



# Hepatitis Prevention Program

Bureau of Communicable Diseases  
 Division of Disease Control and Health Protection  
 Florida Department of Health

Call your county health department for information on hepatitis testing and vaccination.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), recommends all people born from 1945-1965 get tested for hepatitis C

[www.flahepatitis.org](http://www.flahepatitis.org)  
[www.cdc.gov/hepatitis](http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis)

	Hepatitis A (HAV)	Hepatitis B (HBV)	Hepatitis C (HCV)
<b>How do you get it?</b>	<p><b>Oral contact with feces from an infected person</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eating food prepared by an infected person who did not clean hands properly</li> <li>• Drinking contaminated water</li> <li>• Eating raw contaminated shellfish</li> <li>• Close personal contact (including sex &amp; sharing a household)</li> <li>• Oral-anal sexual practices</li> </ul>	<p><b>Contact with infected person's blood/body fluids</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing injection drug or tattooing equipment</li> <li>• Unprotected anal, vaginal, or oral sex</li> <li>• Infected mother to her infant during pregnancy or delivery</li> <li>• Household contact</li> <li>• Occupational exposure through needle stick</li> </ul>	<p><b>Contact with infected person's blood</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing injection drug or tattooing equipment</li> <li>• Blood transfusion before 1992</li> <li>• Infants born to a mother with hepatitis C</li> <li>• Occupational exposure through needle stick</li> <li>• Can be passed during sex, but this is not common</li> </ul>
<b>How do you prevent it?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Get vaccinated</b></li> <li>• Wash your hands after using the bathroom, after changing a diaper, and before preparing or eating food</li> <li>• Avoid sexual practices that result in oral-anal contact; or, use a latex barrier between the mouth and anus</li> <li>• Cook shellfish thoroughly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Get vaccinated</b></li> <li>• Don't share needles to inject drugs, tattooing equipment, razors, toothbrushes, or nail clippers</li> <li>• Wear a condom every time you have sex</li> <li>• Pregnant women screened for HBV and routine vaccination for all infants</li> <li>• Use standard precautions in occupations which involve possible exposure to blood and body fluids</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>There is NO vaccine</b></li> <li>• Avoid sharing injection drug equipment</li> <li>• Don't share tattooing equipment, razors, toothbrushes, or nail clippers</li> <li>• Use standard precautions in occupations which involve possible exposure to blood</li> <li>• Wear a condom every time you have sex</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are the Symptoms?</b></p> <p>In many cases symptoms may be absent or very mild</p>	<p>If present, may include any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellow skin or eyes (jaundice)</li> <li>• Feeling very tired</li> <li>• Abdominal pain</li> <li>• Loss of appetite</li> <li>• Nausea</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most children and many adults don't have symptoms</li> <li>• Symptoms, if present, similar to hepatitis A</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most people don't have symptoms</li> <li>• Symptoms, if present, similar to hepatitis A</li> <li>• Might not show any symptoms until 10-30 years after getting infected</li> </ul>
<b>How do you treat it?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No treatment except management of symptoms</li> <li>• Rest</li> <li>• Don't drink alcohol—it can worsen liver disease</li> <li>• Eat a healthy diet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medications are available for chronic illness</li> <li>• Don't drink alcohol—it can worsen liver disease</li> <li>• Get vaccinated for hepatitis A</li> <li>• Eat a healthy diet</li> <li>• Regular exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medications are available to treat chronic illness</li> <li>• Don't drink alcohol—it can worsen liver disease</li> <li>• Get vaccinated for hepatitis A and hepatitis B</li> <li>• Eat a healthy diet</li> <li>• Regular exercise</li> </ul>