

7 Key Facts about Hepatitis C

01 |

Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis C virus: the virus can cause both acute and chronic hepatitis infection, ranging in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness.



02 |

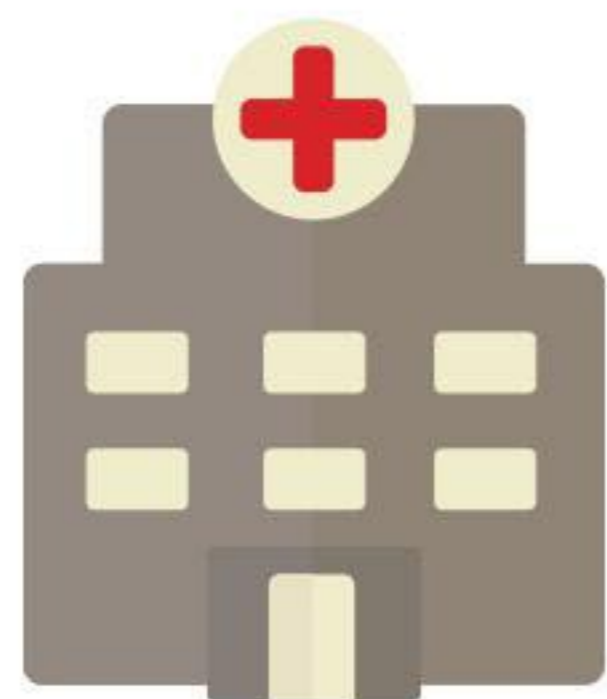
The hepatitis C virus is a bloodborne virus and the most common modes of infection are through unsafe injection practices; inadequate sterilization of medical equipment; and the transfusion of untested blood and blood products.

03 |

130–150 million people globally have chronic hepatitis C infection.



04 |



A significant number of those who are chronically infected will develop liver cirrhosis or liver cancer.

05 |



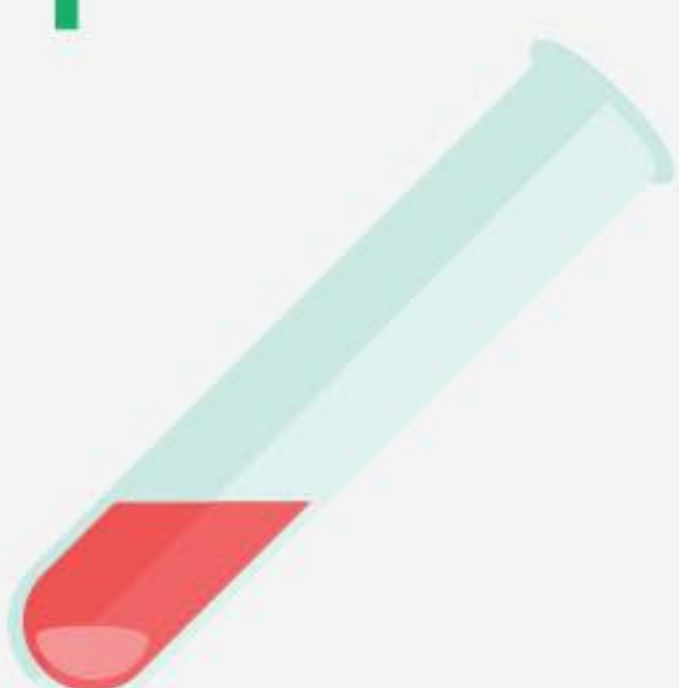
Approximately 500,000 people die each year from hepatitis C-related liver diseases.



06 |

Antiviral medicines can cure approximately 90% of persons with hepatitis C infection, thereby reducing the risk of death from liver cancer and cirrhosis, but access to diagnosis and treatment is low.

07 |



There is currently no vaccine for hepatitis C; however research in this area is ongoing.