



5% of all infected with Hepatitis B are also infected with Hepatitis Delta

COULD YOU BE AFFECTED?

How is it Transmitted?

HDV is transmitted by infected blood and body fluids through direct exposure to blood, intravenous drug use, and unprotected sex.

It is very important to find a knowledgeable doctor who can provide the appropriate care and treatment to ensure that you live a long, healthy life.

What is Hep D?

Hepatitis D is a liver infection caused by the hepatitis D virus (HDV) that results in the most severe form of viral hepatitis known to humans.

Only those already infected with hepatitis B, however, can acquire hepatitis D, as it is dependent on the hepatitis B virus to reproduce.

Hepatitis D co-infection leads to more serious liver disease than hepatitis B infection alone and is associated with faster progression to liver fibrosis, decompensated cirrhosis, liver failure and increased risk of liver cancer.

HDV can be prevented by getting the hepatitis B vaccine.

There is a simple blood test for hepatitis D, so people with hepatitis B should be tested for HDV.

Who is at Risk?



Intravenous drug users



Men who have sex with men



Unsafe sex or multiple partners



People emigrating from countries where HDV is common

Is There a Cure?



There is no approved treatment for acute or chronic HDV infection. Pegylated interferon alpha is the only drug that has been shown to be somewhat effective against HDV. Oral nucleosides approved for hepatitis B have been used but have not been very effective.

Currently, there is more hope for people diagnosed with hepatitis D with five new promising drugs in human clinical trials.

For more information visit our website at: www.hepdconnect.org

**15-20 Million
People Infected
with HDV
Worldwide**