



Getting tested for hepatitis C
can save your life

丙型肝炎可致肝癌

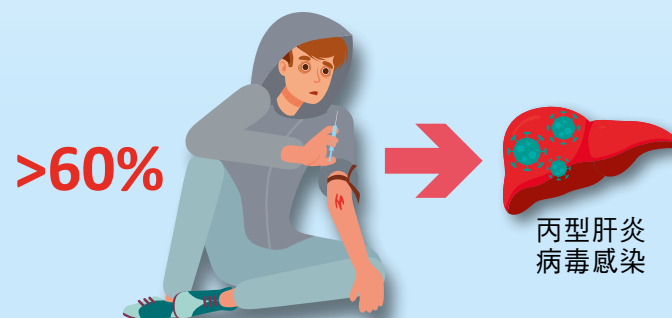
丙型肝炎是由丙型肝炎病毒感染所引起的肝臟疾病。慢性丙型肝炎可引致肝硬化及肝癌。



感染丙型肝炎病毒後可持續數十年都沒有症狀，直至肝臟已被嚴重損害後才出現徵狀。

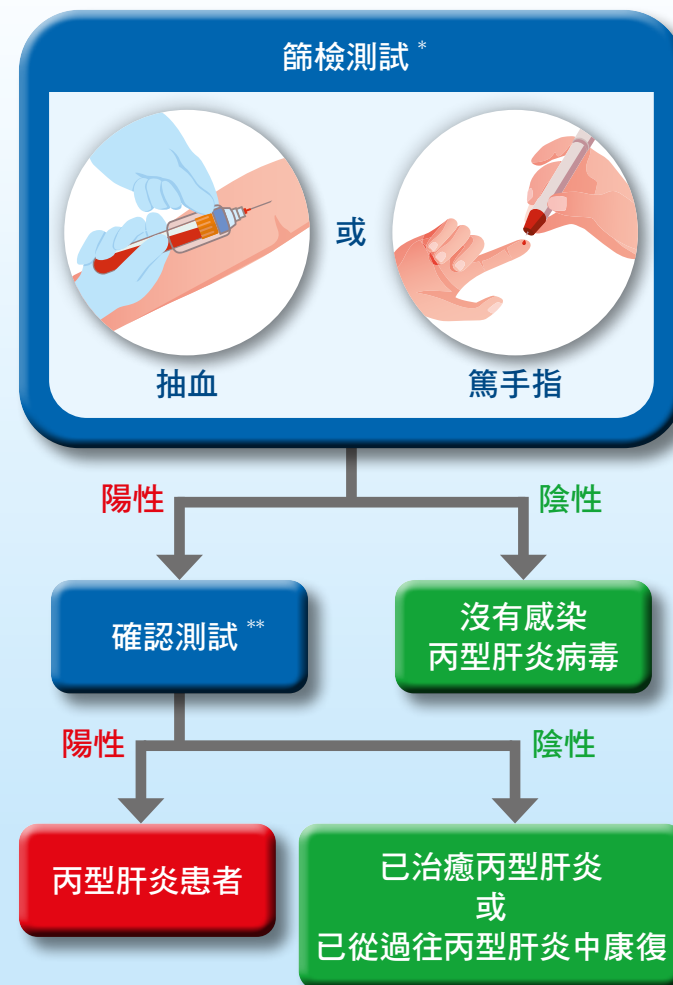
丙型肝炎很容易經接觸感染者的血液而傳播，共用針咀、針筒或其他器具注射毒品可傳染丙型肝炎病毒。

在香港，估計超過六成的注射毒品人士曾經或現時患有丙型肝炎。



診斷丙型肝炎須透過血液測試

現時或曾經注射毒品人士，包括在多年前只注射過一次或數次毒品的人士，無論有沒有症狀，均應接受丙型肝炎測試。



* 篩檢測試：抗體測試判斷曾否感染丙型肝炎病毒

** 確認測試：核酸測試判斷現時是否帶有丙型肝炎病毒

口服藥物可治癒丙型肝炎

服用直接抗病毒藥物約8-12個星期可治癒丙型肝炎（即可「斷尾」），從而降低發展成肝癌及因肝臟疾病致死的風險。

- ✔ 療效顯著
- ✔ 副作用少
- ✔ 口服藥物（毋須注射）



保護自己免受丙型肝炎病毒感染

丙型肝炎患者服用藥物康復後，並不會有具保護性的免疫力，故仍然需要注意以下事項：

⚠ 停止注射毒品

- ✦ 接受美沙酮治療
- ✦ 用過的針咀可能沾有血液，即使是難以肉眼察覺到的極少份量，溶於水中時亦可污染器皿及其他器具（如濾紙及匙羹），構成傳播丙型肝炎病毒的風險



