

ABCs of Hepatitis

	HAV	HBV	HCV
WHAT IS IT?	HAV is a virus that causes inflammation of the liver. It does not lead to chronic diseases.	HBV is a virus that causes inflammation of the liver. It can cause liver cell damage leading to cirrhosis and cancer.	HCV is a virus that causes inflammation of the liver. It can cause liver cell damage leading to cirrhosis and cancer.
INCUBATION	15 to 50 days Average 30 days	45 to 180 days Average 8 to 12 weeks	2 to 26 weeks Average 6 to 9 weeks 20 to 40 years to develop liver failure
HOW IS IT SPREAD?	Transmitted by fecal/oral route (Close person-to-person contact or ingestion of contaminated food or water)	Contact with infected blood. Infected mother to newborn. Contact with infected semen and vaginal secretions.	Contact with infected blood. Infected mother to newborn. Not easily transmitted through sex.
SYMPTOMS	May have no symptoms. Adults may have: <u>Mild Symptoms:</u> tiredness, loss of appetite, nausea <u>Severe Symptoms:</u> fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, light colored stools, dark colored urine, jaundice	May have no symptoms. Adults may have: <u>Mild Symptoms:</u> tiredness, loss of appetite, nausea <u>Severe Symptoms:</u> fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, light colored stools, dark colored urine, jaundice	May have no symptoms. Adults may have: <u>Mild Symptoms:</u> tiredness, loss of appetite, nausea, headache <u>Severe Symptoms:</u> fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, light colored stools, dark colored urine, jaundice
TREATMENT	Low fat diet. Avoid alcohol. Adequate rest and fluids.	Low fat diet. Avoid alcohol. Adequate rest and fluids. Interferon is effective in 50% of carriers.	Low fat diet. Avoid alcohol. Adequate rest and fluids. Interferon is effective in 20% of carriers. Combination therapy
RISK FACTORS	Contaminated food/water, IV drug use, traveling to endemic areas, men who have sex with men	IV drug use, blood to blood contact, body piercing, tattooing, sexual contact, human bite	IV drug users, blood to blood contact, body piercing, tattooing
PREVENTION	Immunization Wash hands thoroughly in bathroom/kitchen. If in an endemic area, drink hot or bottled beverages, and avoid undercooked food and shellfish.	Immunization Avoid IV drug use and contact with blood/body fluids. Practice safer sex. Avoid sharing razors, needles, and toothbrushes.	No immunization Avoid IV drug use and contact with blood/body fluids. Practice safer sex. Avoid sharing razors, needles, and toothbrushes.
CURRENT PREVALENCE IN U.S.	2003 61,000 new infections	2003 1.25 million chronic infections 73,000 new infections	2003 2.7 million chronic infections 30,000 new infections



Source: OCHD

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The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin, age or disability. State and federal eligibility requirements apply for certain programs.