Hepatitis Resources

Washington DC

HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD & TB Administration
Department of Health
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Viral hepatitis is a major public health problem in Washington DC. Nation-wide, it is estimated that more than 1.2 million people are living with chronic hepatitis B and at least 3.2 million people are living with chronic hepatitis C. The most recent epidemiological update for the District of Columbia includes the first ever viral hepatitis surveillance data. The data shows that from 2004-2008, 11,624 cases of chronic hepatitis C infection and 3,530 cases of chronic hepatitis B were reported. Efforts are currently underway to scale up prevention, harm reduction, screening, and training of the providers that serve at risk populations.

This directory provides information about the following services:
- where to get vaccinated for hepatitis A and hepatitis B
- where testing is available for hepatitis

Included in this guide is basic information about viral hepatitis and links to important resources throughout Washington DC. The guide also includes a list of valuable internet websites with important information on many topics related to viral hepatitis.

We look forward to adding and updating more services with your help in the future. In the meantime, we hope that this directory will be able to provide a good starting point.
The word "hepatitis" means inflammation of the liver and also refers to a group of viral infections that affect the liver. The most common types are Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C.

**Viral hepatitis is an important public health issue:**
The chart on the next page describes how Hepatitis A, B and C are transmitted, how it can be prevented and what happens if someone becomes infected. Viral hepatitis prevention information is especially important because even though viral hepatitis is preventable, each year in the US it is estimated that 43,000 people will become infected with Hepatitis B, 17,000 will become infected with Hepatitis C and 25,000 persons will become infected with Hepatitis A.

**Vaccines can prevent hepatitis A and B:**
Vaccination is very effective at preventing hepatitis A and B. Hepatitis A vaccination is now a standard of care for all infants over 1 year of age and vaccination for hepatitis B is given to anyone 18 years old or younger and all infants at birth. Depending on the different types of vaccine, 2-4 doses are required to provide full protection.

People who were not vaccinated as children and who are at risk for viral hepatitis should be vaccinated as soon as possible. Adults who are at risk for viral hepatitis include:

- immigrants from areas of the world with high rates of viral hepatitis
- people traveling to areas with high rates of hepatitis A or B
- injection drug users
- men who have sex with men
- people with multiple sexual partners
- people who are incarcerated
- people who received clotting factor before 1987
- household members of people living with hepatitis B
- people living with HIV
- people living with liver disease.

**Screening for Viral Hepatitis**
The only way to know for sure if you have been infected with hepatitis A, B or C is to be tested. People are not routinely screened for viral hepatitis so even if a person has seen a doctor he or she should not assume that testing was done. There are different tests for each type of viral hepatitis. The decision about whether to get tested depends on a person’s health behaviors and other factors which are described in the chart on the next page.

**Hepatitis: The Silent Disease**
Hepatitis is often called the silent disease because people will often have no symptoms. The symptoms of Hepatitis A, B and C, when they occur, are similar. The symptoms include: jaundice (skin turning yellow), nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dark urine or pale stool, loss of appetite, fatigue or joint pain. Even though the symptoms are similar, one type of hepatitis does not progress to become another type of hepatitis – for example, hepatitis A can not develop into hepatitis B.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Type of hepatitis</strong></th>
<th><strong>Hepatitis A</strong></th>
<th><strong>Hepatitis B</strong></th>
<th><strong>Hepatitis C</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What body fluids can transmit the virus?</strong></td>
<td>Feces</td>
<td>Blood, semen, vaginal secretions</td>
<td>Blood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What activities can pass the virus?</strong></td>
<td>Eating food prepared by an infected person who did not wash properly after going to the bathroom; Eating uncooked shellfish Any contact between the mouth and an infected person’s feces or anus</td>
<td>Unprotected sexual intercourse Sharing equipment used to inject drugs</td>
<td>Sharing equipment used to inject drugs Unprotected sexual intercourse, but this is less common</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How it can be prevented?</strong></td>
<td>Vaccination Early childhood vaccination was started in xxxx. People over the age of xx who are at risk should be vaccinated</td>
<td>Vaccination Early childhood vaccination was started in 1991. People over the age of xx who are at risk should be vaccinated</td>
<td>Avoid sharing injection drug equipment; use a new, clean syringe every time you inject Use condoms consistently and correctly every time you have sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What happens if someone becomes infected?</strong></td>
<td>Hepatitis A is a short term illness that clears on its own within 6 months No specific treatment is available except rest, drinking plenty of fluids, over the counter medications to control symptoms</td>
<td>About 85% of people who become infected with hepatitis B are able to clear the virus and will not have it for life. About 15% develop lifelong infection and approximately 15-40% of these people will develop liver damage (cirrhosis) or liver cancer over 10-25 years. Treatment is available to help slow the disease</td>
<td>About 20% of people who become infected with hepatitis C are able to clear the virus and will not have it for life. About 80% develop lifelong infection and approximately 5-20% of these people will develop liver damage (cirrhosis) or liver cancer over 10-25 years. Treatment is available with a success rate of about 50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You can access additional information on the Department of Health website
<www.doh.dc.gov/hepatitis>

