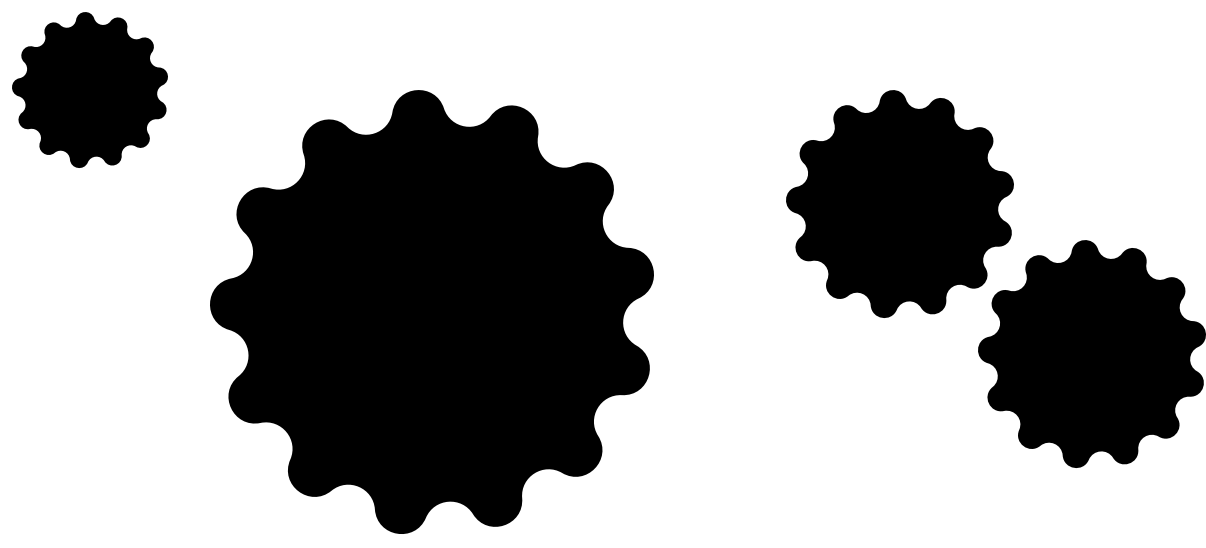




Hepatitis B

Fact Sheet



Hepatitis B is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV).



Hepatitis B spreads through an infected person's blood, semen, or other bodily fluid.

Signs and Symptoms



Fever



Feeling Very Tired



Loss of Appetite



Nausea and Vomiting

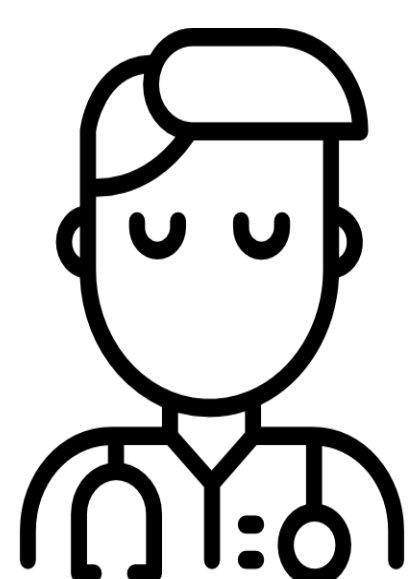


Abdominal Pain



Dark Urine

Signs and symptoms of hepatitis B can also include clay-colored stool, joint pain, and jaundice (yellow color in the skin or eyes). Most people do not show any signs or symptoms. If symptoms do occur, they usually start about three months after exposure. Symptoms usually last for several weeks to six months.



Talk to your doctor if you think you have hepatitis B. Hepatitis B is diagnosed with blood tests.

There is no specific treatment for acute hepatitis B, but several drugs are available to treat chronic hepatitis B.

