



**Indiana
Department
of
Health**

Viral Hepatitis Newsletter

February

Spotlight



National Cancer Prevention Month

February is National Cancer Prevention Month. Cancer prevention is associated with decreased rates of cancer and increased survival. According to the American Association for Cancer Research, there were nearly 2 million Americans diagnosed with cancer in 2023. Cancer research shows that more than 40% of these cases are attributed to preventable causes. When we educate ourselves about cancer, we can gain a better understanding of cancer, helping us provide support for those with cancer and helping us reduce our risks factors. [CLICK THIS LINK](#)

Cancer Prevention

How does a virus cause cancer?

Hepatitis B and C virus can lead to inflammation of the liver, inflammation of the liver can progress into scarring of the liver, also known as cirrhosis. As the body produces extra liver cells to try to heal the cirrhosis, abnormal changes can happen in some of these cells, these mutations can progress to cancer. The most common type of cancer caused by hepatitis B and C is liver cancer.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

Liver Cancer Prevention

- Avoid infections (know the risks and practice harm reduction)
- Get vaccinated for hepatitis B
- Get tested
- Treat hepatitis B infections
- Get hepatitis C cured
- Limit alcohol and tobacco use
- Limit exposure to cancer-causing chemicals
- Treat diseases that increase liver cancer risk

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

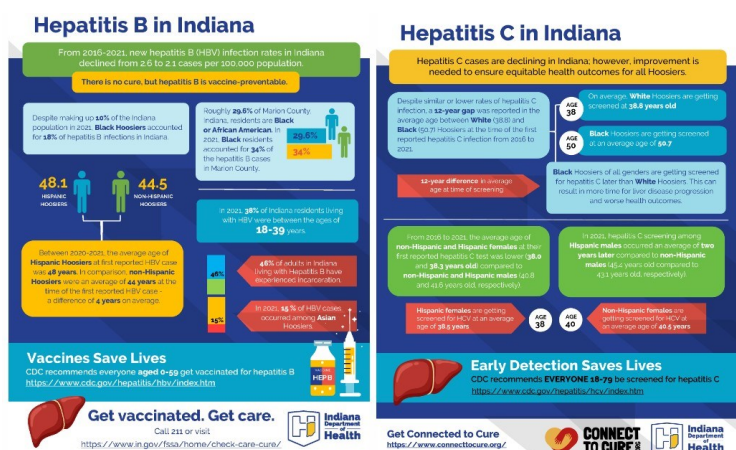
65% of liver cancer cases are related to hepatitis B or C

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/newsroom/docs/factsheets/viral-hep-liver-cancer.pdf>

Black History Month

Black History Month is an opportunity to celebrate cultural heritage along with commemorating the accomplishments and adversity of African Americans. African Americans represent around 12% of the U.S. population, however they represent approximately 22% of the estimated Americans with chronic HCV infections. Health disparities refer to the unequal distribution of health outcomes in different populations. The following infographics display characteristics of Hoosiers who are living with hepatitis B and C. It is important to recognize how different populations are impacted by viral hepatitis in order to provide population specific prevention and treatment.

Infographics about hepatitis B and hepatitis C are available in English and Spanish, here on our website: [CLICK THIS LINK](#)



Educational Resources

Hepatitis C ECHO Trainings

Extension for Community Healthcare Outcome (ECHO) is a collaborative program that uses technology to provide case-based learning to improve access to high-quality treatment for hepatitis B and C. On the web-based platform, participants share knowledge with others, connect to specialists, and participate in discussions, and medical experts provide recommendations to enhance the mastery of topics.

The hepatitis C ECHO meets online on the first and third Thursdays of month from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Register for the hepatitis C ECHO: [CLICK THIS LINK](#)

IN-HAMP

Indiana Hepatitis Academic Mentorship Program (IN-HAMP) is a medical education training program for clinicians who are new to treating hepatitis C. The IN-HAMP program includes two 1.5-hour long hepatitis C ECHO sessions, Cycle 1 training and preparation for clinicians to treat individuals living with hepatitis C, and Cycle 2 that covers advanced topics in hepatitis C care.

If you are a clinician and interested in learning more about IN-HAMP, email inhamp@iu.edu or enroll in Cycle 1 and Cycle 2. The next Cycle 1 training will occur on Thursday, March 21, 2024. To register, [CLICK THIS LINK](#).

If you attended IN-HAMP Cycle 1 training, and are interested in joining Cycle 2 training, please email jennwatk@iu.edu.

At the conclusion of the training, clinicians will have the tools and education to begin treating hepatitis C immediately.

Newsletter Survey

The Viral Hepatitis Newsletter is emailed by the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH), and the division of HIV, STI and Viral Hepatitis. The purpose of this newsletter is for IDOH to provide relevant and up to date information around the topic of viral hepatitis, please complete the survey to help IDOH make sure we are accomplishing this goal.

Please go to the following link to share your feedback about the Viral Hepatitis Newsletter:

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)



To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers

Indiana Department of Health

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