Accessing Services: Different Types of Services

VACCINATION
The medical homes listed on the following pages can provide vaccination against Hepatitis A and B for their current clients.
| Name of Agency | Address | Phone | Days and Hours of Operation | Vaccination Available | Appointment Only Required? | What Should the Client Do? | Does the Agency Refer Clients? | Sliding Scale/Sliding Fee?
|----------------|---------|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Bread for the city | 1525 7th St. NW Washington DC 20001 | 202-265-2400 | Monday-Thursday 9am-12pm & 1-5pm. The Clinic Will Also Be Open On Tuesday Evenings 5-6:30pm. | Yes (A&B) | Appointment Only: Call Bread For The City To See If You Are Eligible To Be A Client | Free For Clients | Yes (A&B) | No
| Carl Vogel Center | 1012 Fourteenth Street NW Suite 700 Washington DC 20005 | 202-638-0705 | Monday 9:00am-8:00pm; Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm | Yes (A&B) | Walk-Ins With Insurance, Walk-Ins Without Insurance, And Clients Who Make Appointments | Does Offer Free Vaccines Often Charges On A Sliding Scale Based On Client's Income | Yes-Call To Set Up An Appointment Or Walk-Ins | No
| Christ House | 1717 Columbia Road, NW Washington DC 20009 | 205-328-1100 | Open 24 Hours 7 Days/Week | Yes (A&B) | Walk-Ins With Insurance, Walk-Ins Without Insurance, And Clients Who Make Appointments | Sliding Scale; Free | Yes-Call To Set Up An Appointment Or Walk-Ins | No
| Congress Heights Community Health Center | 3720 MLK Jr. Ave SE Washington DC 20032 | 202-279-1800 | Monday-Friday 8:15 AM-4:45 PM | Yes (A&B) | Unity Clients Only. Walk-Ins Are Not Accepted. Hepatitis Vaccines Are Provided By Appointment Only And Are Typically Scheduled The Next Day | Did Not Know But They Are Not Free | No, Only Accept Unity Clients | No
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address/Location</th>
<th>Hours of Operation</th>
<th>Referrals Accepted</th>
<th>Walk-In Services</th>
<th>Payment Information</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dc Department Of Health Immunization Program</td>
<td>6323 Georgia Avenue, NW, Suite 305, Washington DC</td>
<td>No Hours Listed (202-576-7130)</td>
<td>Yes(A&amp;B)</td>
<td>Walk-Ins Without Insurance</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Yes, They Can Make Referrals To The Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dc Developing Families Center-DOH Immunization Clinics</td>
<td>801 17th Street, NE, Washington DC</td>
<td>4:30pm-7:30pm, 2nd &amp; 4th Tuesday Of Each Month (202-398-5520)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Walk-Ins With Out Insurance</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>They Send A Written Statement Of What The Client Needs To Receive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimensions Health Care System</td>
<td>3001 Hospital Dr. Cheverly Md 20785</td>
<td>Open 24 Hours 7 Days/Week (301-583-4000)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Walk-Ins Without Insurance</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Refer Clients To Other Clinics(NIH The Phoenix Center, Georgetown GW, And Howard) For Services As Needed Depending On Individual Client Needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family And Medical Counseling Service Inc</td>
<td>2041 MLK Jr Ave, SE M2, Washington DC 20020</td>
<td>M-F 9:00-5:00, Sat 9:00-2:00 (Note: Plan To Began Evening Hours On Tuesday's Beginning May 18th That Will Extend To 8:00pm (202-889-7900)</td>
<td>Yes(A&amp;B) Those Insured Unless HIV Positive</td>
<td>Did Not Know Exact Cost, Depends On Insurance</td>
<td>Call And Make An Appointment</td>
<td>Refer Clients To Other Clinics(NIH The Phoenix Center, Georgetown GW, And Howard) For Services As Needed Depending On Individual Client Needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Avenue Express Clinic</td>
<td>6323 Ave NW, Washington DC 20011</td>
<td>Not Listed (Monday-and Tuesdays, 10am-2pm, 202-576-7130)</td>
<td>Yes(A&amp;B)</td>
<td>Walk-Ins Without Insurance</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Unity Health Care Inc., White Man Walker Clinic, Bread For The City, La Clinica De Pueblo, SOME.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This Clinic Provides "Immunization Only" At No Cost

