

HEPATITIS C

KNOW THE FACTS



~170 million people

are living with chronic hepatitis C (HCV) infection globally

In the United States...

~3.5 million people
have chronic HCV infection



Up to **75%**
don't know they
are infected



HCV is spread through **contact with blood**
from a person infected with the virus

Chronic HCV is a contagious liver disease that can lead to serious liver problems, including cirrhosis (scarring of the liver) or liver cancer



**Symptoms of chronic HCV can take
decades to develop**



The first symptoms to appear are often a sign of advanced liver disease. Symptoms may include:



fever



**feeling
tired**



**lack of
appetite**



**upset
stomach**

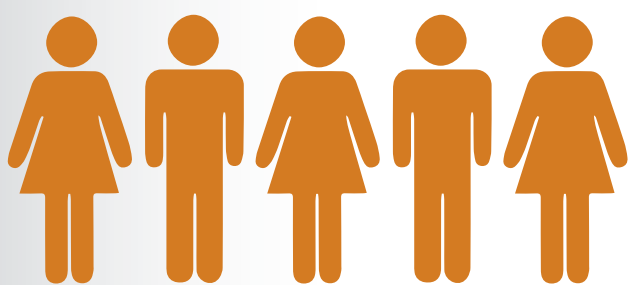


jaundice



**joint
pain**

In the United States...



Baby boomers are **5X**
more likely to be infected
with chronic HCV than
other adults
(born between 1945-1965)

African Americans have a **substantially higher rate**
of chronic HCV infection than Caucasians and other
ethnic groups in the U.S.

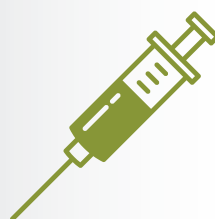
Worldwide...

An estimated **4–5 million persons**
with HCV are coinfectd with HIV



Risk Factors

Some people are at increased risk for HCV, including:



**Current or past
injection drug users**



**Recipients of blood
products, donated
blood and organs**



**People who received
a blood product made
before 1992**



**Hemodialysis
patients or individuals
who spent many
years on dialysis for
kidney failure**



**HIV-infected
persons**



**People who received
body piercing or
tattoos with non-
sterile instruments**



Copyright © 2016 Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc.
All rights reserved.

INFC-1145173-0004 02/16