules will be released through app updates.
- [CDC Immunization Schedules to Display on Website](#) - CDC immunization schedule and footnotes display within your web page.

Center for a Tobacco-Free Finger Lakes

Provides free “Tobacco Dependence Treatment: Train the Trainer” presentation for office champions and provide access to evidence-based resources and programs to assist providers in the design and implementation of office-based systems that identify and effectively treat tobacco dependence in Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Seneca, Ontario, Seneca, Schuyler, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates Counties (585)275-0598.

New York State’s Refer-To-Quit Program

Provides program for physician to help their patients stop smoking. Confidential coaching and cessation-related services are offered to patients who use tobacco products.

- <https://www.nysmokefree.com/HealthcareProviders/ReferralPrograms>
- [Fax Referral Program](#)
- [Online Referral Form](#)
- [Order materials for physicians to use with patients](#)

Adult Preventive Care

Resources for Patients

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

(Order pamphlets – free order limit 200)

- Men: Stay Healthy at Any Age (Provides information to help men stay healthy at any age.)
- Men: Stay Healthy at Any Age (In Spanish)
- Men: Stay Healthy at 50+ (Provides information to help women stay healthy at age 50 and above.)
- Men: Stay Healthy at 50+ (In Spanish)
- Women: Stay Healthy at Any Age - 2014 Update (Provides information to help women stay healthy at any age.)
- Women: Stay Healthy at Any Age - 2014 Update (In Spanish)
- Women: Stay Healthy at 50+ (Provides information to help women stay healthy at age 50 and above.)
- Women: Stay Healthy at 50+ (In Spanish)

Healthfinder.gov

- Tips to be physically active and make healthy food choices.

Healthy Living Center – Stop Smoking Program

<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/community-health/programs-services/healthy-living-center.aspx>

Provides evidence based intensive intervention with counseling and medication support in person to individuals, over 4 to 8 visits, living in Monroe County and the surrounding areas (585) 530-2050 FAX (585) 530-2398.

National Cancer Institute

- Order pamphlet: Clearing the Air: Quit Smoking Today (free-order limit 50) - Describes tools that can help smokers stop smoking and the problems to expect when they quit.
- Order free pamphlet: Clear Horizons – Self-help manual for smokers age 50 and older.

Smokefree.gov

Provides online resources to help patients quit smoking. Smartphone apps are user friendly and easy to download.

- Download free QuitGuide Smartphone Apps (designed to help patients prepare to quit smoking and support efforts)
- Download free QuitStart Smartphone Apps (created with teens in mind, but can be used by adults)
- SmokefreeTXT (free interactive text messaging to help adults and young adults quit smoking)
<https://smokefree.gov/tools-tips/smokefreetxt-signup>

Adult Preventive Care

References

American Cancer Society (ACS), the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (ASCCP), and the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). <https://www.hpv16and18.com/hcp/cervical-cancer-screening-guidelines/asccp-guidelines.html>

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Meaningful Use Quality Measure. (clinical quality measures for electronic submission by Medicare and Medicaid eligible physicians), Baltimore, MD.

<http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/index.html?redirect=/EHRIncentivePrograms/>

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS), Baltimore, MD.

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/PQRS/index.html?redirect=/pqrs>

Clinical Preventive Services. American Academy of Family Physicians. <http://www.aafp.org/patient-care/clinical-recommendations/cps.html>

Diseases and Conditions. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/>

Health Care Guideline: Preventive Services for Adults. Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement. Twentieth Edition/October 2014 JAMA

https://www.icsi.org/guidelines_more/catalog_guidelines_and_more/catalog_guidelines/catalog_prevention_screening_guidelines/preventive_services_for_adults/

JAMA: Screening for Colorectal Cancer and Evolving Issues for Physicians and Patients – A Review (Lieberman, et al., November 22/29, 2016, Volume 316, Number 20, pp. 2135-2145)

JAMA: US Preventive Services Task Force Evidence Report; JAMA, 2016;316(23):2531-2543.

doi:10.1001/JAMA2016.17138

<http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2593576>

JAMA: US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement: JAMA December 20, 2016 Volume 316, Number 23 (Force, 2016)

<http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2593575>

USPSTF A-Z Topic Guide. U.S. Preventive Services Task Force.

