

Liver Disease & Hepatitis Program
4315 Diplomacy Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: 907-729-1560 Fax: 907-729-1570
http://www.anthc.org/hep

## You have completed year(s) after treatment for hepatitis C, now what?

For the next 4 years (provider to select the follow up plan):
If you had zero to moderate scarring in your liver you will continue having yearly blood tests and a FibroScan. Yearly labs and FibroScan are due:
If you had advanced scarring of the liver you will continue to yearly blood tests (including an AFP) and a FibroScan. Yearly labs and FibroScan are due:
If you had cirrhosis of the liver you will continue having a yearly Liver Clinic appointment, a FibroScan, and blood tests (including an AFP). Yearly appointments due:
If this is checked, you had <u>advanced scarring or cirrhosis</u> of the liver before treatment. It is recommended that you continue to have a liver ultrasound and an AFP blood test drawn every 6 months to screen for liver cancer.
Your next ultrasound and AFP are due:
***Remember not to eat or drink for 3 hours before a FibroScan***

## **Tips to Keep Your Liver Healthy:**

<u>You are not immune to hepatitis C</u>. It is possible to become re-infected with the virus. To prevent you from being re-infected, avoid all blood – this includes not sharing needles, razors, toothbrushes, or nail clippers. Remember to practice safe sex.

<u>The hepatitis C antibody test will remain positive after you are cured of hepatitis C</u>. This is your immune system remembering that you had the virus. The test to see if you have hepatitis C after treatment is the HCV RNA test which will look for virus in your blood.

<u>Eat a balanced, healthy diet</u> that includes lots of vegetables, fruit, fish, whole grains, and low fat foods. Drink plenty of water; avoid soda and sweetened juices.

<u>Drink coffee.</u> Up to 3 cups per day has been associated with less liver scarring.

<u>Do not drink alcohol or use drugs</u> because these hurt the liver.

Exercise daily. Aim for 30-60 minutes a day. \*Contact the Wellness Center to get started in an exercise program: 729-2689

<u>Decrease stress in your life.</u> Talk to people who are supportive. \*Contact Behavioral Health for additional support or counseling: 729-2500.

Stop smoking. Ask for help if you need it. \*Contact the smoking cessation program: 729-4343.

If you have questions or concerns or would like to schedule an appointment in Liver Clinic, call us at: 907-729-1560 or 1-800-655-4837. Thank you for coming to see us today!