



Hepatitis, which means inflammation of the liver, 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 the leading cause of liver cancer and the most common reason for liver transplantation. An estimated 4.4 million Americans are living with chronic hepatitis; most do not know they are infected.

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1-800-258-2667

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United Heartland is the marketing name for United Wisconsin Insurance Company, a member of AF Group. All policies are underwritten by a licensed insurer subsidiary of AF Group.

## How to Get Started

United Heartland is committed to providing and directing our customers to helpful resources regarding exposures to infectious diseases and bloodborne pathogens. For questions or more information, contact us at 800-258-2667 or explore the United Heartland Toolbox at [UnitedHeartland.com/united-heartland-toolbox/](http://UnitedHeartland.com/united-heartland-toolbox/) to find more loss control resources.

To learn how each type of hepatitis virus is transmitted, persons who are at risk, symptoms of infection, severity of infection, potential treatments and vaccination options, download the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's "ABCs of Hepatitis" at

[www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/resources/professionals/pdfs/abctable.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/resources/professionals/pdfs/abctable.pdf).

## Hepatitis in Health Care Settings

The delivery of health care has the potential to transmit Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and Hepatitis C virus (HCV) to both health care workers and patients. Outbreaks of HBV and HCV infection have occurred in outpatient settings, hemodialysis units, long-term-care facilities and hospitals, primarily as a result of unsafe injection practices, reuse of needles, fingerstick devices and syringes and other lapses in infection control.

To prevent transmission of bloodborne pathogens, health care workers should adhere to recommended standard precautions and fundamental infection control principles, including safe injection practices and appropriate antiseptic techniques.

For continued protection, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that health care and public safety workers with reasonably anticipated risk for exposures to blood or infectious bodily fluids receive the complete Hepatitis B vaccine series and have their immunity documented through post-vaccination testing.

For additional information, go to [www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/](http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/) or [www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/populations/healthcaresettings.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/populations/healthcaresettings.htm).

