

Where are the children in national hepatitis C policies? A global review of national strategic plans and guidelines

Farihah Malik, Heather Bailey, Polin Chan, Intira Jeannie Collins, Antons Mozalevskis, Claire Thorne, Philippa Easterbrook

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Table S1. Summary of national plans and clinical guideline documents reviewed, by WHO region and income classification

	All member states	Countries for which any policy document available	Both NSP and guidelines available	NSP only	Guideline only
	A	B (as % of A)	C (as % of B)	D (as % of B)	E (as % of B)
Total	194	122 (63%)	43 (35%)	58 (48%)	21 (17%)
By WHO region:					
African	47	20 (43%)	3 (15%)	16 (80%)	1 (5%)
Eastern Mediterranean	21	10 (48%)	1 (10%)	7 (70%)	2 (20%)
European	53	44 (83%)	21 (48%)	13 (30%)	10 (23%)
Americas	35	22 (63%)	6 (27%)	12 (55%)	4 (18%)
South-East Asia	11	11 (100%)	6 (55%)	4 (36%)	1 (9%)
Western Pacific	27	15 (56%)	6 (40%)	6 (40%)	3 (20%)
By income classification:					
High-income	57	46 (81%)	19 (41%)	17 (37%)	10 (22%)
Upper middle-income	58	32 (55%)	11 (34%)	12 (38%)	9 (28%)
Lower middle-income	46	27 (59%)	11 (41%)	14 (52%)	2 (7%)
Low-income	31	17 (55%)	2 (12%)	15 (88%)	0
#N/A	2	0	0	0	0

Table S2. Diagnostic pathways in countries that recommend testing children born to women with HCV

Service delivery considerations for children born to women with HCV		
Country	Testing recommendations <i>How to test? When to test? Where to test?</i>	Follow up practices after initial test
Argentina	HCV RNA test at age 3 to 6 months (If the mother has viraemia > 106 IU ml and/or coinfection with HIV, has a higher risk of transmission)	If RNA positive then repeat RNA after 3/4 months If RNA negative then test antibody and RNA after 18 months
Armenia	Not specified	Not specified
Australia	HCV RNA test at age 2 months and again at 3-4 months later. HCV antibody test at 18 months of age.	If both RNA tests are positive, referral to a Paediatric Gastroenterology or Infectious Diseases Unit for 6 monthly monitoring of liver function.
Bahrain	HCV antibody test after 12 months of age. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test at or after the infant's first well-child visit at age 1-2 months.</i>	Not specified
Belarus	Not specified	Not specified
Belgium	HCV RNA test at age 1 month.	Not specified
Bhutan	Not specified	Not specified
Canada	Not specified	Not specified
Chile	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test at age 3 months.</i>	If antibody positive, confirmation with HCV RNA test.
Czech Republic	HCV antibody test after age 18 months.	Not specified
Dominican Republic	HCV antibody test after age 18 months and two HCV RNA tests at an interval of 3-6 months.	Not specified
Egypt*	Not specified	Not specified
Germany	HCV RNA test at age 6 months for children of HCV RNA+ mothers . HCV antibody test at 15 months for children of HCV antibody+, HCV RNA – mothers . <i>Tests for transaminase levels, RNA quantification and genotyping should be performed.</i>	Long-term follow up indicated but details not specified.
Hungary	HCV antibody test after age 18 months for children of HCV antibody+ mothers. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test at age 1-2 months.</i>	If antibody positive, refer to paediatric hepatologist and confirmation with HCV RNA test.

India*	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test after age 2 months.</i>	Not specified
Ireland	HCV RNA test at age 6 weeks and again at age 6 months for children of HCV RNA+ mothers. HCV antibody test after age 18 months for children of HCV antibody+, HCV RNA- mothers. No tests for children of HCV antibody+, HCV RNA- women with assured eradication of infection and no ongoing risk for reinfection.	If RNA negative on both occasions, test for HCV antibody after age 18 months. If RNA or antibody positive, refer to Rainbow Clinic (specialist services).
Kazakhstan	Not specified	Not specified
Korea, Republic of	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test after age 6 months.</i>	Not specified
Kyrgyzstan	HCV antibody test after age 12 months for children of HCV antibody+ and HCV RNA+ mothers. No test for children of HCV antibody+, HCV RNA- mothers. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test after age 2 months.</i>	If antibody positive or born to mother with HCV/ HIV co-infection, confirmation with HCV RNA test. If RNA positive, repeat RNA test.
Latvia	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test after age 4 months.</i>	Not specified
Lebanon	HCV antibody test after age 18 months.	Not specified
Malaysia	HCV antibody test after age 18 months.	Not specified
Maldives	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test between 0 - 12 months.</i>	Not specified
Mongolia	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test between 0-12 months, preferably between 2-6 months.</i>	If antibody positive, confirmation with HCV RNA test at age 3 years.
Morocco	Not specified	Not specified
Myanmar	HCV RNA test at age 3 months.	If HCV RNA positive, repeat RNA test at 12 months to confirm. If HCV RNA negative, monitor ALT levels every 3 months.
Nepal	Test after age 18 months.	Not specified
Nigeria*	Not specified	Not specified
Norway	Not specified	Not specified
Pakistan*	Not specified	Not specified
Philippines	HCV antibody test after age 18 months.	Not specified

Russian Federation*	HCV RNA test at age 2 months and if positive, again at 2-6 weeks later.	If HCV RNA negative at age 2, 6, and 12 months AND antibody negative at age 12 months, remove from follow-up. If HCV RNA negative at age 2, 6, and 12 months AND antibody positive at age 12 months, re-examine at 18 months. If HCV RNA positive at 2 or 6 months and HCV RNA negative at 12 months, conduct HCV RNA and antibody tests at 18 and 24 months.
Singapore	HCV antibody test after age 12 months.	Not specified
Spain	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test.</i>	Not specified
Sweden	HCV antibody test after age 18 months.	If antibody positive, confirm with HCV RNA test. If CHC confirmed, monitor liver function annually and HCV RNA quantification every 2-3 years.
Thailand	Not specified	Not specified
Timor-Leste	HCV antibody test after age 18 months.	If antibody positive, repeat antibody test or confirm with HCV RNA test.
Turkey	Not specified	Not specified
Ukraine**	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test at age 2-18 months.</i>	If antibody positive, test HCV RNA. If HCV RNA positive, repeat RNA test after 12 months to confirm.
United Kingdom	HCV RNA test at age 2-3 months.	Not specified
United States of America	HCV antibody test after age 18 months. <i>Option to perform HCV RNA test during the first year of life, but optimal timing of such a test unknown.</i>	If antibody positive, confirm with HCV RNA test after age 3 years.
Uzbekistan*	HCV antibody test after age 18 months.	Not specified

*indicates countries with a high paediatric HCV burden (1,2)

Ukraine has since adopted WHO and EASL guidelines as the national guidelines.

References

1. El-Sayed MH, Razavi H. Global estimate of HCV infection in the pediatric and adolescent population. *J Hepatol.* 2015;62(Table 1):S831–2.
2. Razavi H, El-Sayed MH. Updated Global Estimate of HCV Infection in the Pediatric Population [Internet]. 2016. Available from: [https://cdafound.org/content/Downloads/Pediatric Prevalence 161201.pdf](https://cdafound.org/content/Downloads/Pediatric%20Prevalence%20161201.pdf)

