

Hepatitis C

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection is the most reported blood-borne infection in the United States, triggering significant complications such as liver disease, liver failure, liver cancer, and even death if left untreated.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Many people with HBV do not have any symptoms but other individuals may experience:



- Dark-colored urine
- Yellowing of skin and eyes (jaundice)
- Muscle or joint pain



- Fever
- Headache
- Abdominal pain



- Diarrhea
- Nausea
- Vomiting



- Loss of appetite
- Fatigue
- Clay-colored bowel movements

HOW DOES HEPATITIS C SPREAD? HCV spreads when blood from an infected person enters the body of someone who is not infected.

- Sharing drug equipment
- Mother to baby
- Healthcare exposure
- Sexual exposure
- Unregulated tattoos/body piercings
- Sharing personal items
- Blood transfusion/organ transplant

WHO SHOULD BE TESTED FOR HEPATITIS C?

- Adults 18+
- Pregnant women during each pregnancy
- Individuals who are currently or have ever used injection drugs
- HIV+ persons
- Children born to HCV+ mothers
- Hemodialysis recipients
- Blood transfusion or organ transplant recipients before 1992
- Individuals with abnormal ALTs
- Individuals with clotting factors before 1987
- Individuals exposed to blood from a person who has HCV
- Anyone requesting HCV testing

IS THERE A CURE FOR HEPATITIS C? Although there is no vaccine to prevent HCV, there is life-saving treatment that can cure most people with HCV in 8-12 weeks.



Scan the QR code to view more information on HCV testing recommendations.