

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

The job of the Hepatitis B Foundation is growing in the United States. Until the Foundation's ultimate goal of a cure is achieved, we will continue to provide information and support, promote vaccination and conduct research. Our goal is within reach, but we need your help.

I want to be part of the cure. Enclosed is my tax-deductible check payable to the **Hepatitis B Foundation**.

- ☐ \$50
- ☐ \$100
- ☐ \$150
- ☐ \$500
- ☐ \$1,000
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory \_\_\_\_\_

Visa/MC# \_\_\_\_\_

3 Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions will be acknowledged in the newsletter unless otherwise requested. All contributors receive the *B•Informed* newsletter.

### PLEASE SEND:

- ☐ *B•Informed* newsletter with Drug Watch
- ☐ *Living with Hepatitis B* Booklet
- ☐ *The First Loving Act - Vaccination*
- ☐ Parent Information Packet
- ☐ *Protect Yourself and Those You Love Against Hepatitis B*
- ☐ "Facing The Challenge" video (8 min.) (\$10)

## CAUSE FOR A CURE

The Hepatitis B Foundation is a national non-profit organization dedicated to finding a cure and improving the quality of life for those affected by hepatitis B worldwide. Our commitment includes funding focused research, promoting disease awareness, supporting immunization and treatment initiatives, and serving as the primary source of information for patients and their families, the medical and scientific community, and the general public.

*For more information please call or write:*

### Hepatitis B Foundation

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[www.hepb.org](http://www.hepb.org)



## Hepatitis B Foundation

*Cause For a Cure*

# Someone You Know Has Hepatitis B

*A message from the*



## Hepatitis B Foundation

*Cause For a Cure*

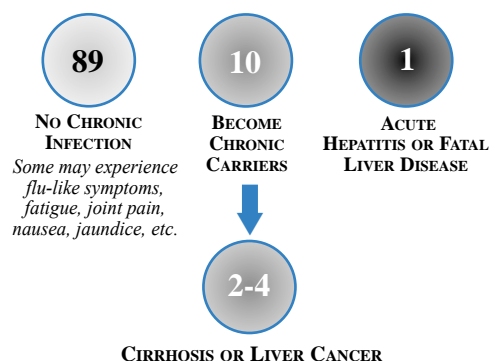
## A GROWING HEALTH PROBLEM

Hepatitis B affects 400 million people worldwide, and it is a growing concern in the United States where there are an estimated 80,000 new infections each year. Approximately 1 out of 20 Americans has been infected with the hepatitis B virus (HBV) at some time in their lives, and more than one million are chronic carriers. Through education and research, the Hepatitis B Foundation is dedicated to stopping the spread of this potentially devastating disease, which already may have infected someone you know and love.

## A SILENT INFECTION

Hepatitis B is the world's most common, serious liver infection. It is caused by the hepatitis B virus, which can be transmitted through blood, sex, shared needles and from an infected mother to her newborn during delivery. The hepatitis B virus is spreading because many chronic hepatitis B carriers are not aware that they have the virus and unknowingly pass it on to those who are in close contact with them. Some people are at greater risk than others for contracting the disease, particularly those who practice unprotected sex with multiple partners, share needles or are in an occupation or situation that exposes them to blood. In addition, immigrants from and travelers to parts of the world where HBV is prevalent are at increased risk of infection. The Hepatitis B Foundation provides information and support to those affected by hepatitis B.

### IF 100 ADULTS ARE INFECTED WITH HBV



## CHILDREN ARE MORE VULNERABLE

Infants and children are particularly vulnerable to HBV, since about 90-95% percent of those under 1 year who contract the virus are unable to clear their systems and will become chronic carriers. At greatest risk are infants born of mothers who have the virus. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics have recommended that all infants and those 11 to 12 years be vaccinated. The Hepatitis B Foundation supplies literature to parents of children who are chronic carriers of HBV.

### IF 100 CHILDREN BETWEEN 1 AND 5 YEARS ARE INFECTED WITH HBV



### IF 100 NEWBORNS AND INFANTS ARE INFECTED WITH HBV



## VACCINATION EQUALS PREVENTION

Everyone may be at some risk for HBV. But a safe and effective vaccine is available that is administered in three shots over six months. Usually there are few minor side effects to the vaccine, the most common being soreness at the injection site. You cannot get hepatitis B from the vaccine. The Hepatitis B Foundation encourages anyone concerned about this disease to discuss their personal risk factors and the benefits of vaccination with a health care provider.

## WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Should you find that you or a loved one has been infected with HBV, the Foundation is available to help answer your questions and provide important information. We publish free literature; distribute a newsletter, *B•Informed*; provide referrals to liver specialists; promote support groups; maintain a website on the Internet; and maintain a Expert Speakers Forum and podcasts.

For more information please email us at [info@hepb.org](mailto:info@hepb.org) or visit our website at [www.hepb.org](http://www.hepb.org).