Referrals Must Be For The District residents Who Have no Health Insurance Or Are Underinsured

Referring Agency/Physician Must Provide Referrals With Vaccinations Needed
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinic Services: Gastroenterology And Liver Disease</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Appointment</th>
<th>Sliding Scale</th>
<th>Cost Depends On The Vaccines</th>
<th>Insurance Taken</th>
<th>Insurance Is Not Paid Out Of The Pocket, No Sliding Scale</th>
<th>Call Travel Clinic To Make An Appointment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GWU Medical Faculty Associates</td>
<td>22nd st Nw &amp; I St Nw 3rd Floor Washington Dc 20037</td>
<td>202-741-2126</td>
<td>Mon-Fri; 8-5</td>
<td>Yes(A&amp;B)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, They Can Refer Them To The Travel Clinic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard University Hospital</td>
<td>2041 Georgie Ave Washington DC 20060</td>
<td>202-865-6100</td>
<td>Open 24 Hours 7Days /Week</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Appointment Only With Insurance</td>
<td>Based On The Client's Insurance Coverage</td>
<td>Yes But Client needs Insurance And Needs To Make An Appointment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Clinica Del Pueblo</td>
<td>2831 15th street NW Washington Dc 20009</td>
<td>202-462-4788</td>
<td>M-F 8:30-5:00, Wednesday 8:30 to 9:00 Om</td>
<td>Yes(A&amp;B)</td>
<td>Appointment Only: Insurances Accepted Included: DC Medicaid, Chartered Health Plan, Health Right Inc., Medicare Unison Health Plan. Both Insured And Uninsured Clients Can Receive Vaccines But Priority Is Given To Those As Higher Risk</td>
<td>Free. If Client Has Insurance, Then The Insurance Covers The Cost. Otherwise the Vaccine Is Free</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAP</td>
<td>1949 4t St N.E Washington Dc 20002</td>
<td>202-462-7500</td>
<td>Open 24 Hours 7Days /Week</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>So Others Might Eat</td>
<td>60 'O' Street NW Washington Dc 20001</td>
<td>202-797-8806</td>
<td>M-F 8:00am-4:00pm</td>
<td>Yes(A&amp;B)</td>
<td>Yes-Call To Set Up An Appointment Or Walk-In</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Requires Appointment</td>
<td>Accepts Walk-ins</td>
<td>Sliding Scale</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Medical Center</td>
<td>1310 Southern Ave SE Washington DC 20032</td>
<td>202-574-6141</td>
<td>Open 24 Hours 7Days/Week</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free For Clients</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unity HealthCare Re-Entry program</td>
<td>1604 Morris Road SE Washington DC 20020</td>
<td>202-715-1601</td>
<td>M-F 8:00am-4:00pm</td>
<td>Yes(A&amp;B)</td>
<td>Prefer Appointment, Walk-In Accepted</td>
<td>The Health Professional Could Either Call To Make An Appointment For The Client Or Provide Documentation The Client Needs The Vaccine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unity:Phoenix Center</td>
<td>1900 Massachusetts Ave., SE Washington DC, 20009</td>
<td>202-548-7620</td>
<td>M-F 8:00am-4:00pm</td>
<td>Yes(A&amp;B) and Twinrix</td>
<td>Sliding Scale Based On Clients</td>
<td>Will Not Turn Away Any Clients</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Cardozo</td>
<td>3020 14th St NW Washington DC 20009</td>
<td>202-745-4300</td>
<td>M-F 8:30am-5:00pm</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You can access additional information on the Department of Health website 
<www.doh.dc.gov/hepatitis>