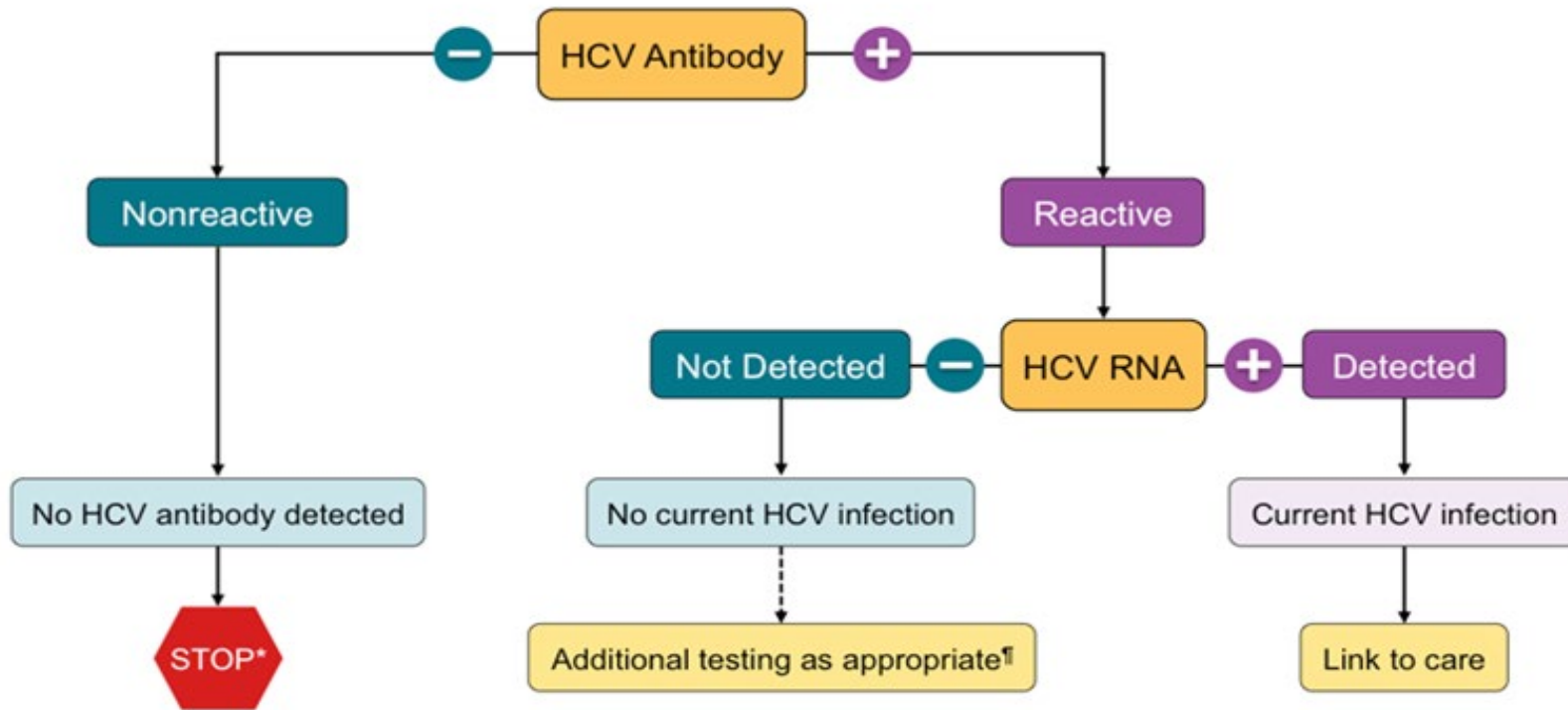
<http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspsttopics.htm>

Vaccines and Immunizations. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/?s_cid=cdc_homepage_topmenu_002

Adult Preventive Care

Recommended Testing Sequence for Identifying Current HCV Infection



* For persons who might have been exposed to HCV within the past 6 months, testing for HCV RNA or follow-up testing for HCV antibody is recommended. For persons who are immunocompromised, testing for HCV RNA can be considered.

†To differentiate past, resolved HCV infection from biologic false positivity for HCV antibody, testing with another HCV antibody assay can be considered. Repeat HCV RNA testing if the person tested is suspected to have had HCV exposure within the past 6 months or has clinical evidence of HCV disease, or if there is concern regarding the handling or storage of the test specimen.

Source: CDC. Testing for HCV infection: An update of guidance for clinicians and laboratorians. MMWR 2013;62(18). Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/HCV/Index.htm>

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