

Hepatitis A

Key facts:	Can cause mild to sever illness Globally, 1.4 million cases annually Associated with a lack in safe water and poor sanitation Does not cause chronic disease
How is it spread:	Through faeces It is a foodborne infection
Symptoms:	Fever, loss of appetite, diarrhoea, abdominal discomfort, jaundice.
Who is at risk:	Anyone that has not been vaccinated or has been previously infected.
Treatment:	No specific treatment
Prevention:	Improved sanitation, food safety and immunisation

Hepatitis B

Key facts:	Can cause both acute and chronic disease Estimated 240 million people are chronically infected Potentially life-threatening
How is it spread:	Through blood or body fluids It can survive outside the body for at least 7 days
Symptoms:	Yellowing of the skin and eyes, extreme fatigue, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain.
Who is at risk:	Anyone not previously vaccinated, people who frequently require blood, drug abusers, people with multiple sexual partners, healthcare workers.
Treatment:	No specific treatment.
Prevention:	Immunisation

Hepatitis C

Key facts:	Blood borne virus 130 – 150 million people globally have chronic hepatitis C Currently no vaccine
How is it spread:	Through injecting drugs and sharing injections, inadequate sterilisation of medical equipment and also sexually.
Symptoms:	Fever, fatigue, decreased appetite, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, grey-coloured faeces, joint pain and jaundice.
Who is at risk:	People who inject drugs and / or share injections, recipients of infected blood, people with HIV.
Treatment:	Does not always require treatment but can with antiviral therapy
Prevention:	Reducing the risk exposures to the virus and hand hygiene

WCMAS



HEPATITIS

World Hepatitis day: 28 July 2016



Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver. The condition can be self-limiting or can progress to fibrosis (scarring), cirrhosis or liver cancer. Hepatitis viruses are the most common cause of hepatitis in the world but other infections, toxic substances (e.g. alcohol, certain drugs), and autoimmune diseases can also cause hepatitis.