Hepatitis C Testing and Diagnosis: Understanding Your Results

Start with an antibody test **Negative Antibody Positive Antibody** Test **Test** An antibody is produced by your You have never had At some point in immune system when it detects a Hepatitis C. time you were harmful substance like bacteria, fungi, If you had a recent risk infected with the parasites, and viruses. Think of an factor that may have Hepatitis C Virus. antibody like an army made by your exposed you to the This does not immune system specific to a harmful virus, you will need to necessarily mean substance. A Hepatitis C antibody test, be tested again. It can you still have looks for an antibody to the Hepatitis take 3-12 weeks for an Hepatitis C. C Virus to check if you have ever been antibody to develop infected with Hepatitis C. **About 1 in 4** people will clear the virus on their own in the first 6 months of infection. If someone is able to "self-clear" they will have **NO MORE** antibodies but no viral load. If you have ever been infected, you will **TESTS NEEDED** always have antibodies in your blood, even when the virus is gone. If this test is positive or comes Viral Load or RNA Test back with a number This test will look for it means the the genetic material If this test comes back Hepatitis C Virus (RNA) of the Hepatitis undetectable or negative is present in your you do not have Hepatitis C—you C Virus. This test shows blood and you have whether or not the have cleared the virus and cannot active Hepatitis C. virus is actively present spread it to anyone. in your blood. Your Health Care Provider will then need to do ➡ Genotype Test other tests to determine the best treatment for you. Liver Function Tests Your provider will look at these tests, your medical >> Fibroscan, Ultrasound, history, and current medical conditions to determine the best approach to treatment for you. Some or Liver Biopsy of the additional tests done could include...



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