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Anyone who may be in contact with the body fluids of a person infected with the hepatitis B virus should get vaccinated. This includes family members, sexual partners or other caregivers.

**Tennessee
Department of Health**

710 James Robertson Pkwy, Nashville, TN 37243

Phone: 615-741-7247

For more information, visit:

www.cdc.gov/hepatitis

tn.gov/health/section/hepatitis



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Are you at risk?

Hepatitis B is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus.

Hepatitis B infection can be either “acute” or “chronic”.

Acute hepatitis B lasts less than 6 months after exposure to the virus. A person who recovers from the acute infection, cannot get hepatitis B again. They are immune.

Chronic Hepatitis B lasts a lifetime and can cause liver problems over time, including:

- liver damage
- cirrhosis
- liver failure
- liver cancer

Hepatitis B is spread through contact with an infected person’s blood, semen, or other bodily fluids.

These bodily fluids can enter a non-infected person’s body through:

- sexual contact
- sharing needles, syringes, cookers or other equipment to shoot up drugs
- from mother to baby during birth

Hepatitis B is **NOT** spread through:

- sneezing or coughing
- kissing or hugging
- breastfeeding
- sharing utensils

Many people don’t know they are infected with hepatitis B because they have no symptoms.

This means they can easily pass the virus on to others and not even know it!

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