



MEMBER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: HEPATITIS C TREATMENT INFORMATION

What is hepatitis C?

According to the CDC, hepatitis C is a liver infection caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV). It spreads through contact with blood from someone with hepatitis C. It is possible to have hepatitis C and not experience symptoms. Once symptoms do appear, it often means there is advanced liver disease. Over half of those who have hepatitis C suffer long-term, life-threatening health problems like cirrhosis (liver scarring) and liver cancer.

How is hepatitis C spread?

Common ways the virus can be spread include:

- Sharing personal hygiene products like toothbrushes, razors and nail clippers
- Dialysis
- Blood transfusions
- Injection drug use
- Sexual contact
- Getting a piercing or tattoo with a needle that has not been properly cleaned

You cannot “catch” hepatitis C the way you can catch other viruses like a cold, the flu, COVID, etc. Hepatitis C can only be spread if you come in contact with the blood of someone who has hepatitis C.

How can I prevent hepatitis C?

The best way to protect yourself is to not share personal hygiene products like your toothbrush, razor, nail trimmers or anything else that could come into contact with your blood. You can also protect yourself by using condoms during sexual contact and only getting a tattoo or piercing from a licensed shop with safety measures in place.

What are the symptoms of hepatitis C?

In most cases, there are no noticeable symptoms of hepatitis C. This means you can have the virus and not even know it. If you do feel symptoms, the most common are tiredness and depression. These symptoms could also be mistaken for other health issues, so hepatitis C can still go undiagnosed without testing.



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WEBSITES

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mysoonerCare.org



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Should I get tested?

The CDC recommends anyone age 18 or older get a one-time test for hepatitis C. You should especially consider getting tested if you have any of the risk factors for the virus.

How do I get tested?

Visit your primary care provider and ask to be screened and tested for hepatitis C. A hepatitis C test is a simple blood test that checks for the virus.

If you do not already have a doctor that accepts SoonerCare, you can search for one through your health plan or through the provider directory.

For individuals without SoonerCare benefits, free/low cost testing may be available in your area.

What happens if I test positive for hepatitis C?

If you test positive for hepatitis C, ask your doctor about hepatitis C medications, also called direct acting anti-viral medication. SoonerCare covers all FDA-approved direct acting anti-viral medications.

Ask if prescription MAVYRET® is right for you. If your doctor prescribes this treatment, you will simply need to take three pills once a day with food for the course of your treatment. MAVYRET is proven to cure hepatitis C 98% of the time. MAVYRET is available to be prescribed by your primary care physician and does not require a prior authorization.

What are the side effects of MAVYRET?

The most common side effects of MAVYRET are headaches and tiredness. Although rare, there are also other serious side effects that could occur. Your doctor should monitor you throughout your treatment and check for signs and symptoms of worsening liver problems.

When will I know if I am cured?

You will be considered cured if no hepatitis C virus is found in your blood test three months after you finish hepatitis C treatment. MAVYRET is proven to cure hepatitis C 98% of the time.



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