

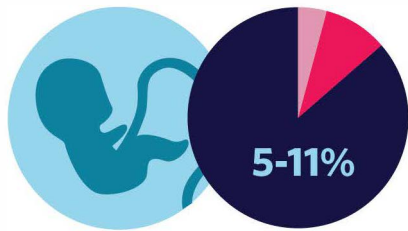
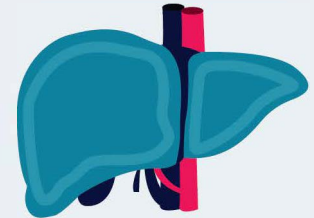
Hepatitis C Virus

Cascade of Care for Pregnant
People and Their Infants

What is Hepatitis C?

Hepatitis C is a liver infection caused by a virus.

This infection can cause health problems like liver cirrhosis (scarring), liver cancer, and liver failure. Treatment can prevent these problems.



How is hepatitis C transmitted?

Hepatitis C is transmitted (passed from person to person) through blood.

A pregnant person with hepatitis C infection can pass the virus to their baby. The risk of passing hepatitis C to a baby during pregnancy is **5-11%**.

For every 100 pregnant people with a hepatitis C infection, 5-11 will pass the virus to their baby.



I HAVE a hepatitis C infection and plan to become pregnant.

What should I do?

Talk to your health-care provider. Make sure you get treatment before you get pregnant.



I HAD hepatitis C during pregnancy.

What should I do?

Plan for your baby to have a hepatitis C test. Your baby should have a test when they are 18 months old. If it may be difficult to get a test when your baby is 18 months, you can get one sooner. Your baby can have a different blood test when they are 2 months old.

What if my baby has a hepatitis C infection?

Babies and children with hepatitis C infections should visit a pediatric liver doctor (gastroenterologist).

This doctor will monitor your child. This doctor will give your child medication if they need it.

About half of all babies who get a hepatitis C infection during pregnancy clear the virus on their own. Other babies develop chronic hepatitis C. Treatment can help prevent long-term health problems. Hepatitis C treatment is safe for children aged 3 and older. It is very effective.

Want to learn more about this?

[Youthco](#)

[BCCDC Hepatitis C](#)

[CATIE Hepatitis C in Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Breastfeeding](#)