

Viral Hepatitis

Fast Facts

	Hepatitis A Virus (HAV)	Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)	Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)
How does it spread?	Eating/drinking substances contaminated with human waste (poop) Close person-to-person contact with a person that has HAV Sex with a person that has HAV Exposure to blood of someone with HAV	Contact with blood or bodily fluids of someone living with HBV Sex with a person that has HBV Passed from mother to baby during pregnancy or birth	Contact with blood of someone living with HCV Sex with a person that has HCV Passed from mother to baby during pregnancy or birth
How long does it last?	Up to six months	Lifetime if it progresses from acute to chronic HBV	Lifetime if it progresses from acute to chronic HCV without treatment
Can it be life-threatening?	Rarely	Yes	Yes
Can it be treated?	No	Yes, to slow disease progression but no cure is available	Yes, newer medications are one pill daily for 8-12 weeks with over 90% of people successfully cured
What are the symptoms?	Your symptoms may range from no symptoms to one or more of the following: ◆Yellowing of skin or eyes (jaundice) ◆Fever ◆Loss of appetite ◆Nausea ◆Vomiting ◆Stomach pain ◆Tiredness ◆Dark pee ◆Pale poop ◆Diarrhea		
What are measures I can take to prevent it?	Get vaccinated Wash hands with soap and water after using the bathroom and before preparing or eating food Always use condoms consistently and correctly during sex Do not share any items that may come in contact with another person's blood, including needles or other equipment used to prepare, inject, or snort drugs	Get vaccinated Do not share any items that may come in contact with another person's blood, including needles or other equipment used to prepare, inject, or snort drugs Always use condoms consistently and correctly during sex Avoid unregulated tattoos or piercings	Do not share any items that may come in contact with blood, including needles or other equipment used to prepare, inject, or snort drugs Always use condoms consistently and correctly during sex Avoid unregulated tattoos or piercings
Is there a vaccine?	Yes	Yes	No
How do I know if I have it?	Get a blood test		
Where can I find more information?	http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav/index.htm	http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hbv/index.htm	http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/index.htm

