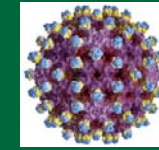


What should I know about Hepatitis B?



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What is it and why is it important?

- A viral infection that can cause liver **inflammation**, liver **scarring (cirrhosis)**, liver **cancer** and **liver failure**.
- Up to **65%** of infected individuals are **not aware of their infection**.
- 30-40% of people with chronic (long lasting) infection will develop cirrhosis or cancer.
- Chronic infection occurs in 95% of infected infants but only 5% of infected adults.

What are the symptoms?

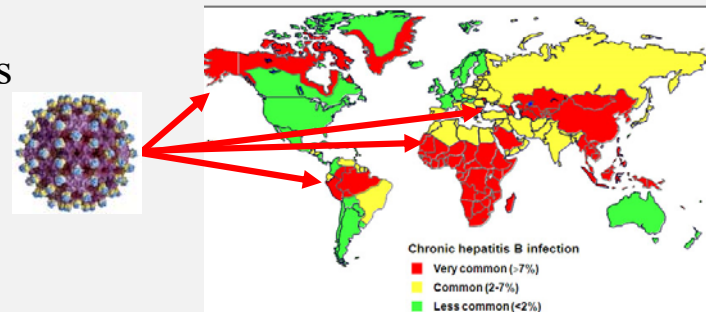
- Most** chronically infected people **have no symptoms** at all until they develop symptoms of liver failure.
- Initial infection can sometimes be associated with fever, fatigue, nausea, abdominal pain, yellow eyes and skin, dark urine.

Disease Burden:

- 240 million people** have hepatitis B worldwide.
- Hepatitis B causes nearly **800,000 deaths per year**.
- ~19,000 people newly infected every year in the U.S.
- ~850,000-2.2 million people in the U.S. are chronically infected with hepatitis B

Risk Factors: You should be tested if:

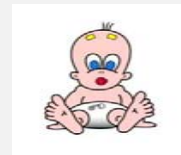
You or your parents were **born in areas where hepatitis B is common**.



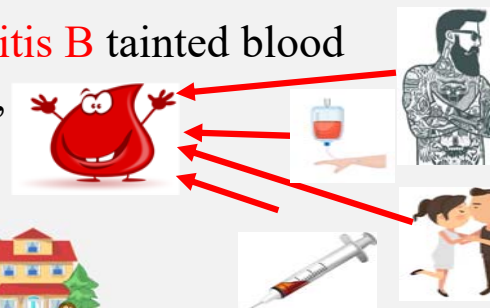
Your **immune system is impaired** (due to medicine or disease).



You are **pregnant**.



You have been **exposed to hepatitis B** tainted blood or bodily fluids (sexual, needles, transfusion, work exposure).



You **live with someone who has Hepatitis B**.



How can you prevent infection?

Get



Vaccinated!

How do I know if I have Hepatitis B?

- Simple blood tests** can tell if you've been vaccinated, exposed or have a current infection.
- Exposure to hepatitis B does not mean you are infected**, your doctor will need to confirm the presence of the actual virus in your blood.

Is there a treatment for Hepatitis B?

- Not all individuals** with hepatitis B **need therapy**.
- Some people with hepatitis B **need to be screened for cancer** even if they don't need treatment.
- There is **no cure for hepatitis B**, but well tolerated oral medications **can suppress the virus**.
- Treatment of hepatitis B can reduce the risk of liver cancer, cirrhosis, and other disease complications**.
- Treatment is often life long, so your liver doctor can help you decide if treatment is right for you.

Anything new on the horizon?

- Active ongoing **research to find a cure** so stay tuned!