



Viral Hepatitis

Fast Facts

	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Hepatitis C
How does it spread?	Eating/drinking substances contaminated with human waste (poop) Close person-to-person contact with infected individual Sex with infected partner Exposure to infected blood	Contact with infected blood or bodily fluids Sex with infected partner Passed from mother to baby during pregnancy or birth	Contact with infected blood Sex with infected partner Passed from mother to baby during pregnancy or birth
How long does it last?	Up to 6 months	Up to lifetime	Up to lifetime
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% successfully cured
What are the symptoms?	You may have no symptoms, or some of the following: ♦Yellowing of skin (jaundice) ♦Fever ♦Loss of appetite ♦Nausea ♦Vomiting ♦Stomach pain ♦Tiredness ♦Dark pee ♦Pale poop ♦Diarrhea		
How is it prevented?	Get vaccinated Wash hands with soap and water after using the bathroom and before eating and preparing food Use condoms during sex Do not share any items that may come in contact with infected blood, including needles or other equipment used to inject/snort drugs	Get vaccinated Do not share any items that may come in contact with infected blood, including needles or other equipment used to inject/snort drugs Use condoms during sex Avoid unregulated tattoos or piercings	Do not share any items that may come in contact with infected blood, including needles or other equipment used to inject/snort drugs Use condoms during sex Avoid unregulated tattoos or piercings
Is there a vaccine?	Yes	Yes	No
How do you know if you are infected?	Get a blood test		
Where can you 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

