



Northwest Portland Area
Indian Health Board
Indian Leadership for Indian Health

Updates in CDC HCV Recommendations

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Presentation prepared by:
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Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement

No relevant conflicts of interest

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1. Describe the risk of HCV infection in perinatally exposed children
 2. Recognize when children with perinatal exposure should be tested for HCV

Perinatal HCV Transmission

- Risk for HCV transmission from HCV antibody reactive pregnant person with detectable HCV RNA varies:
 - 7.2% (95% CI = 5.6%-8.9%)
 - 12.1% (95% CI = 8.6%-16.8%) if co-infection with poorly controlled HIV
- Infections estimated to occur throughout pregnancy:
 - 24.8% early in utero
 - 66% later in utero
 - 9.3% during delivery

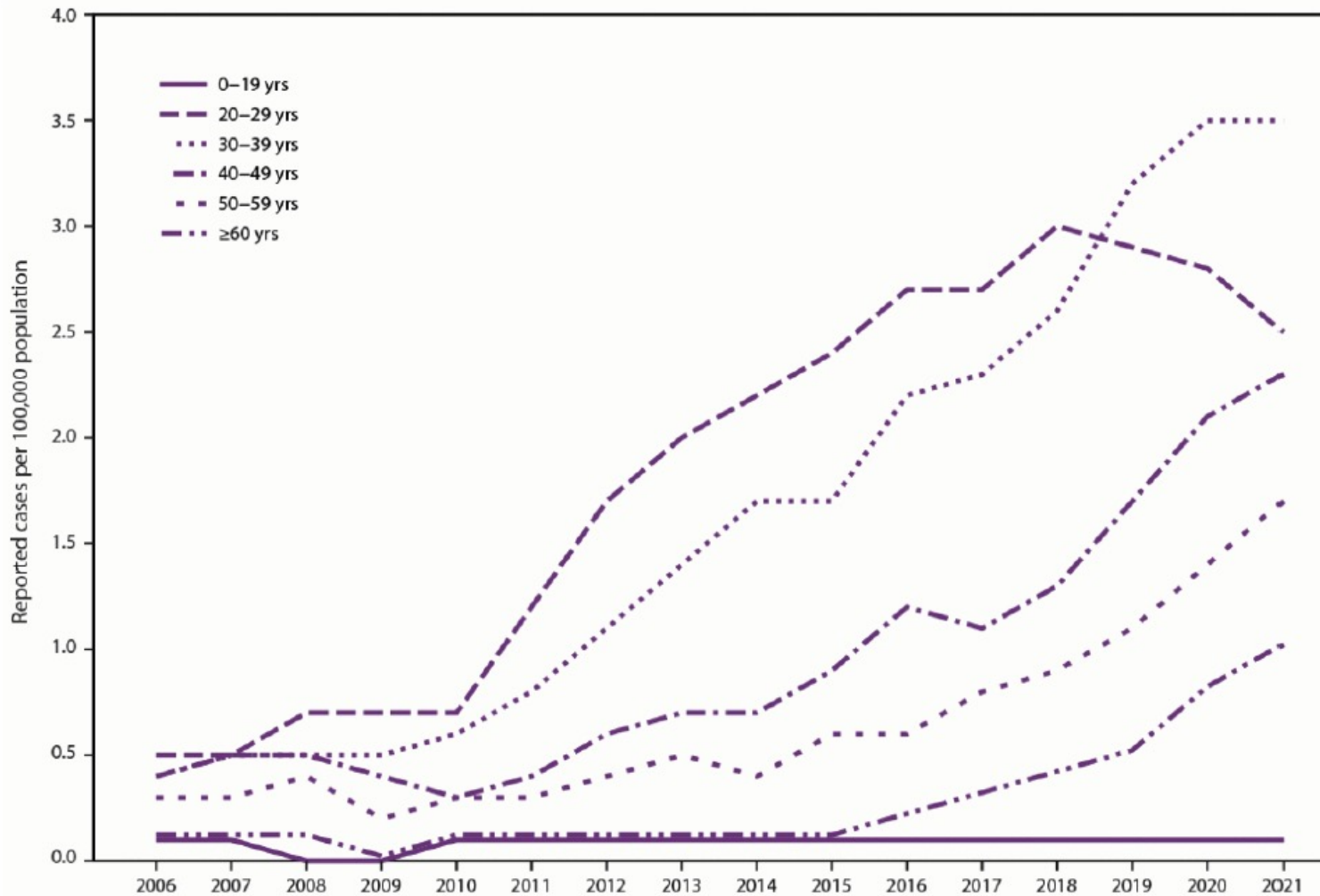
Impact of Maternal HCV Infection on Pregnancy and Neonatal Outcomes

- Increased risk of gestational diabetes mellitus
- Increased risk of intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy
- Maternal HCV infection associated with intrauterine growth restriction and low birthweight