Accessing Services: Different Types of Services

SCREENING

The medical homes listed on the following pages can provide screening for their current clients to help a person learn whether they are infected with viral hepatitis.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Organization</th>
<th>Type of Hep Screening</th>
<th>How is it offered</th>
<th>Associated Fee</th>
<th>Next Steps/ Protocol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Howard University Hospital</td>
<td>Hep C</td>
<td>Appointment with Insurance</td>
<td>Based on Clients eligibility</td>
<td>Client schedules an appointment with primary physician.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Clinica del Pueblo</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Appointment Only</td>
<td>Based on Client’s eligibility</td>
<td>Insurance company may require prior authorization. Primary care clients only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bread for the City</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Appointment Only</td>
<td>Free – for Primary Care clients</td>
<td>Testing and subsequent services is offered to current BFC primary Care clients only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unity Healthcare Re-entry</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Walk-in, Appointment</td>
<td>Free – for current clients</td>
<td>Testing and services for current clients only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Medical Center</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Appointment Only</td>
<td>Not Known</td>
<td>Positive patients are referred to medical providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimensions Health Care System</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Appointment Only</td>
<td>Not Known</td>
<td>Positive patients referred to appropriate medical provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andromeda</td>
<td>A, B</td>
<td>Walk-ins with Insurance</td>
<td>Based on Clients Insurance</td>
<td>Uninsured clients referred to Unity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOME</td>
<td>A, B, C</td>
<td>Walk ins with Insurance</td>
<td>Free but agency immediately enrolls person in public insurance because thus is primarily a homeless clinic</td>
<td>Positive Patients are referred to Phoenix Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWU Medical Faculty</td>
<td>A, B, C</td>
<td>Appointment Only</td>
<td>No free services</td>
<td>Doctor decides based on each client</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAP</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Appointments for</td>
<td>Free for current clients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Current Clients</td>
<td>Current Clients</td>
<td>Referral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress Height Community</td>
<td>A, B, C</td>
<td>Appointments Only</td>
<td>Not Known</td>
<td>Referred to a medical provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unity: Phoenix Center</td>
<td>A, B, C</td>
<td>All patients</td>
<td>Sliding-Scale</td>
<td>Referred to Dr. Pistole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMCS</td>
<td>A, B, C</td>
<td>Appointment Only</td>
<td>Based on clients insurance / HIV status</td>
<td>Referral to appropriate health care provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Vogel Center</td>
<td>A, B, C</td>
<td>Appointment Only</td>
<td>Sliding-Scale</td>
<td>Referral to appropriate health care provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitman Walker Clinic – STD Clinic (Tuesdays and Thursdays 6pm)</td>
<td>B, C</td>
<td>No appointment necessary. Clients seen on first come, first serve basis but arrival before 5:30pm is recommended to ensure service.</td>
<td>$10-15</td>
<td>Referral to appropriate health care provider</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An important purpose of this guide is to provide concrete information about services available for people living with hepatitis C. If you have recently tested positive for hepatitis C, know that you are not alone. In Washington DC there are more than 11,000 people living with hepatitis C.

Know your HCV Status
The only way to know for sure if you have hepatitis C is to get tested. Some of the screening sites listed in this guide may offer antibody testing for hepatitis C. In about 20% of the cases of hepatitis C, a person’s body is able to fight off the infection and clear the virus. This means, the person may test positive for antibodies but may not have lifelong infection. In order to know if you have lifelong infection (also called chronic infection) it is important to have a confirmatory test, such as an HCV viral load test.

Get Medical Care
Hepatitis C is known as a “silent epidemic” because people can live with the infection for many years without any noticeable symptoms. People with chronic hepatitis C should be monitored regularly for signs of liver disease. Even though a person may not feel sick, damage to the liver can still occur. People with hepatitis C should get medical care that includes:

- An initial physical exam and medical history
- Liver function tests
- Viral load and genotype testing
- Vaccination for hepatitis A and B
- Routine health maintenance and evaluation for other problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure and other diseases.

To evaluate the health of your liver, your medical provider may want to conduct an ultrasound or biopsy of your liver.

Talk with your Provider About Treatment
Antiviral medication can be used to treat some people with hepatitis C but not everyone needs or can benefit from treatment. The decision to undergo treatment is an individual one that you would make in consultation with your medical provider.

Reduce Alcohol Consumption
One of the most important steps that all people living with hepatitis can take to protect their health is to reduce or eliminate alcohol consumption. Even small amounts of alcohol, 2-3 drinks per day, may speed up liver damage in people with hepatitis C. People living with hepatitis C should talk with their doctor before taking prescription or over the counter medications, herbal supplements or vitamins. It is important to avoid large amounts (2000 mg) of acetaminophen (Tylenol and other non-aspirin pain relievers) because they are toxic to the liver.

