



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



World Hepatitis Day - July 28, 2024

“Take action. Test, treat, vaccinate.”

World Hepatitis Day is a call to amplify global community efforts in accelerating the elimination of viral hepatitis alongside raising awareness. The World Hepatitis Alliance identified this year’s campaign theme as “Take Action. Test, treat, vaccinate”. This year’s focus is on prioritizing actions needed to achieve the global goal of eliminating hepatitis by 2030, through: raising awareness, promoting testing, early screening, treatment, access to care, and immunizations against this preventable disease (World Hepatitis Alliance, 2024).

Did you know...

- 9/10 people living with hepatitis are unaware of their diagnosis (World Hepatitis Alliance, 2024).
- More than 6000 people are newly infected with viral hepatitis daily (World Health Organization, 2024).
- In 2023, Durham Region Health Department observed a 17% decrease in Hepatitis C cases, and a 160% increase in Hepatitis B cases compared to the previous five year average (2018-2022).
- **Hepatitis C** is considered a **curable** infection. **Hepatitis A and B** are **vaccine preventable**. **Chronic hepatitis B** infection is **treatable**.
- High-risk individuals may be eligible to receive free vaccines for hepatitis A and B. For more information and for the vaccine Special Release order forms, visit Resources for [Health Care Providers - Region of Durham](#) (or durham.ca/hcp Forms>Order).

Resources

The Canadian Liver Foundation recommends [risk-based screening and birth-cohort screening](#) which increase the probability of identifying undiagnosed hepatitis C.

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

July 25, 2024

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

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

