Considerations for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) of HIV Infection and Screening for Hepatitis B and C

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 1.4 million people die each year from infections caused by the hepatitis B and C viruses (HBV and HCV, respectively). ¹ The Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) of HIV infection services offer an opportunity to test for HBV and HCV and provide necessary care.

Considerations for hepatitis B and C diagnostic tests

Hepatitis B	Hepatitis C
HBV surface antigen test (HBsAg). Conduct test at PrEP initiation.	HCV antibody test. Conduct test at PrEP initiation.
NEGATIVE RESULT: Consider HBV vaccination. POSITIVE RESULT: Refer for further assessment for HBV treatment eligibility.	NEGATIVE RESULT: Consider testing every 12 months, especially when PrEP services are provided to men who have sex with men and people who use drugs. POSITIVE RESULT: refer for further assessment and treatment for HCV infection.

Source: World Health Organization. WHO Implementation Tool for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis of HIV Infection (PrEP). Module 1: Clinical. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2017 (WHO/HIV/2017.17). Available at: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/255889/1/WHO-HIV-2017.17-eng.pdf?ua=1

The Strategic Fund of the Pan American Health Organization: WHO prequalified diagnostic tests

Product name	Unit of measure	Unit Price (in U.S. dollars)	Shelf-life (in months)
Bioelisa HBsAG 3.0®	96	57.60	14
	480	216.00	
SD Bioline HBsAg WB®*	30	24.00	24
SD Bioline HCV test®*	30	33.00	24
OraQuick HCV Rapid Antibody Test®	25	175.00	18
	100	700.00	

^{*}Rapid diagnostic tests.

Prices are referential for diagnostic kits. freight and insurance costs are not included.

Prices from the Revolving Fund

Vaccine	Presentation (doses)	Weighted Average Price per Dose (In U.S. dollars)
Hepatitis "A" Adult (vial and pre-filled syringe)	1	13.0893
Hepatitis "A" pediatric	1	8.2980
Hepatitis B Recombinant adult	1	0.7338
Hepatitis B Recombinant adult	10	0.3000
Hepatitis B Recombinant pediatric	1	0.5377

¹ Pan American Health Organization. Guidelines for performing screening tests for Hepatitis B and C. Policy Summary. Washington, DC: PAHO; 2017. Available at https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/34935.