



HEALTH MATTERS

• I N - F O C U S •

Hepatitis

What is Hepatitis?

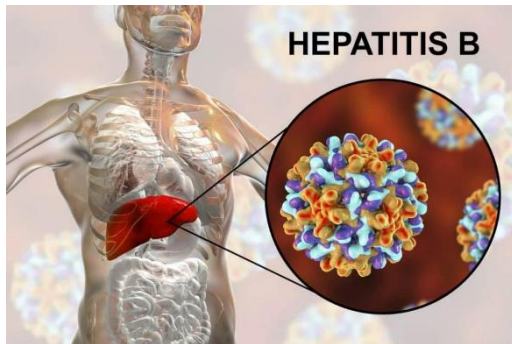
Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver.

Causes

Hepatitis is caused by a variety of infectious viruses and non-infectious agents for example autoimmune diseases, medications, drugs, toxins and alcohol consumption.

There are five main types of the hepatitis virus, referred to as types A, B, C, D and E. A different virus is responsible for each type of viral hepatitis.

Types of Hepatitis



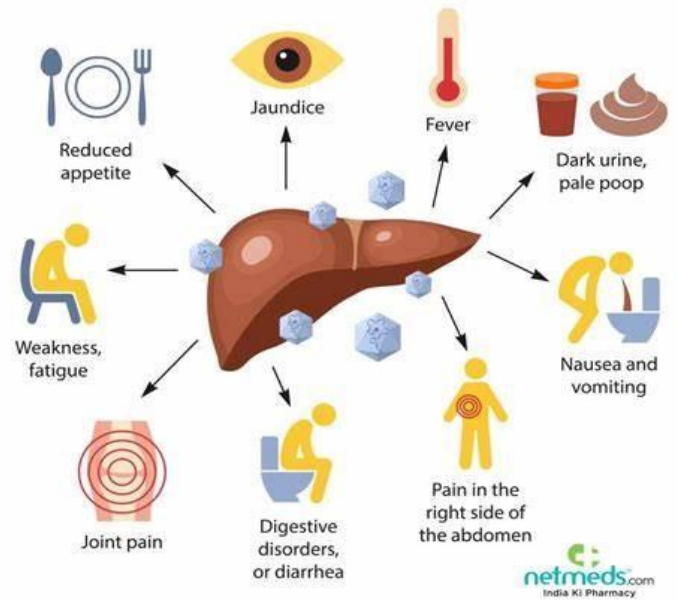
TYPE OF HEPATITIS	ROUTE OF TRANSMISSION
Hepatitis A (HA)	Exposure to HA-virus in food and water.
Hepatitis B (HB)	Contact with HB- virus in body fluids, such as blood, vaginal secretions or semen.
Hepatitis C (HC)	Contact with HC-virus in body fluids, such as blood, vaginal secretions or semen.
Hepatitis D (HD)	Contact with blood containing HD- virus.
Hepatitis E (HE)	Exposure to HE-virus in food and water.

Symptoms

Common symptoms of infectious Hepatitis are:

- Fatigue.
- Flu-like symptoms.
- Dark urine.
- Pale stool.
- Abdominal pain.
- Loss of appetite.
- Unexplained weight loss.
- Jaundice.

SYMPTOMS OF HEPATITIS A



Vaccines and Treatment

Vaccines are available against Hepatitis A and B. For treatment antiviral agents are prescribed.

Complications of Hepatitis

Chronic Hepatitis B or C can lead to severe health problems like:

- Chronic liver disease.
- Cirrhosis (severe scarring of the liver).
- Liver cancer.

Reference:

- <https://www.healthline.com/health/hepatitis>
- <https://www.who.int/health-topics/hepatitis>