



Hepatitis C

After Liver Transplant

You received a donor liver that has the hepatitis C virus (HCV) and you will likely develop hepatitis C. Treatment is available and it is very successful.

Review this information to learn more about hepatitis C and what you will need to do.

What is hepatitis C?

Hepatitis C is a viral infection of the liver that is caused by HCV. Most often the virus is spread when blood from a person infected with HCV enters another person. People are most likely to be infected with hepatitis C by sharing needles, syringes, or any other equipment used to inject drugs.

Protect your family

HCV can be spread, but only through blood to blood contact. Spreading the virus between household members is rare.

HCV is not spread by hugging, kissing, sneezing, coughing, sharing eating utensils or drinking glasses. It is not spread by casual contact.

Although the risk is low, we do recommend that you do not share razors, toothbrushes, glucose monitors and other tools that may be exposed to blood.

Sexual transmission

Passing HCV during sex is rare but we recommend that you use a latex condom until you are cleared of the hepatitis C infection.

Treatment

When the strain of HCV you have is identified, the best drug to treat the infection will be used. Length of treatment can vary but it is often around 12 weeks. Cure rates are very good. The transplant team will check your blood to be sure the hepatitis C virus is gone after treatment.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

For more health information, go to wexnermedical.osu.edu/patiented, call 614-293-3707 or email health-info@osu.edu.