Learn About How to Maximize Your Health
Other important steps that can help improve health and quality of life for people living with HCV include: eating a healthy, balanced diet, drinking plenty of water, getting 8 hours of sleep each night, getting exercise, and taking steps to reduce stress.
Step by Step Guide: Living with Hepatitis C

If you are living with chronic hepatitis C there are a number of helpful websites and brochures to help you navigate through the process of learning your status to accessing care and treatment:

**HCV Advocate**
The HCV advocate is a national organization with expertise around HCV. Their website provides information on hepatitis C treatment options, articles, newsletters and a host of resources for people living with HCV.

[http://www.hcvadvocate.org](http://www.hcvadvocate.org)

Specific materials of interest from HCV Advocate include:

*First Steps for Living with HCV*
Brochure prepared by the HCV Advocate. Offers suggestions for managing the early phases of living with an HCV diagnosis.
[http://hcvadvocate.org/hepatitis/First_Steps.asp](http://hcvadvocate.org/hepatitis/First_Steps.asp)

*Guide to Healthy Living with HCV*
Brochure prepared by the HCV Advocate. Provides a guide for living with HCV.

**Hepatitis C Caring Ambassadors**
The Hepatitis C Caring Ambassadors Program mission is to improve the lives of people living with hepatitis C through information and awareness.

[http://www.hepchallenge.org](http://www.hepchallenge.org)

*Hepatitis C Choices:*
Hepatitis C Choices is a book available online to help people living with HCV become the best possible advocate for their own healthcare. It provides useful information to help you make treatment and lifestyle choices that are right for you.

[http://www.hepchallenge.org/choices/disclaimer.htm](http://www.hepchallenge.org/choices/disclaimer.htm)

**Hep C Primer**
Find answers to your most pressing Hep C and liver support questions. Award-winning site developed by a patient to help you learn the facts

[http://www.hepcprimer.com](http://www.hepcprimer.com)
Patient assistance programs are run by pharmaceutical companies to provide free medications to people who cannot afford to buy their medicine. Pharmaceutical companies have a long-standing tradition of providing prescription medicines free of charge to physicians whose patients might not otherwise have access to necessary medicines. Pharmaceutical companies operate these programs, commonly referred to as patient assistance programs, voluntarily. Many drug manufacturers offer patient assistance programs, which can greatly decrease or entirely eliminate the costs of many medications.

RxAssist Directory of Patient Assistance Programs:

RxAssist offers a comprehensive database of these patient assistance programs, as well as practical tools, news, and articles so that health care professionals and patients can find the information they need. All in one place: [www.rxassist.org](http://www.rxassist.org)

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance brings together America's pharmaceutical companies, doctors, other health care providers, patient advocacy organizations and community groups to help qualifying patients who lack prescription coverage get the medicines they need through the public or private program that's right for them. Many will get them free or nearly free. Among the organizations collaborating on this program are the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association, the Lupus Foundation of America, the NAACP, the National Alliance for Hispanic Health and the National Medical Association. To access the Partnership for Prescription Assistance by phone, you can call toll-free, 1-888-4PPA-NOW / 1-888-477-2669 [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org)

Please note that the requirements for program eligibility vary. Some programs may be applied for directly by the patient, whereas other program applications must be initiated by the healthcare provider (physician, pharmacist or agency). Below are a few telephone numbers you can call to ask questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCT NAME</th>
<th>PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY AND CONTACT INFO</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Epivir HBV (lamuvidine)</td>
<td>GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals <a href="http://www.hepatitisbhelp.com">www.hepatitisbhelp.com</a>  <a href="http://www.gskforyou.com">www.gskforyou.com</a> 866-PATIENT / 866-728-4368</td>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baraclude (entecavir)</td>
<td>Bristol-Myers Squibb <a href="http://www.bmspaf.org">www.bmspaf.org</a> 800-736-0003</td>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRODUCT NAME</td>
<td>PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY AND CONTACT INFO</td>
<td>TYPE</td>
</tr>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyzeka (telbivudine)</td>
<td>Idenix Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation <a href="http://www.idenix.com">www.idenix.com</a> 877-8-TYZEKA / 877-889-9352</td>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pegasys/Copegus Combination (Peginterferon alfa-2a+Ribavirin)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebetron (Ribavirin, capsules) Peg-Intron (Peg Interferon alfa-2b) powder for injection</td>
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<tr>
<td>RibaPak™ (ribavirin) Tablets</td>
<td>Three Rivers Pharmaceuticals <a href="http://www.3riverspharma.com/pat_riba.html">www.3riverspharma.com/pat_riba.html</a> RibaCare® 866-650-RIBA</td>
<td>Hepatitis C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infergen (Interferon alfacon-1)</td>
<td>Valeant Pharmaceuticals Infergent Aspire Nursing and Reimbursement Support program <a href="http://www.infergen.com/5-Aspire/6-Reimbursement.html">www.infergen.com/5-Aspire/6-Reimbursement.html</a> 888-MOVE-FWD / 888-668-3393</td>
<td>Hepatitis C</td>
</tr>
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Useful Hepatitis Websites

