

Easy B Facts

Liver Cancer

There is a type of cancer that you can get from being infected with chronic (long-term) hepatitis B virus (HBV for short) called primary liver cancer (also called HCC). Liver cancer can also be caused by many other factors including chronic hepatitis C infection, drinking too much alcohol, certain types of other liver diseases, severe scarring of the liver, and eating certain vegetables that contain a mold called aflatoxin.

If you have chronic hepatitis B you are more likely to develop liver cancer than people who do not have chronic hepatitis B. Also, the longer you have been infected with hepatitis B the more likely you will develop liver cancer. This is why it is so important that someone who has chronic hepatitis B is monitored on a regular basis. Talk with your doctor or nurse about what tests are needed and if you need to be treated with HBV medicines.

It Is Important to Remember:

- Make sure you are monitored on a regular basis. Some of the tests include. . .
 - AFP (alpha-fetoprotein) – a chemical that is usually (but not always) found in people with liver cancer. Your doctor or nurse will also perform other types of blood tests to see how your liver is working
 - Liver scans (imaging) such as an ultrasound and CT scan that take a picture of the liver to see if there are any unusual growths
 - Liver biopsy may also be performed
- Avoid alcohol because alcohol use – especially drinking a lot of alcohol – can also cause liver cancer



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**Hepatitis C
Support Project**

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