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## World Hepatitis Day, July 28, 2019

### “Find the Missing Millions”

**World Hepatitis Day** is a global call to action to eliminate hepatitis aimed to raise awareness of viral hepatitis. Approximately 290 million people are living with hepatitis B or C and are unaware. The World Hepatitis Alliance 2019 campaign is to “Find the Missing Millions” focusing on screening and access to care.

Hepatitis A, B, and C viruses cause 90% of acute cases of hepatitis in Canada and are reportable to the health department.

**Hepatitis A and B** are **vaccine-preventable**. **Chronic hepatitis B** infection is **treatable**. **Hepatitis C** is now considered a **curable** infection.

Screening for **early diagnosis** and promoting **access to care** are important steps in **reducing the burden** of viral hepatitis. The Canadian Liver Foundation (CLF) is encouraging open discussions with patients regarding possible risk factors for liver disease. In addition, it is recommending **birth cohort screening** be considered for those born **1945-1975**, as this age range has an **increased chance** of identifying **undiagnosed hepatitis C**.

Individuals with chronic liver disease may be eligible to receive **free vaccine** for hepatitis A and B. For vaccine Special Release order form visit [Resources for Health Care Providers - Region of Durham](#)

For current information on **testing** for hepatitis and **interpretation** of test results refer to [Public Health Ontario](#) and [Canadian Liver Foundation](#)

**Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711, 1-800-841-2729**

July 26, 2019

If you prefer to receive this information in an electronic format please submit your request to [healthresources@durham.ca](mailto:healthresources@durham.ca)

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.