

IF YOU HAVE EVER ENGAGED IN RISKY BEHAVIOUR
OR WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE FURTHER INFORMATION:

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Visit the on-line Information Point
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Monday 10.00 - 20.00

Tuesday - Friday 10.00 - 18.00

Information Point ROMAINFORMA • Istituto San Gallicano (IRCCS)

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Monday - Friday 8.30 - 11.00

Tuesday and Thursday 14.30 - 16.30

So you think you know
about **Hepatitis B** and **C**?



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
ABOUT THE RISKS OF THESE
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

In collaboration with



REGIONE LAZIO
Assessorato alla Sanità



Comune di Roma
Assessorato alle Politiche
di Promozione della Famiglia
e dell'Infanzia



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Istituto San Gallicano (IRCCS)
Struttura Complessa di Medicina Preventiva
delle Migrazioni, del Turismo e Dermatologia
Tropicale - Roma



Information Point ROMAINFORMA

HEPATITIS B

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 350 MILLION PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC HEPATITIS B WORLDWIDE. TWENTY-PERCENT OF THEM WILL DEVELOP CIRRHOSIS OVER A TEN-YEAR PERIOD. EVERY YEAR, 2-3% OF PEOPLE WITH HEPATITIS B-RELATED CIRRHOSIS DEVELOP LIVER CANCER.

HBV

What is Hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is an infectious disease caused by the HBV virus, which affects the liver. It is distinguished by an acute stage of infection during the first six months and then a chronic stage that can develop immediately after the first stage.

Hepatitis B can develop without presenting any symptoms.

How is it spread?



The HBV virus is spread by:

- ✓ direct contact with the blood of an infected person: from open wounds, sharing of needles and drug works, sharing of personal hygiene items (razors, toothbrushes, etc.), use of unsterile needles for medical purposes or in tattooing and piercing;
- ✓ unprotected sex with a person at risk (of having HBV) or
- ✓ pregnancy and childbirth (passed by an infected mother to child during childbirth).

There is no reason to keep your distance from someone who has Hepatitis B.

If you have Hepatitis B you do NOT have to be excluded from work, school or your normal daily routine. The virus is NOT spread by: coughing, sneezing, kissing, handshaking, hugging, breastfeeding, or through water or food.

How is it prevented?



You can prevent Hepatitis B if you:

- ✓ DON'T share drugs and drug works (drugs, needles, cotton, syringes, cookers, water or rinse cups).
- ✓ DON'T share personal hygiene items.
- ✓ ALWAYS use condoms if you have more than one sexual partner or are having sex with someone at risk (of having HBV).
- ✓ Get VACCINATED.

Getting tested for HBV is the best method of prevention.

HEPATITIS C

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 140 MILLION PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC HEPATITIS C WORLDWIDE. TWENTY- TO THIRTY-PERCENT OF THEM WILL DEVELOP CIRRHOSIS OVER A TEN-YEAR PERIOD. EVERY YEAR, 4-6% OF PEOPLE WITH HEPATITIS C-RELATED CIRRHOSIS DEVELOP LIVER CANCER.

HCV

What is Hepatitis C?

Hepatitis C is an infectious disease caused by the HCV virus, which affects the liver. It has an incubation period of approximately 2 weeks to 6 months, with an average incubation period of 6-7 weeks. It is distinguished by an acute infection stage and a chronic stage that can develop immediately after the first stage.

Hepatitis C can develop without presenting any symptoms.

How is it spread?



The HCV virus is usually spread by:

- ✓ direct contact with the blood of an infected person: from open wounds, sharing of needles and drug works, sharing of personal hygiene items (razors, toothbrushes, etc.), use of unsterile needles for medical purposes or in tattooing and piercing.

The HCV virus is usually not spread by:

- ✓ unprotected sex with a person at risk (of having HCV) or
- ✓ pregnancy and childbirth (passed by an infected mother to child during childbirth).

There is no reason to keep your distance from someone who has Hepatitis C.

If you have Hepatitis C you do NOT have to be excluded from work, school or your normal daily routine. The virus is NOT spread by: coughing, sneezing, kissing, handshaking, hugging, breastfeeding, or through water or food.

How is it prevented?



You can prevent Hepatitis C if you:

- ✓ DON'T share drugs and drug works (drugs, needles, cotton, syringes, cookers, water or rinse cups).
- ✓ DON'T share personal hygiene items.
- ✓ ALWAYS use condoms if you have more than one sexual partner or are having sex with someone at risk (of having HCV).

There is NO Hepatitis C vaccine.

Getting tested for HCV is the best method of prevention.