⚠ 避免與他人共用剃刀及牙刷等有機會受血液污染的個人護理用品

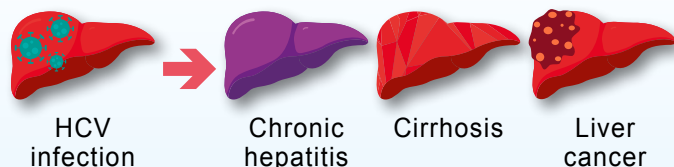


✔ 進行性行為時使用安全套



Hepatitis C can cause liver cancer

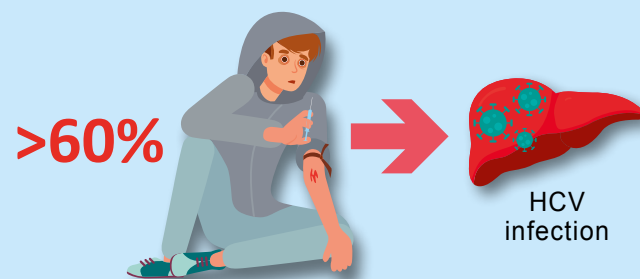
Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection. People infected with HCV can develop chronic hepatitis, which may lead to cirrhosis and liver cancer.



Hepatitis C can remain asymptomatic until decades after infection when signs and symptoms develop secondary to serious liver damage.

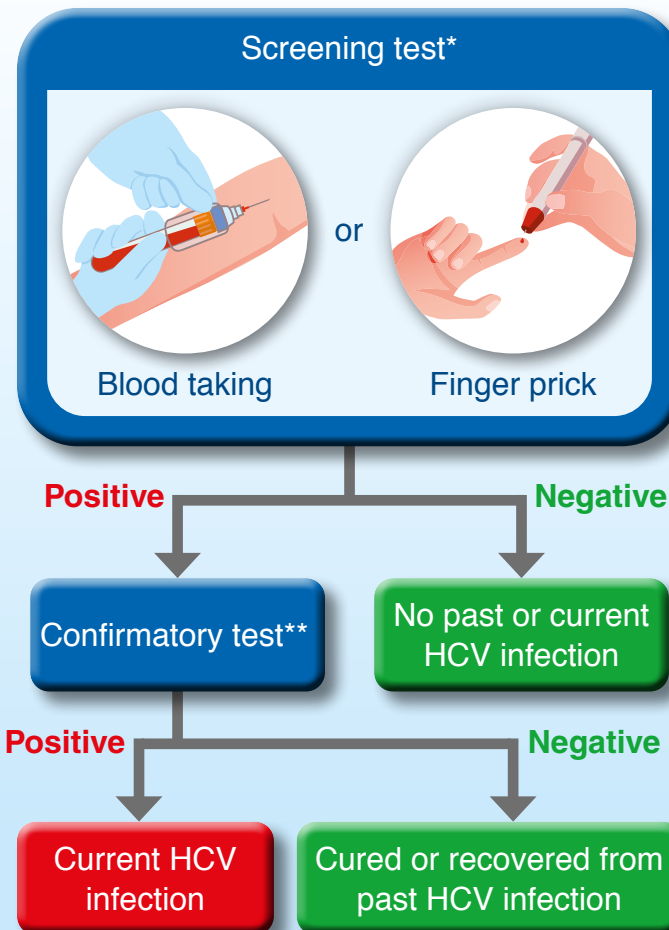
Hepatitis C can be easily transmitted through contact with blood. Sharing needles, syringes or other equipment for injecting drugs can spread the infection.

In Hong Kong, more than 60% of people who inject drugs (PWID) have past or current HCV infection.



Blood test is needed to diagnose hepatitis C

Testing for hepatitis C is recommended for current or former PWID, including those who injected drugs only once or a few times many years ago, no matter whether they have symptoms.



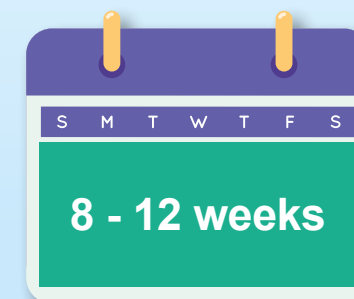
* Screening test: Antibody test to determine whether a person has past exposure to HCV

** Confirmatory test: RNA test to determine whether a person currently has HCV

Oral medication can cure hepatitis C

Use of direct-acting antivirals (DAA) for around 8-12 weeks can cure HCV infection, thereby reducing the risk of progression to liver cancer and dying from liver diseases.

- 👍 Highly effective
- 👍 Minor side effects
- 👍 Oral administration
(Do not require injection)



Protecting yourself from HCV infection

As treatment does not confer protective immunity, recovered hepatitis C patients still have to observe the following :

⚠️ Stop injecting drug use

- ✦ Get into **methadone** treatment programme
- ✦ Blood attached to a used needle, even in amounts too small to see, can dissolve in water and contaminate the containers and other equipment, such as filters and spoons, and pose risk of HCV transmission



- ⚠️ **Avoid sharing personal care items (e.g. razors and toothbrushes) that are potentially contaminated with blood**



- ✅ **Use condom when having sex**



www.hepatitis.gov.hk

Viral Hepatitis Control Office
Special Preventive Programme
Department of Health
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