

Questions to Ask Your Health Care Provider

Your health care provider is the best source of information for questions and concerns related to your medical problem. If you have been diagnosed with hepatitis B or think that you may be at risk for hepatitis B, here are some questions you can ask your doctor:

Screening/Testing

How do I know if I have hepatitis B?

What tests will I need to undergo?

Who should be tested for hepatitis B?

What should I do if I think I have been exposed to the hepatitis B virus?

Should I be tested for other liver diseases, such as hepatitis C or D?

Prevention

Where can I get my family, spouse, or sexual partner tested and vaccinated for hepatitis B? What do I need to do to protect them until they are completely vaccinated?

Should I be vaccinated to protect myself against hepatitis A?

Can the virus be spread to my family if I am infected?

Will sharing food or kissing/hugging spread hepatitis B to my family?

Treatment

What treatments are available?

Are there any side effects of the medications I should be on the lookout for?

What kind of monitoring do I need?

What are the goals of management?

What kind of hepatitis B infection do I have: a new "acute" infection or a "chronic" infection?

Am I a good candidate for treatment? If not, why not? If so, please explain why and tell me about the treatment options?

If I want to have children, should I wait to start treatment? If I need to start treatment now, at what point can I consider having children?

What should I change in my diet?