

Myth Busting

HEPATITIS C

July 2020

Hepatitis C causes liver inflammation and damage. It affects a lot of people in Australia, can be quite serious, but is often poorly understood.

There are a lot of myths about hepatitis C that contribute to stigma and discrimination, which can prevent people seeking treatment for their hepatitis C.

Get the facts about hepatitis C

www.hepatitisACT.com.au

FALSE!

Treatment for hep C involves injections and makes people really sick

FACT

Treatment to cure hep C has changed. It is now tablets only (no injections) with few side effects, if any! It is very effective with 8-12 weeks treatment with a 95% cure rate.



FALSE!

Hep C only affects people who inject drugs



FACT

Hep C is transmitted when the blood of a person living with hep C gets into the blood stream of someone else. Although hep C is most commonly transmitted through injecting drug use in Australia, other transmission routes include: fist fighting, unsterile tattooing/piercing, blood transfusions/medical procedures before 1990 in Australia or overseas.

FALSE!

People living with hep C are fine and it doesn't seem to cause any problems

FACT

People living with hep C may experience symptoms such as feeling tired, loss of appetite and "brain fog".
Living with hep C increases the risk of liver cancer.
Getting treated for hep C will reduce the risk.



FALSE!

If someone is currently using drugs or drinking then they can't get hep C treatment

FACT

Everyone with a Medicare card can access hep C treatment in Australia with no restrictions. All people living with hep C should be encouraged to get treated and cured of their hep C.



Contact Us

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