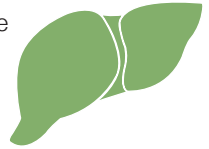


Hepatitis B Vaccination for Adults

What is Hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a virus that affects the liver. Many people never feel sick, but the virus can still cause long-term liver problems if not treated. The good news:



There is a safe vaccine to stop people from getting hepatitis B.

How do people get hepatitis B?

The hepatitis B virus can live in blood and sexual fluids. People can get hepatitis B through:



From a pregnant person with hepatitis B to their baby at birth



Sex without a condom



Sharing any injecting drug equipment



Unsterile tattooing, piercing or medical procedures

Hepatitis B is NOT passed on by touching skin, hugging, kissing, sharing food or coughing.

Who should get the vaccine?

Most people need the vaccine, especially if they:

- ✓ Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- ✓ Live with or have close contact with someone who has hepatitis B
- ✓ Have hepatitis C or any other liver disease
- ✓ Inject drugs or have ever injected drugs
- ✓ Have a weakened immune system
- ✓ Are in prison or have ever been in prison
- ✓ Work in healthcare or other jobs where they may contact blood
- ✓ Do sex work
- ✓ Are a man who has sex with men
- ✓ Travel to countries where hepatitis B is common
- ✓ Moved from a country where hepatitis B is common



The vaccine is free for most people.

How many doses do I need?



3
doses

6
months

Most adults need **3 doses** over **6 months**. **It's important to get all three doses to be fully protected.**

Are there any side effects?

The vaccine has been given safely for many years and most people do not get any side effects. Some people may experience mild side effects for a short time:



Sore arm



Tiredness



Headache

You cannot get hepatitis B from the vaccine.

Vaccine due dates:

	DUE DATE	DATE GIVEN
DOSE 1		
DOSE 2		
DOSE 3		



If you have questions, talk to your doctor or nurse or scan the QR code for more detailed information.

Better Health Channel: Hepatitis B – immunisation

HepLink Australia

HepLink links anyone in Australia to free hepatitis information, support and treatment. Health workers can also call HepLink for support and referral. **Call 1800 437 222**