WHAT IS HEPATITIS B?

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) is a virus that causes inflammation of the liver.

HOW IS CHRONIC HEPATITIS B TREATED?

Although there is no cure, there are three types of treatment options available.

**Antiviral medications**: Medications taken by mouth to help your body fight the virus and lower the chances of liver damage.

**Interferon injections**: Injections consisting of interferons, which are substances produced by cells in the body to help fight infection.

**Liver transplant**: A surgical procedure that removes your unhealthy liver and replaces it with a healthy liver.

For more information on health equity, visit [www.fda.gov/healthequity](http://www.fda.gov/healthequity).
WHAT IS **HEPATITIS B**?

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) is a virus that causes inflammation of the liver.

**HOW IS IT SPREAD?**

- Having unprotected sex with an infected person
- Coming in contact with infected blood (transfusion, open wounds)
- Sharing contaminated razors, toothbrushes, or needles
- Mother to baby during vaginal or cesarean birth

**WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?**

**Acute HBV**
(2 weeks to 6 months)
- Fever
- Fatigue
- Joint pain
- Jaundice
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea and/or vomiting

**Chronic HBV**
(Longer than 6 months)
- Can cause serious liver damage such as scarring, hardening, and liver failure that can lead to death

Nearly **2 out of 3** people living with chronic HBV do not know they are infected.

For more information on health equity, visit [www.fda.gov/healthequity](http://www.fda.gov/healthequity).