



HEPATITIS C

**YOU CAN HAVE IT
AND NOT KNOW IT.**

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HEPATITIS C: YOU CAN HAVE IT AND NOT KNOW IT.

- Hep C is caused by a virus carried in blood. It attacks your liver.
- The virus is passed by blood-to-blood contact.
- You might not have symptoms for many years. By that time the liver damage could be serious.
- During that whole time you could pass the virus on to other people.
- You can get Hep C from:
 - sharing needles, pipes, straws, cookers, filters, ties, or water for drug use with anyone else, including your sexual partner.
 - piercing or tattooing equipment (including ink) already used on someone else.
- Sometimes you can get Hep C from:
 - anything that might have blood on it, like razors, nail clippers and toothbrushes already used by someone else, even if you can't see the blood.
 - unprotected sex with someone who has Hep C.
- There is treatment for Hep C but first you have to get tested to know if you have the virus.

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