

*Referral criteria for nurse-led and pharmacist-led collaborative care models

Refer to secondary care if RNA positive and any of the following:

- Hepatitis B co-infection
- Known HIV co-infection
- APRI ≥ 1 , calculated from blood tests
- Fibroscan >9.5 KPa where a Fibroscan is used, e.g. in outreach
- Any previous HCV treatment.

In all above cases, the collaborative nurse-pharmacist model isn't permitted. **A prescription will be needed** for treating the patient.

If pregnant/breast-feeding, wait until after pregnancy/breast-feeding to treat. The pharmacist and nurse agree who is to follow-up and diarise follow-up.

If medical assistance is needed to manage drug interactions, refer to the GP if patient is enrolled and with their consent. Otherwise, refer to the secondary care specialist, with patient consent.

If the patient isn't enrolled with a GP, encourage them to enrol.

Mentor

Nurses are expected to have arrangements with a mentor (e.g. GP experienced in managing hepatitis C) or secondary care (e.g. nurse or specialist working in hepatology) for advice on managing hepatitis C patients.

Recommended blood tests under Collaborative Non-prescription Supply Models

	Under 30 years of age	30 years of age or over
Tests usually needed	Pregnancy test if person of child-bearing potential. HIV if at risk, and not otherwise received a test.	Pregnancy test if person of child-bearing potential. Test for hepatitis B virus (HBV) co-infection (HBsAg). Liver function tests including AST which needs to be specified. HIV test if at risk and not otherwise getting regular testing. Test for cirrhosis (AST and platelet count, see below to calculate APRI score). Full Blood Count.

Please refer to the notes on Page 2.

$$\text{APRI} = \frac{\frac{\text{AST Level}}{\text{AST (Upper Limit of Normal)}}}{\text{Platelet Count (10}^9\text{/L)}} \times 100$$

Notes

- APRI = AST to Platelet Ratio Index
- For an [online calculator](https://www.mdcalc.com/calc/3094/ast-platelet-ratio-index-apri) see:
<https://www.mdcalc.com/calc/3094/ast-platelet-ratio-index-apri>
- In outreach situations sometimes a Fibroscan will be conducted instead of needing an APRI score.