

Common Questions about Hepatitis B

Do you have questions about hepatitis B? Read on to learn the answers to some common questions!

"If I don't have symptoms, can I have hepatitis B?"

Yes. Most people who have hepatitis B do not have symptoms. Sometimes years can go by without symptoms! Getting tested is important, with or without symptoms.

"If I haven't done anything risky, can I still have hepatitis B?"

Yes. Most people who have hepatitis B get it as babies or children. Hepatitis B is not only caused by risky behavior. Anyone can get hepatitis B, and it is one of the most common infections in the world.

"Is there a cure for hepatitis B?"

No, there is no cure, but there are good treatments that work. Any herbal remedies that promise a cure are false. Safe treatments prescribed by a doctor can help keep you healthy.

"Will my life change very much if I have hepatitis B?"

You can still live a long and healthy life with hepatitis B! Visiting your doctor 1-2 times per year, taking treatment if needed, and living a healthy lifestyle free of alcohol and tobacco can help protect you from liver cancer.

"Is it safe to spend time with people who have hepatitis B?"

Yes, it's safe! Hepatitis B cannot be shared casually through food, water, breastfeeding, coughing, sneezing, hugging, kissing or holding hands. People with hepatitis B can still get married, have children and jobs.

"Am I really at risk since hepatitis B cannot be shared casually?"

Yes, you can still be at risk. Hepatitis B can be shared through childbirth, blood contact, sexual fluids, sharing household items (razors, toothbrushes etc.) and unclean needles in healthcare settings, as well as tattoo and piercing parlors.

Hepatitis B doesn't only happen to certain people, and it is a very common infection. It is not a punishment for doing something bad and ANYONE can get hepatitis B. Learning if you have hepatitis B is important. Knowing the facts, getting tested, and getting vaccinated can protect you and your loved ones from hepatitis B!