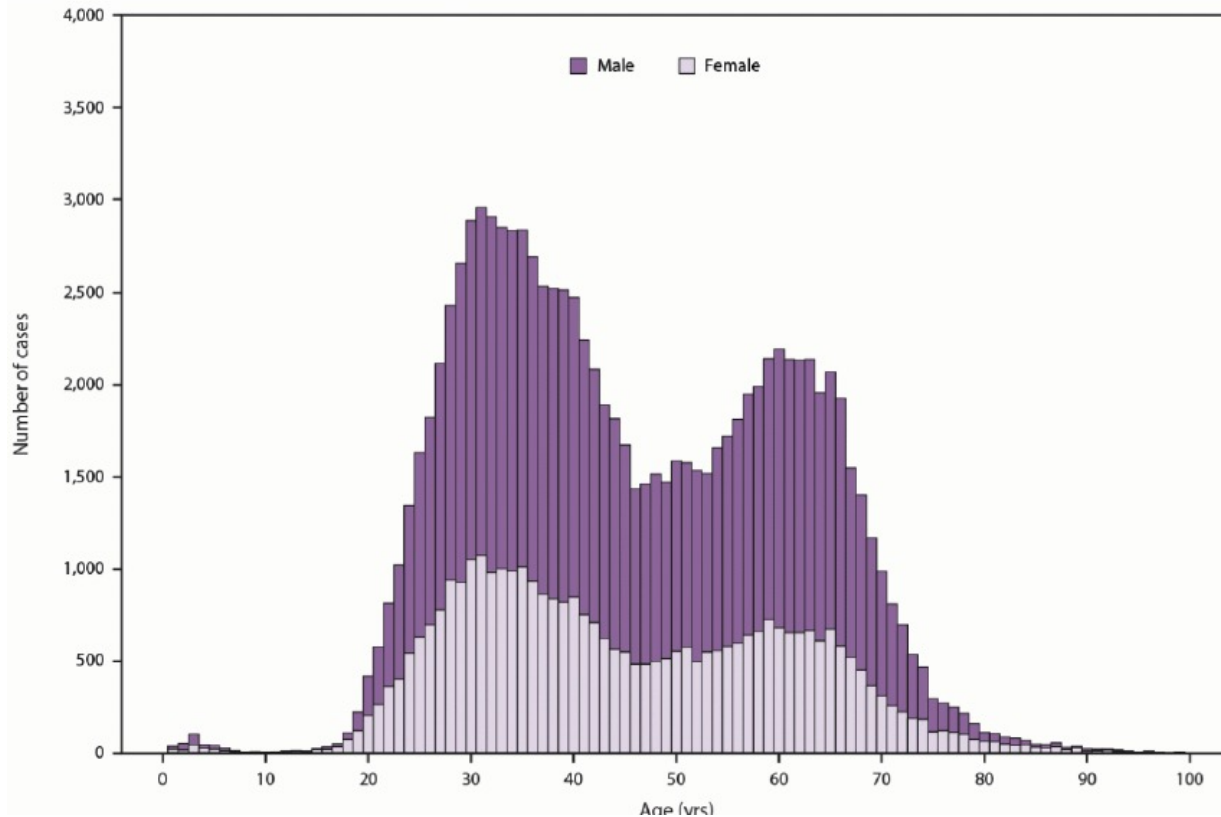
Natural History of Perinatally Acquired HCV Infection

- Spontaneous clearance in 20-40% of children by age 5
 - 57.3% cleared by age 3
 - 65.9% cleared by age 5
- Among children with HCV:
 - Persistently elevated ALT levels
 - Hepatomegaly
 - Auto-immune phenomena including non-organ specific autoantibodies
 - Cryoglobulinemia
 - Persistent proteinuria

Rates of HCV Infection by Age Group- United States 2006-2021



Number of Laboratory Confirmed Chronic HCV Infection Cases by Sex and Age- US, 2021



Problem:

Approximately 70% of children ≥ 18 months of age are not being tested for HCV with current testing strategy

2023 HCV Testing Recommendations

- Perinatally exposed infants should receive HCV RNA testing at age 2-6 months to identify children with HCV
- Children with undetectable HCV RNA do not require further follow up
- Children 7-17 months of age who have not been tested for HCV should be tested
- Children >18 months of age who have not been tested should receive anti-HCV test with reflex to RNA
- Children with detectable HCV RNA should be followed and evaluated for HCV therapy at 3 years of age

Perinatal hepatitis C is increasing

Early testing and intervention can save lives



CDC recommends:

SCREENING patients for hepatitis C during each pregnancy

TESTING all babies exposed during pregnancy with an HCV RNA at age 2-6 months

MANAGING infants with an HCV RNA+ test result alongside a provider with pediatric hepatitis C expertise

bit.ly/rr72041a1

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MMWR



Panagiatokopoulos L et al. MMWR Recomm Rep 2023;72(No. RR-4):1-19.

Indian Country ECHO HCV

End of Presentation

Questions?



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