

Guidance on Universal STBBI testing in Provincial Correctional Settings

- This guidance focuses on specific aspects that should be communicated to people who are incarcerated who are being offered an STBBI test (e.g. HIV, HCV, HBV, syphilis, CT/GC) by trained and experienced health workers.
- This guidance is based on feedback from people who have experienced incarceration, as well as input from an expert committee which includes people with lived experience of STBBIs, health care providers and academic researchers.

Establish Norm

 We offer screening to everybody entering this correctional centre or starting OAT for; hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV, syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea, as well as other tests like liver function and kidney function.

Provide key info to avoid negative automatic responses

- Screening is free, <u>confidential</u>, and the sample will not be used for anything other than this test.
- You can be living with hepatitis C or other sexually transmitted and blood born
 infections, or even have liver damage and still feel healthy, so it's important to test
 even if you feel fit and well.
- If you have one of these infections, we start the process to link everyone to care, and we
 can treat you here or link you to care in the community when you leave corrections. Are you
 happy for us to send a referral to a treatment provider right away if any tests come back
 positive? This helps us link you to care as soon as possible (sign ROI consent form if yes).
- There are new medications to treat hepatitis C that work in almost all cases, usually with no side effect.s

Provide opportunity to opt-out

- We have Nursing staff who can provide in centre support, education and care coordination for people with hep C or any of these other infection.s
- We can also connect you with a peer in the community who has lived experience of hepatitis C or incarceration for additional support- are you happy for us to share your contact information with them? (sign ROI consent form if yes).
- Are you happy to proceed with the testing? If so, which tests would you like to receive?