

It's time to cure* hep C



Talk to your healthcare professional today
and stop hepatitis C (hep C) from getting
comfortable in your liver.

*Cure means the hep C virus is not detectable in your blood months after treatment has ended.

What is hep C?

Hep C is a liver disease caused by the hep C virus. Hep C can become a chronic condition and cause damage to your liver.

Most people with hep C don't have any symptoms. That means you may have it and not know you have it.

Is hep C the same as hepatitis A or B?

Hepatitis A and B are not the same as hep C. Each is caused by a different virus. They spread in different ways and can affect the liver differently.

There are vaccines for hepatitis A and B, but there is **no vaccine for hep C.**



But hep C can be cured.*

*Cure means the hep C virus is not detectable in your blood months after treatment has ended.

It's important to cure* hep C now

You need your liver to absorb nutrients and remove toxins from your body.

Once the hep C virus infects the liver, it can multiply up to a trillion times a day.

A hep C infection can cause inflammation, which can lead to liver scarring—also known as cirrhosis.
This damage can limit your liver's function.



of people living with hep C will develop cirrhosis within 10-20 years

**Liver damage isn't the only risk that comes with having hep C.
Chronic hep C:**



Is the most common reason for liver transplants in the United States



Can increase your risk of developing cardiovascular disease by 20%



Can put you at risk of developing liver cancer

Don't wait to cure* hep C. Talk to a healthcare professional today.

*Cure means the hep C virus is not detectable in your blood months after treatment has ended.

How do people get hep C?

The hep C virus can spread when someone comes into contact with blood from an infected person. A few ways this can happen are:



Sharing needles, syringes, or other equipment used to prepare and inject drugs



Getting a tattoo or piercing done with a contaminated needle



Using personal items that have come into contact with an infected person's blood—like nail clippers, toothbrushes, or razors

Who should get tested?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends hep C testing for people who:

18+
years

Are 18 years of age or older



Are pregnant*



Have ever injected drugs, even if it was just once or many years ago

People who inject drugs and share needles, syringes, or drug preparation equipment should be tested regularly.

Remember, no matter how you got hep C, you can be cured.†

*Test during each pregnancy.

†Cure means the hep C virus is not detectable in your blood months after treatment has ended.

What is treatment like today?

Everyone deserves to be cured* of hep C. Years ago, hep C treatments included interferon-based therapies that took a long time and required injections.

Today's treatments:



Have high cure rates of 95% or greater according to clinical studies



Are pills, not injections



Can be completed in as few as 8 weeks



May be taken in addition to birth control and medication-assisted treatment for opioid abuse. Talk to your healthcare professional about all of the medicines you take



Have fewer side effects vs older interferon-based therapies
Common side effects are now headache and tiredness

Your healthcare professional will determine what your treatment duration should be.

*Cure means the hep C virus is not detectable in your blood months after treatment has ended.

How much does treatment cost?

Getting treated for hep C is affordable. Treatment is often covered by most insurance plans, including Medicaid and Medicare.

If you don't have insurance, have been denied treatment coverage, or need help with your copays, there are options for most patients.

Learn more about patient support and financial assistance at hepC.com/Support

Getting ready to talk to a healthcare professional about curing* your hep C?

At your visit, you may be asked about:



Any history of addiction or drug use



The medications you're currently taking



Other relevant medical information

Keep in mind that your healthcare professional is there to help.

Take the next step in curing* your hep C.

*Cure means the hep C virus is not detectable in your blood months after treatment has ended.

To help you feel prepared for your visit, write down any questions or concerns you want to discuss.

Make today the day you ask about **a cure* for hep C.**