

## THE HEP C FACTS

Hep C is an infectious (contagious) liver disease that spreads through blood-to-blood contact with an infected person. Of those who are infected with the Hep C virus, the majority develop chronic Hep C — a serious, lasting disease than can result in severe liver damage, long-term health problems, and even death.



Chronic Hep C affects about **3.5 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES**, most of whom are baby boomers (born between 1945 and 1965).



Up to 75% of people with Hep C are unaware that their **LIVERS ARE BEING SLOWLY DAMAGED**. A "silent" disease, Hep C often has no noticeable symptoms for years — or even decades.



The number of Americans who die from Hep C-related conditions **IS INCREASING**. These conditions can include liver disease, cirrhosis, liver failure, or liver cancer.



In the last few years, scientific advances have made treatment for Hep C **SHORTER AND MORE EFFECTIVE** than it was previously.



**HEP C CAN BE CURED.** One is considered cured when the virus cannot be detected in the blood 3 months after treatment is completed.



## SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT... When you're ready, take the opportunity to talk to your Hep C specialist about your Hep C, treatment options, and how treatment could lead to a possible cure. Remember to discuss how you are feeling, and bring up any changes that you have noticed to get the most out of your appointment.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR HEP C

_earn more about the imp	pact Hep C has on \	your overall health and how :	you can take the next step.
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- How might Hep C impact my long-term health?
- What can I do to keep myself as healthy as possible with Hep C?
- I've heard there are different types (genotypes) of Hep C. Can you explain what type I have?

## **DISCOVERING YOUR TREATMENT OPTIONS**

Discuss with your Hep C specialist treatment options that are available and may help you achieve a cure.

- Is it too late for me to start treatment for my Hep C?
- What treatment options are available for my type of Hep C?\_\_\_\_\_
- Is it really possible that I can be cured of Hep C?
- How long will treatment take?
- How would treatment affect my life?

	Discuss how you are feeling.
	I have noticed the following changes in how I feel from day to day:

?	List any questions or concerns you have. I have the following questions/concerns:



**CURE** WHAT DOES A CURE MEAN? Cure means the Hep C virus is not detected in the blood when measured 3 months after treatment is completed.

