

Doctor Discussion Guide:

For people considering getting tested for hepatitis C (hep C)



Questions to ask your doctor

If you have not been diagnosed with hepatitis C, but think you might want to get tested for it, here are some questions to ask your doctor at your next appointment:

- Could I be at risk?
- What tests do I need?
- What do test results show?
- What does viral genotype mean?
- Are there any foods or activities that I should avoid?
- Can hep C be cured?
- How long does treatment take?
- How much do treatments cost? Are there co-pay programs available?
- Should I see a specialist? If so:
 - Do I need a referral?
 - What should I bring to the specialist's office?
 - What other information should I have ready?
 - When is the right time to see a specialist?

Come prepared for your next appointment

Your doctor may ask about your overall health and medical history. They may also ask additional questions that relate to hep C. Consider going over these before you meet with your doctor:

- Have you been experiencing any of the following symptoms?
 - Fever
 - Vomiting
 - Joint pain
 - Fatigue (feeling tired)
 - Abdominal pain (pain in the gut)
 - Jaundice (yellow coloring of the eyes or skin)
 - Loss of appetite
 - Dark urine
 - Nausea (upset stomach)
 - Clay-colored stools
- Describe why you think you may be at risk

You might also want to consider writing down any concerns or questions you have that are not on this list before your appointment.