

WHAT IS HEP B?

...WHY SHOULD I CARE?

 hepatitisACT

email: info@hepatitisact.com.au

Phone: 02 6230 6344

Hep B is inflammation of the liver caused by the hep B virus.



How do I get hep B?



Hep B can be transmitted by:

- Blood to blood contact
- Unprotected sex
- Mother to baby at birth, and
- Injecting drugs

How do I know if I have hep B?



A simple blood test will let you know if you have immunity to hep B or have hep B

What happens if I have no immunity?

If you have no immunity the doctor will suggest a vaccination.



What happens if I have hep B?

There is no cure for hep B, there is treatment, the doctor will talk to you about options.



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Hep B is inflammation of the liver caused by the hep B virus.

What is 'Acute' hep B?

Acute hep B is an infection that happens within the first 6 months, or less. 90% of adults will clear the virus, but they can still pass it on to other people.

5-10% of adults with acute hep B will develop 'Chronic' hep B.



What is 'Chronic' hep B?

Chronic hep B is an infection that lasts longer than 6 months. Chronic hep B also leads to cirrhosis and liver cancer.

Most people who are born with hep B will have chronic hep B.



Wouldn't I know if I had hep B?

Not really, most people don't know they have hep B as the symptoms are not really obvious, tummy ache, loss of appetite, fatigue, aches and pains in muscles.



I had better have a chat with my doctor.

Yes, knowing your status is a good thing to do.



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