**National Organization and Resources**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
CDC Viral Hepatitis home page provides links to hepatitis fact sheets, resource center, on-line training, reports and recommendations.


**CDC Hepatitis Coordinator Website Portal**
This website serves as a home page for AVHPCs with a list of AVHPCs, link to each state’s hepatitis webpage, glossary, bibliography and a host of other resources.


**CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report**
This weekly report provides updated information on specific diseases as reported by state and territorial health departments. It is a good source for updated CDC recommendations, reports and other items of interest to the public health community.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/?s_cid=mmwr_online](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/?s_cid=mmwr_online)

**Immunization Action Coalition**
Everything you ever wanted to know about immunization including vaccine information sheets, brochures, vaccine recommendation information and other related resources. You can access several important publications such as IAC Express, Hep Express and Needle Tips. Hepprograms.org is a useful catalogue of different hepatitis-based programs around the country.

[http://immunize.org](http://immunize.org) and [http://www.hepprograms.org/heapexpress/](http://www.hepprograms.org/heapexpress/)

**American Liver Foundation**
This website provides information on liver diseases, as well as advocacy for education, treatment and research funding.


**National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)**
An important resource for information about hepatitis integration, legislative updates that impact viral hepatitis, advocacy issues and other important topics.

[http://nastad.org/Programs/viralhepatitis/](http://nastad.org/Programs/viralhepatitis/)

**National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable**
The National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable is a coalition of public, private, and voluntary organizations dedicated to reducing the incidence of infection, morbidity, and mortality from viral hepatitis in the US through strategic planning, leadership, advocacy, and research.

Useful Hepatitis Websites

Hepatitis Central
This website is dedicated to providing in-depth and cutting edge information for Hepatitis C patients and their families, caregivers and health professionals.

www.hepatitis-central.com

The Liver Transplant Support Forum - National Institutes of Health

www.nih.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
The VA is the largest single provider of medical care to people with hepatitis C in the United States and provides the highest quality, comprehensive care to Veterans.

www.hepatitis.va.gov

Living with Hepatitis C

HCV Advocate
This website provides information on hepatitis C treatment options, articles, newsletters and a host of resources for people living with HCV.

http://www.hcvadvocate.org/

Hepatitis C Caring Ambassadors
The Hepatitis C Caring Ambassadors Program mission is to improve the lives of people living with hepatitis C through information and awareness.

http://www.hepcchallenge.org/

Hep C Primer
Find answers to your most pressing Hep C and liver support questions. Award-winning site developed by a patient to help you learn the facts

http://www.hepcprimer.com/

Hep C Vets
This website is provided by past and presents members of the United States Military with Hepatitis C (HCV) to assist fellow Retirees/Veterans / Active Military and Dependents with awareness to the Hepatitis C virus exposure methods during military service.

www.hcvets.com

Hep-C Alert
Hep-C Alert is a nonprofit organization established to raise awareness, provide health education, counseling, testing and linkage services to more than 30,000 people throughout the U.S.

www.hep-c-alert.org
Useful Hepatitis Websites

**Hep C Connection**
Hep C Connection is a hepatitis C-focused advocacy organization with a proven history of community education, patient support, and disease prevention strategies.

[www.hepc-connection.org](http://www.hepc-connection.org)

**HIV and Hepatitis C**

Mountain Plains AIDS Education and Training Center
The AIDS Education and Training Center with materials and resources on HIV and Hepatitis co-infection.


HIV and Hepatitis
This website provides information on HIV and viral hepatitis sponsored by pharmaceutical companies. The focus is on clinical issues related to HIV, viral hepatitis, and co-infection.


National AIDS Treatment and Advocacy Project
This website provides extensive information about HIV, HCV and HIV/HCV co-infection.


