

Living With Hepatitis B:

Learning Guide Definitions

Clinic – If you want to be tested for hepatitis B, you can visit www.hepclinics.org to find a clinic near you.

Acute hepatitis B infection – a new hepatitis B infection, occurring within the past 6 months.

Chronic hepatitis B infection – A patient who tests positive for the hepatitis B virus for more than 6 months is considered to have a chronic hepatitis B infection.

Protected – A simple blood test can tell whether a person is protected against hepatitis B. This blood test is called the “hepatitis B surface antibody” test, or “HBsAb.” This test should be positive (“+” or “reactive” or “>10”) if a person is protected against hepatitis B, and can be ordered one month after the third (final) dose of the hepatitis B vaccine.

Hepatologist (hep-a-tol-o-gist) – a doctor who specializes in the study and treatment of liver disease.

Gastroenterologist (gas-tro-en-ter-ol-o-gist) – a doctor who focuses on the function and disorders of the gastrointestinal system, which includes the esophagus, stomach, pancreas, intestines, and liver.

Obstetrician (ob-ste-tri-cian) – a doctor who specializes in pregnancy and childbirth.

Pediatrician (pe-di-a-tri-cian) – a doctor who specifically treats children.

Visit <http://www.hepb.org> for more information.