# HEPATITIS B WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

In recent years, more people are becoming newly infected with hepatitis B,

a disease that affects the liver and can cause health complications



These rising infections of hep B are tied to the U.S. opioid epidemic



A 20% rise in acute cases from 2014-2015! HEPATITIS B CAN BE MORE DANGEROUS If you also have

HEPATITIS C

#### WHAT IS HEPATITIS B?

COULD YOU BE INFECTED? Most people don't have any symptoms

Hepatitis B is a **virus that attacks the liver**. Infections can be newer and short-lived (acute) or lifelong (chronic).

If left undiagnosed... a chronic infection can lead to scarring of the liver (cirrhosis) or even liver cancer over time.



A SIMPLE BLOOD TEST

**CAN TELL IF YOU ARE INFECTED** 

#### WHO IS AT RISK?



People who share needles inject drugs, or come into contact with blood



People with many sexual partners

Men who have sex with men



People who are from the darkest regions - where hepatitis B is more common

#### **IF YOU ARE AT RISK:**

## **IF YOU ARE INFECTED:**



Ask your doctor to test you for hep B, and about getting the hep B vaccine if you're not infected

Managing your hepatitis B is important!

### TRY TO SEE A LIVER SPECIALIST EVERY 6 MONTHS TO CHECK UP ON THE VIRUS & PREVENT LIVER DAMAGE

#### THE VACCINE CAN PROTECT YOU FOR LIFE AGAINST HEP B!



The Hepatitis B Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to finding a cure and improving the lives of those affected through research, education and patient advocacy. Hep B United is a national coalition dedicated to reducing the health disparities associated with hepatitis B by increasing awareness, screening, vaccination, and linkage to care for high-risk communities across the United States.



Visit www.hepb.org or email questions to info@hepb.org or call 215-489-4900.