Hepatitis B Risk Factors



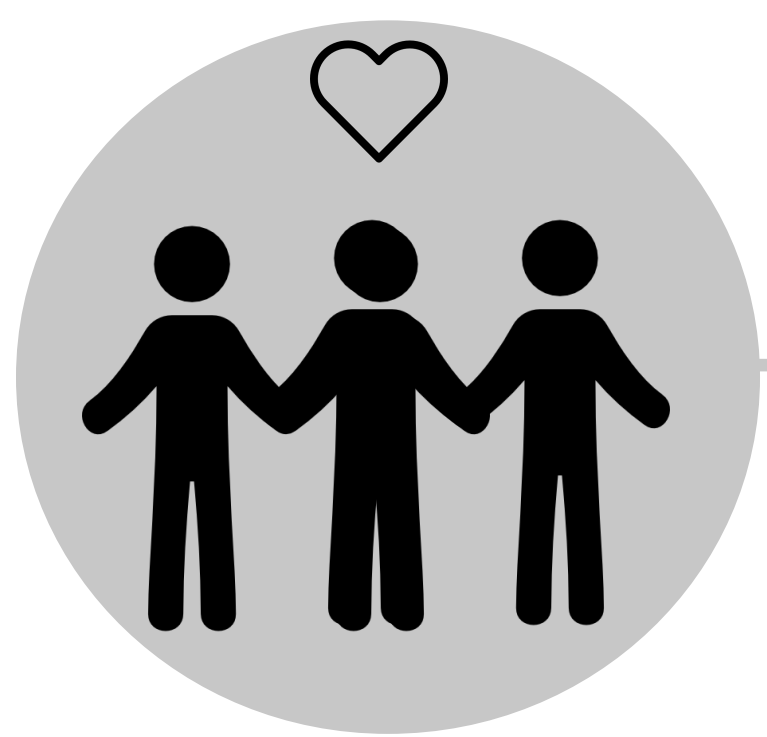
People Who Use
Injection Drugs



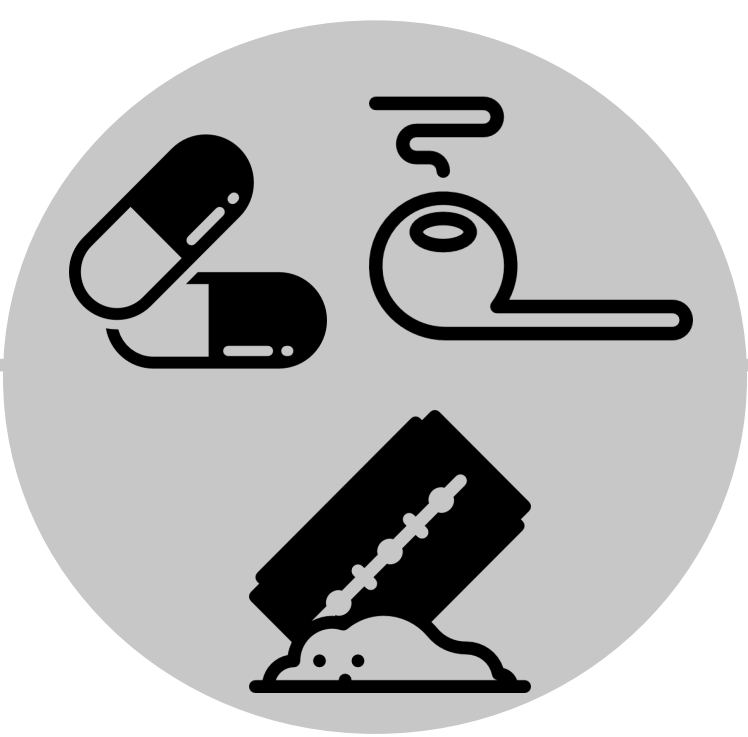
People Who Are or
Were Incarcerated



Baby Boomers, or
Those Born Between
1946 and 1964



People Who Have
Multiple Sex
Partners



People Who Use
Non-Injection
Drugs



People Who
Were Born to a
Mother with
Hepatitis B Virus

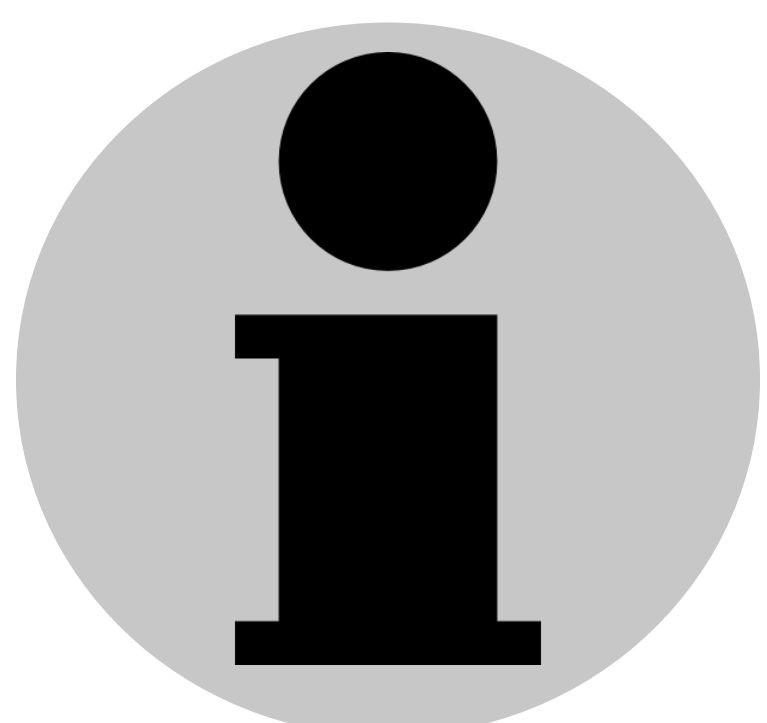
Other risk factors include men who have sex with men, having a sexually transmitted disease, living with a person with chronic hepatitis B, and sharing personal care items.

Prevention



The best way to prevent it is by getting the hepatitis B vaccine. The vaccine is usually given as 3 to 4 shots over 6 months.

For More Information, Visit:



1. www.maine.gov/dhhs/hepatitis
2. www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hbv

You can also call Maine CDC at 1-800-821-5821.
