

Hepatitis C: What You Should Know

Synopsis

The bloodborne disease Hepatitis C – or HCV – is a viral disease that attacks the liver causing inflammation, cirrhosis, or cancer. This program utilizes comments from patients with Hepatitis C, doctors and researchers, all of whom share their firsthand experience with the disease. Methods of transmission are discussed in detail. These range from sharing infected drug needles or paraphernalia used for snorting drugs to needles used in body piercing, tattoos and blood transfusions. Certain types of HCV can be cured. Diagnosis can be tricky, however, since an infected person may not experience symptoms for up to thirty years after contracting the disease. The best defense against infection is education about HCV and how it is transmitted, along with making healthful lifestyle choices. Addressing viewers, patients discuss the things they are doing to keep themselves healthy, such as avoiding alcohol and other drugs, which put a strain on the liver.

Questions to ask before viewing

1. What is a bloodborne disease?
2. How are bloodborne diseases transmitted?
3. Which part of the body does Hepatitis C affect?

Questions to ask after viewing

1. What is Hepatitis C? (a viral disease that attacks the liver causing inflammation and eventually cirrhosis or cancer)
2. How is Hepatitis C transmitted? (through blood-to-blood contact)
3. What are some activities that may lead to transmission or contraction of Hepatitis C? (sharing drug needles or paraphernalia used for snorting powders, infected needles used in tattooing or piercing or blood transfusions)
4. What are some tips for staying healthy? (Stop using drugs, which inflame the liver. This includes alcohol. Other things to do are to eat healthful foods and limit

fat intake, which also puts a strain on the liver.)

5. What is the best defense against Hepatitis C? (lifestyle choices that support prevention and education to prevent transmission and contraction)
6. Where can you obtain more information? (Contact the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia or your local Community Health Agency.)

Annotation

This program provides practical information about the bloodborne disease Hepatitis C, or HCV. The video utilizes comments from persons infected with the virus, doctors and researchers – all of whom put a real face on the disease. HCV infects the liver, causing inflammation, cirrhosis or cancer. Methods of transmission are discussed in detail, as well as suggestions for living a healthful life that avoids exposure to the disease.

Length

10 Minutes

Health & Guidance Education

Audience Level

Grade 12–Adult

Catalog Number

2932-EN-VID

Related titles in the AIMS collection

#8808-EN-VID: Preventing Communicable Diseases: Colds, Flu, AIDS, STDs

#2647-EN-VID: Sexually Transmitted Diseases, 2nd Edition

#2815-EN-VID: Storm Warning: Teenagers and AIDS

#2928-EN-VID: Hepatitis C: What You Should Know (Patient Education Version)

Discussion Guide

Hepatitis C: What You Should Know

Objectives

- To present the viral disease Hepatitis C
- To examine methods of contraction and transmission of HCV
- To recognize that the best prevention is education and healthy lifestyle choices



9710 DeSoto Avenue
Chatsworth, California
91311-4409 USA

Tel: 800-367-2467
Tel: 818-773-4300
Fax: 818-341-6700

