

# HEPATITIS C

KNOW THE FACTS



**~170 million people**

are living with chronic hepatitis C (HCV) infection globally



HCV is spread through contact with blood from a person infected with the virus

Chronic HCV is a contagious liver disease that can lead to serious liver problems, including cirrhosis (scarring of the liver) or liver cancer



**Symptoms of chronic HCV can take decades to develop**



The first symptoms to appear are often a sign of advanced liver disease. Symptoms may include:



**fever**



**feeling tired**



**lack of appetite**



**upset stomach**



**jaundice**



**joint pain**

## Worldwide...

An estimated **4–5 million persons** with HCV are coinfecting with HIV



## Risk Factors

Some people are at increased risk for HCV, including:



**Current or past injection drug users**



**Recipients of blood products, donated blood and organs**



**People who received a blood product made before 1992**



**Hemodialysis patients or individuals who spent many years on dialysis for kidney failure**



**HIV-infected persons**



**People who received body piercing or tattoos with non-sterile instruments**

