

Hepatitis D

Information for hepatitis B patients

What Is Hepatitis D?

Hepatitis D is a liver infection caused by the hepatitis D virus (HDV) that results in the most severe form of viral hepatitis. Only people with hepatitis B can contract hepatitis D, with 1 in 20 hepatitis B patients estimated to be coinfected.

Why Should I Get Tested?

Hepatitis D can cause more rapid progression to cirrhosis and liver cancer than being infected with hepatitis B alone. HBV/HDV patients will require different treatment recommendations to manage their co-infection.

Get Tested If:

- You are from Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Mongolia, Pakistan, or Central Asia
- You are on treatment for HBV but are not responding to treatment or have abnormal liver tests
- You have cirrhosis



How Can I Get Tested?

Your liver specialist will be able to order an HDV antibody test. This is a simple blood test and is the first step in diagnosing an HBV patient with HDV. If the antibody test is positive, this should be followed up with an HDV RNA test to confirm that you have a current infection.

What If I Have an HBV/HDV Coinfection?

Doctors might recommend treatment, such as pegylated interferon or a new and recently approved treatment, Hepcludex, to help suppress the hepatitis D infection and prevent liver damage.



The Hepatitis B Foundation is a national nonprofit research and disease advocacy organization for hepatitis B. It established Hepatitis Delta Connect as a dedicated program in 2016 to provide information and support for those affected by hepatitis D.