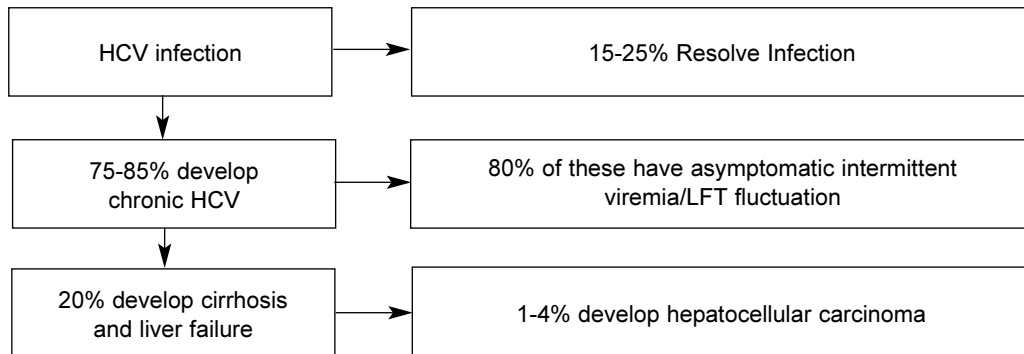
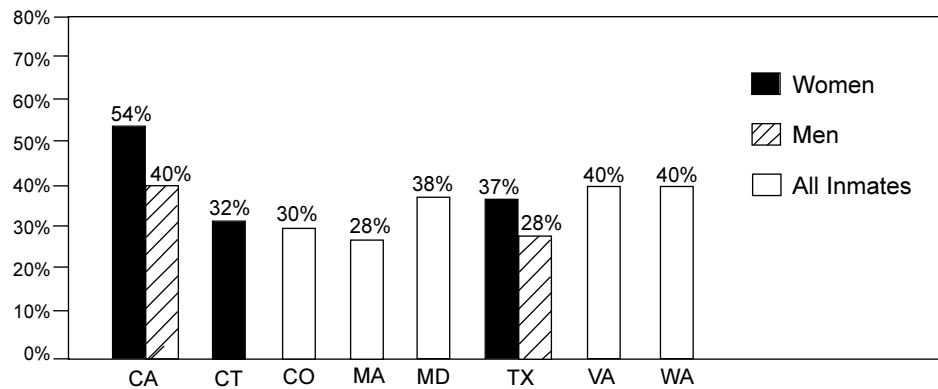


FIGURE 1. Patterns of Disease in Hepatitis C Infection



Among individuals who have persistent HCV infection, 80% are asymptomatic, despite intermittent viremia and abnormal fluctuations of their liver function tests. These individuals have the capacity to infect others. HCV is responsible for approximately 40% of the 25,000 annual deaths in the U.S. from chronic liver disease (1). HCV is grouped into six genotypes and more than 90 subtypes; genotypes 1a and 1b are more common in the United States and less responsive to antiviral therapy.

FIGURE 2. Percentage of HCV Infection Among Inmates: Available Data



This figure shows the prevalence of HCV in certain state correctional populations. Percentages are shown by gender where data were available. These prevalence studies are not necessarily comparable across states because different methods were used to compile the data. HCV prevalence in reporting states is the following; California: 40% of men and 54% of women (6); Connecticut: 32% of women (7); Colorado: 30% (8); Maryland: 38% (9); Massachusetts: 27.5% (Hamden County) (10); Texas: 28% of the men and 37% of women (4); Virginia: 30-40% (11); Washington: 30-40% (12).