



HBV Fact Sheet

Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) is a viral disease that can have acute or chronic effects on the liver

Symptoms: Symptoms show up **Treatment:**

1-9 months after contact with HBV

- Many people often don't experience symptoms
- Fever
- Weakness/tiredness
- Jaundice (yellow skin)
- Dark urine, light or grey stool
- Flu-like feeling
- Right upper abdominal pain
- Skin rashes

- There is no specific cure, but treatment is supportive
- Drugs used to treat chronic HBV include Alpha interferon, adefovir dipivoxil, and lamivudine

Consequences without treatment

- Some recover completely
- Some people cannot be cured
- Symptoms can go away but they can still give HBV to others
- Permanent liver damage or liver cancer
- A mother with HBV can give it to her baby
- Death

Transmitted through:

- Vaginal, anal, or oral sex
- Puncturing in skin-- sharing needles
- Perinatally: mother to child
- Contact with infected blood

Prevention:

- Get vaccinated with the Hep B vaccine
- Use condoms during all sexual contact
- Do not use injection drugs, share needles, or syringes
- Do not donate blood, organs, or tissue if you have HBV
- Do not share items that may have blood on them, i.e. toothbrush, razor

Risk Factors

- Having multiple sex partners
- Men who have sex with men
- Injection drug users

***Drinking alcohol can make your liver disease worse**

Contact Information