



Understanding the hepatitis B Blood Test

I've had my hepatitis B blood test. Now what?

I'm protected against hepatitis B.
Now you could help your family and friends be protected.

I have no protection against hepatitis B.
You need a hepatitis B vaccination.

The vaccination is a course of three* injections that are given over 6 months.
*4 doses are required if you live with a hepatitis B positive person.

PEACE Multicultural Services can help you access hepatitis B vaccinations and link you with a vaccination service.

I have hepatitis B.
You need a follow up plan to prevent the risk of liver damage/cancer/premature death.
Maintaining follow up is very important.

See your family doctor and the viral hepatitis nurse to find out how to keep your liver healthy.

Have your family members tested for hepatitis B.

This resource was developed by PEACE Multicultural Services, Relationships Australia SA Ltd, 49a Orsmund Street, Hindmarsh South Australia SA

Contact us for more information.
Telephone: (08) 8245 8100
www.rasa.org.au

Other Useful Contacts:

Clinic 275
275 North Terrace, Adelaide
Telephone: (08) 8222 5075

Aboriginal Health Council of SA
220 Franklin Street, Adelaide
Telephone: (08) 8273 7200

Hepatitis SA
3 Hackney Road, Hackney
Telephone: (08) 8362 8443

SHINE SA
www.shinesa.org.au/find-clinic
Telephone: 1300 794 584

For information about the viral hepatitis nurses:
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/hepatitisnurse

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An easy to follow guide on hepatitis B testing for you and your family.



I have not done hepatitis B testing because...

I don't understand why it's important or relevant to me.

I'm afraid.

You are at risk if born in Asia, Africa, and other regions with moderate or high rates of hepatitis B.

Other people can get hepatitis B if they don't have protection against it.

- I might have a disease.
 - I don't want to be isolated from my family and community.
 - I might not be able to get a job.
 - I might not be able to get married and have kids.
 - I might not get a visa.
 - Other concerns.
- If you have hepatitis B you are protected against discrimination in Australia by the law, and there are many services to help you address your concerns.

If you are not protected against hepatitis B you can get infected.

- The babies of pregnant women who have hepatitis B need special care.
- Sexual partners can get hepatitis B through unprotected sex.
- People can get hepatitis B through:
 - Sharing needles and drug equipment.
 - Tattoos and body piercings where needles and injecting equipment are shared and reused.
 - Blood transfusions in countries that do not have high health and safety standards.
 - Wound contact.
 - Sharing toothbrushes and razors.
 - Reusing syringes and medical equipment (medical equipment is not reused in Australia).

Hepatitis B is **NOT** spread through:

- Sharing food or water, eating utensils or drinking glasses.
- Coughing or sneezing, hugging or kissing, mosquitoes.

GET TESTED, GET VACCINATED
Protect yourself from getting infected.

GET TESTED – Protect others from getting infected.

GET SUPPORT
Discuss your fears and learn more about hepatitis B with a specialist worker/counsellor.