**Hepatitis B**

Asian Liver Center at Stanford
The Asian Liver Center at Stanford University is the first non-profit in the United States that addresses the high rate of hepatitis B and liver cancer in Asians and Asian Americans.

[www.liver.stanford.edu](http://www.liver.stanford.edu)

Hepatitis B Foundation
The only national organization dedicated to finding a cure and improving the quality of life for those affected by hepatitis B worldwide.

[www.hepb.org](http://www.hepb.org)

**Global Hepatitis**

World Health Organization (WHO)
This website provides fact sheets, information about travel and epidemiological data about viral hepatitis around the world.

[http://www.who.int/topics/hepatitis/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/hepatitis/en/)
Useful Hepatitis Websites

Hepatitis Foundation International
This website educates the public and healthcare providers about viral hepatitis and its prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Educational videos and other resources are available.

http://www.hepfi.org/

Clinical Information

Hepatitis Web Study
This website provides interactive, case-based modules related to the clinical care of persons with viral hepatitis.

http://depts.washington.edu/hepstudy/

American Gastroenterological Association
This is the website for the professional association of gastroenterologists and its purpose is to advance the science and practice of gastroenterology.

http://www.gastro.org/wmspage.cfm?parm1=2

American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
AASLD is a nonprofit, member organization for physicians and others striving to prevent and cure diseases of the liver.


Center Watch: Clinical Trials Listing Service
This website offers a state by state listing of clinical trials for viral hepatitis.

http://www.centerwatch.com/patient/studies/cat79.html

Hepatitis and Harm Reduction

Harm Reduction Coalition
The Harm Reduction Coalition is committed to reducing drug-related harm among individuals and communities by initiating and promoting harm reduction education, interventions, and community organizing.

http://www.harmreduction.org/

Harm Reduction Journal
Harm Reduction Journal is an Open Access, peer-reviewed, online journal whose focus is prevalent patterns of psychoactive drug use, the public policies meant to control them, and the search for effective methods of reducing the adverse medical, public health, and social consequences associated with both drugs and drug policies.

http://www.harmreductionjournal.com/home
Abdomen – The portion of the body located between the chest and the pelvis. Contains the stomach, lower part of the esophagus, small and large intestines, liver, gallbladder, spleen, pancreas, and bladder.

Acetaminophen – A type of medication used to relieve pain and fever. An example is Tylenol.

Acute illness – Acute refers to the short-term, initial stage of infection.

Adipose tissues – Fatty tissues.

Albumin – A protein produced by the liver that circulates in the blood.

Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) – A protein produced by cancerous liver cells.

Anemia – Condition in which there is a reduction in the number of circulating red blood cells, usually resulting in a decrease in the amount of oxygen in the blood.

Antibody – A molecule produced by the immune system in response to a foreign body such as a virus or bacteria. Antibodies circulate in the blood to protect against infection.

Antigen – A foreign substance that the body’s immune system identifies as potentially harmful.

Ascites – Fluid accumulation in the abdomen.

Asymptomatic – Without symptoms or signs of illness.

Autoimmune – A condition in which the body produces antibodies against normal parts of the body to such an extent as to cause tissue injury.

Benign – Not recurrent or progressive.

Bile – A fluid that is stored in the gallbladder for release when needed. Bile is necessary for the digestion of fats – it dissolves fat into small globules (similar to the way that detergent lifts oil off greasy plates). Bile also assists in the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins (i.e., vitamins A, D, E, and K) and converts beta-carotene to vitamin A.

Bilirubin – A product of red blood cells.

Biopsy – The removal of a small piece of living tissue for examination under a microscope. Usually performed to establish a diagnosis.

Chemotherapy – Chemical agents that have a specific and toxic effect upon the disease-causing microorganism.

Cholesterol – A soft, waxy substance found in all parts of the body. It is made in the liver and is also found in animal and diary products.

Chronic illness – An illness that lasts longer than six months.

Cirrhosis – Extensive scarring of the liver.

 Decompensated cirrhosis – A condition in which the liver becomes so scarred that blood can no longer flow through it.

Encephalopathy – Disease of the brain. Symptoms include confusion, disorientation, and insomnia, and can progress to coma.

Endemic – A disease that occurs continuously in a particular population.
Epidemiology – Investigation of the causes of, and ways to control, diseases.

Esophagus – The tube that carries food from the mouth to the stomach.

Fibrous – Composed of or containing fibers.

Fulminant – Sudden onset, most severe.

