What is Hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is a liver infection caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV), which can lead to liver cirrhosis or scarring, liver failure, and liver cancer. HBV can be transmitted by contact with blood or bodily fluids, including from a mother to child during birth.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders make up over 50% of hepatitis B cases in the U.S. and are 5 times more likely to die from hepatitis B-related diseases than White, non-Hispanic people.

Where do I get the vaccine?

The hepatitis B vaccine is safe and the most widely used vaccine in the world. The hepatitis B vaccine is 2, 3, or 4 doses depending on the type. Plese talk to your health care provider, local community-based organization, community health center, Rural Health Center, and/or Native Hawaiian Health Center if you want the hepatitis B vaccine or for more information.



Who should get the vaccine?

The hepatitis B vaccine protects against HBV for those who have never been infected. Almost all babies born in the United States receive the hepatitis B vaccine at birth and as infants. All children and adults (19-59) should get vaccinated if you haven't been already. Adults (60 years and older) should consider the vaccination if you are at high-risk for infection.

For more health-related information, please visit apiahf.org or email us at communityengagement@apiahf.org.

