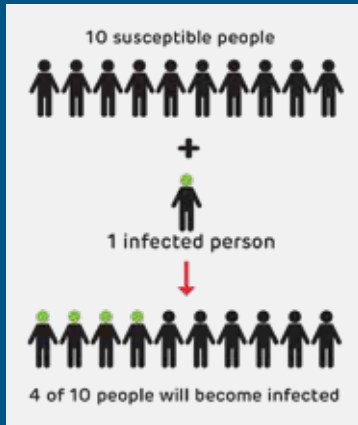


Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B virus attacks the liver, but many people don't know they're infected until decades later when they develop *hepatitis* (inflammation of the liver), *cirrhosis* (severe liver disease), or *cancer of the liver*.

Contagiousness & Spread

How contagious is hep B?



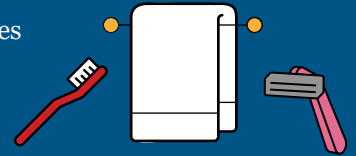
How does it spread?

Hepatitis B is transmitted primarily through blood and body fluids.

Chronically infected individuals have so much virus in their blood that they can spread the virus with amounts of blood not visible to the human eye.

Even casual contact with the blood of someone who is infected can cause infection. This includes sharing common items, like:

- Washcloths
- Toothbrushes
- Razors



Symptoms & Timeline

Stage 1 symptoms

- Fever
- Vomiting
- Nausea
- Rash
- Abdominal pain
- Headache
- Rash
- Dark-colored urine

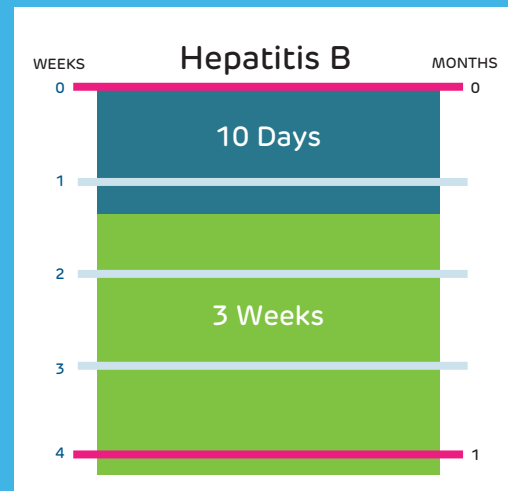
Stage 2 symptoms

- Jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes)
- Discoloration of feces
- Enlarged and tender liver

Stage 1 usually lasts about 10 days.

Stage 2 usually lasts about 3 weeks.

Some people can develop an infection that lasts a lifetime. They may not realize they are infected until they develop liver cancer or liver failure.



Who Should Get the Vaccine?



Infants

3 doses (first dose within 24 hours of birth)



Adults up to 60 years of age

2 or 3 doses (depending on vaccine)



Adults older than 60 years who wish to be protected

2 or 3 doses (depending on vaccine)

GO TO [VACCINE.CHOP.EDU](https://vaccine.chop.edu) FOR MORE INFORMATION.