# Guide for Testing Infants and Children Perinatally Exposed to Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Infection

**Mother’s HCV antibody or HCV RNA**

- **Positive**
  - **Past or present HCV infection detected in mother.**
    - Refer mother to HCV provider.
  - **Exposed infant should be age appropriately tested for HCV**

- **Negative**
  - **HCV infection not detected in mother.**
    - Retest for HCV antibody in 6 months if risk factors are identified OR test for HCV RNA if recent exposure is suspected.

**2 Months to <18 Months of Age**: HCV RNA

- **Positive**
  - **HCV infection detected.**
    - Refer child to HCV provider.

- **Negative**
  - **HCV infection not detected.**
    - No further testing needed.

**18 Months of Age or Older**: anti-HCV with reflex to HCV RNA

- **Positive**
  - **Past or present HCV infection detected.**
    - HCV RNA testing is needed.

- **Negative**
  - **HCV infection not detected.**
    - No further testing needed.

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1 Testing before 2 months of age is not recommended.