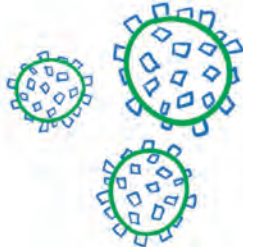


HEPATITIS C

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The hepatitis C virus (HCV) can damage the liver. Infection begins as acute hepatitis C, and while the virus can run its course through the body with no lasting consequence, approximately 75% of those infected will go on to develop chronic hepatitis C. Many individuals are unaware that they carry HCV. Due to recent breakthroughs in medication therapy, chronic hepatitis C is now curable.



DID YOU KNOW?

170 million individuals worldwide have HCV



350,000 of those are Canadians



HOW DOES HCV SPREAD?

SPREADS

through blood to blood contact.



VERY RARELY SPREADS

from mother to child, sexual activity, health or dental procedures, or by modern blood transfusions.



DOES NOT SPREAD

through other bodily fluids.



SYMPTOMS/COMPLICATIONS

EARLY

- often silent
- mild to severe fatigue
- discomfort in abdomen



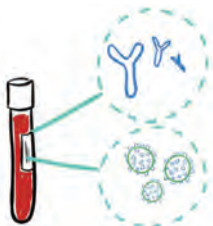
LATE (AFTER LIVER DAMAGE)

- severe fatigue
- confusion
- fluid accumulation in the abdomen
- bleeding from veins in the esophagus or stomach
- risks for liver failure & liver cancer

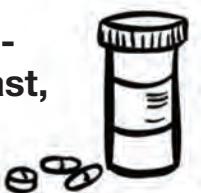


DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT

Often detected during routine blood tests.



New treatments cure hepatitis C and have an improved side-effect profile with shorter treatment durations than in the past, though the treatment takes 8 to 48 weeks to complete.



Watch our video at www.badgut.org to learn more about Hepatitis C.

