



Dear Sir / Madam,

The Emilia-Romagna Region is promoting population screening to identify Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infections.

The screening is voluntary, free of charge, and aimed at people born between 1969 and 1989.

Hepatitis C is a liver infection caused by the Hepatitis C virus. This infection can be brief and clear up on its own with the elimination of the virus or can become chronic and result in permanent damage to the liver and cancer if not treated with specific medication.

These pharmacological treatments are very effective.

To take part in the screening, a blood test is required.

**Participating in the screening is easy: just fill in this questionnaire**

**You'll then receive an appointment for a blood test.**

**If you have a blood sample taken before our appointment, you can ask for the Hepatitis C test to be carried out free of charge at the same time as the other blood tests.**

The blood sample will be examined for specific antibodies against the Hepatitis C virus.

If the result is negative, you'll receive the result in your Electronic Medical Record.

If the result of this initial test is positive, the same blood sample will be analysed for the presence of the virus, without the need to take another sample.

If the virus is present, you'll be contacted by staff from the Screening Centre to organise a specialist consultation at one of the reference centres of the Local Health Care Unit of Reggio Emilia.

For more information, go to the website <https://www.ausl.re.it/screening-epatite-c>

Health Director

Dr Nicoletta Natalini