

LIVER CANCER

CAN BE PREVENTED WITH HEPATITIS B VACCINATION

Hepatitis B is the world's leading cause of liver cancer.

Up to 2.4 million Americans are living with hepatitis B. If left untreated, the hepatitis B virus can cause cirrhosis, liver failure, liver cancer, and premature death in up to 25% of those living with hepatitis B.

Anyone can be infected by hepatitis B - including infants and children.

The hepatitis B virus is 100 times more infectious than HIV. An exposure to even a microscopic amount of infected blood can result in a lifelong infection. Thus, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), along with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), recommend that all infants receive the first dose of the hepatitis B within the first 24 hours of birth. After completing the vaccine series, 98% of healthy infants are fully protected from the virus.



of children who are exposed to hepatitis B will develop a chronic infection that can lead to serious liver complications, such as cirrhosis and liver cancer.

Hepatitis B is most commonly transmitted from mother-to-child during birth. **Before the universal hepatitis B infant vaccination recommendation in 1991, approximately 18,000 children in the U.S. were infected each year before they reached the age of 10.** Half of those children were infected by mother-to-child transmission during childbirth. **Since the recommendation, childhood and adolescent hepatitis B infections have dropped by 95%.**

The hepatitis B vaccine is safe and effective.

The hepatitis B vaccine is the first anti-cancer vaccine because it protects against hepatitis B - the world's leading cause of liver cancer. Since its creation in 1986, the modern hepatitis B vaccine has been administered over 1 billion times globally.



Hepatitis B vaccination is cost effective.

- Vaccination in adolescents and adulthood is more costly than beginning the series at birth.
- Vaccination can help prevent a majority of expenses, including lab fees and the cost of treating cirrhosis, liver cancer and liver transplantation.

The United States will spend
\$44,822 MILLION
between 2020-2050 in direct costs
related to hepatitis B.



References:

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