

Should you get a blood test after the vaccine series to be sure that you are protected?



Yes, you should get a blood test 1 to 2 months after you complete the series to show you have immunity to the disease. However, not all

dialysis patients will develop immunity even with the vaccine.

Will I need to be revaccinated?

Some dialysis patients will not respond to the first vaccine series and may require a second three dose series. No additional doses of vaccine are warranted for those who do not respond to the second series.

Sometimes a booster shot is needed later in life.



Hepatitis B

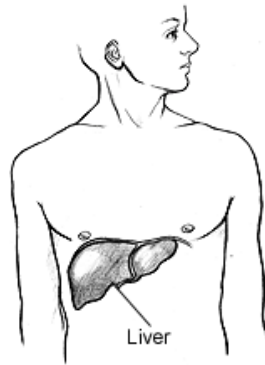
**Know the facts and
Protect yourself**



**Hepatitis B is
preventable**

What is Hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a contagious virus that infects the liver. The virus is found in the blood and body fluids of people with Hepatitis B.



Is Hepatitis B a serious problem?

Yes. Each year, thousands of people are infected with Hepatitis B and develop life-long liver problems. Even if you have had other types of hepatitis, such as Hepatitis A or Hepatitis C, you can still get Hepatitis B.

Can people on hemodialysis get Hepatitis B?

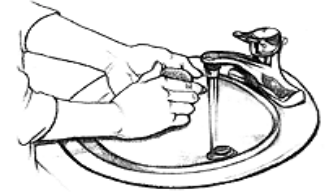
Yes, but there is a vaccine to prevent the disease!

How is Hepatitis B spread in the dialysis clinic?

Hepatitis B is spread through open skin or direct contact with mucous membranes. These areas allow blood or body fluids infected with Hepatitis B into the body.

The Hepatitis B virus is very strong. It can live on dialysis machines, equipment, and supplies and can spread to patients.

Uncleanly conditions can contribute to the spread of the disease



How can you protect yourself from getting infected with Hepatitis B?



Get vaccinated! Hepatitis B vaccine is safe, effective and your best protection.

Is the vaccine safe?

Yes. Hepatitis B vaccine is safe and effective. Millions of children and adults have received the vaccine worldwide since 1982. The vaccine will not infect you with the Hepatitis B disease.