Gastroenterologist – A doctor that specializes in the function and disorders of the esophagus, stomach, pancreas, intestines, and liver.

Glucose – A sugar formed during digestion.

Glycogen – A substance found in the liver and muscles that is easily converted to glucose for energy.

Hemodialysis – The process of filtering the accumulated waste products from the blood of a person whose kidneys are not functioning properly, using a kidney machine.

Hepatitis – Inflammation of the liver. It may be caused by a variety of agents, including viral infections, bacterial invasion, and physical or chemical agents. Symptoms include fever, jaundice, and, usually, an enlarged liver.

Hepatitis A – Formerly called infectious hepatitis, hepatitis A is caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV). It is an acute infection and does not progress to chronic hepatitis or cirrhosis. Most patients recover completely within six to ten weeks. Hepatitis A is spread mainly via feces and contaminated food and water. A vaccine against the hepatitis A virus is available.

Hepatitis B – Formerly called serum hepatitis, it is caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV). About 10% of cases progress to chronic infection. It is transmitted through sexual contact with an infected individual, injection drug use, and other exposure to infected body fluids. A vaccine against the hepatitis B virus is available.

Hepatitis C – A form of hepatitis that was previously known as non-A, non-B hepatitis and is caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV). The Centers for Disease Control estimates 26,000 new cases each year, a marked decline in new infections since the virus was identified in 1988. There is no vaccine against hepatitis C virus.

Hepatitis D – Also called delta hepatitis, hepatitis D is caused by the hepatitis D virus (HDV). A person cannot be infected with HDV without current or simultaneous infection with hepatitis B virus. Hepatitis D infection is rare in the U.S. and occurs primarily in recipients of multiple blood transfusions, including patients with hemophilia or undergoing renal dialysis, and among those who share contaminated needles.

Hepatitis E – Also referred to as enterically transmitted non-A, non-B hepatitis, hepatitis E is caused by a waterborne virus (HEV). It is rare in the U.S. and occurs primarily in developing countries. Hepatitis E infection results in an acute infection much like hepatitis A. It does not cause chronic infection. It is spread by fecal contamination in water.

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) – Liver cancer.

Hepatocytes – Liver cells.

Hepatologist – A doctor who specializes in the study and treatment of liver disease.

Immunoglobulin – One of a family of closely related though not identical proteins capable of acting as antibodies.
Immunology – The branch of medicine that focuses on the immune system, immunity, and allergy.

Jaundice – Yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes.

Laparoscopic biopsy – A medical procedure performed when a tube (laparoscope) is inserted through an incision in the abdomen and a piece of tissue is removed.

Lipid – Component of fat.

Lipoproteins – A complex of lipids and proteins that carries lipids around the body.

Liver – The largest glandular organ in the body. It has many functions that include, but are not limited to the production of protein and cholesterol, the production of bile, the storage of sugar in the form of glycogen, and the breakdown of carbohydrates, fats, and proteins. The liver also breaks down and excretes many medications.

Malaise – Discomfort, uneasiness often indicates infection.

Nucleoside analogues – A class of HIV medications.

Pancreas – A long, irregularly shaped gland lying behind the stomach that secretes digestive enzymes and produces insulin.

Pathologist – A specialist in diagnosing the abnormal changes in tissues removed at operations and postmortem examinations.

Perinatal – Concerning the period beginning after the 28th week of pregnancy through 28 days following birth.

Perinatal Transmission – Transmission of an infectious disease from mother to infant. It can happen in the uterus, or during or after birth.

Peripheral edema – Fluid build up in the feet and ankles.

Phospholipid – A phosphorus-containing lipid found in cell membranes.

Polymerase inhibitors – A compound that stops an essential enzyme needed for viral replication.

Portal hypertension – High pressure in the liver, intestines, and spleen.

Prophylaxis – A type of treatment to prevent disease or stop it from spreading.

Protease inhibitor – A compound that breaks down proteins, inhibiting the replication of viruses such as HIV.

Prothrombin time (PT) – A measure of blood clotting.

Serologic testing – Blood test.

Transvenous biopsy – A procedure during which a tube is inserted into a vein in the neck, then a needle is put into the catheter to remove tissue samples.

Ultrasound – A test that uses a wand, which is placed on a body part such as the abdomen and moved back and forth to examine the shape, size, and appearance of the liver.

Variceal bleeding – Bleeding from blood vessels in the esophagus. This may occur in patients with cirrhosis.