

# oskonāhpīnēwin | Hepatitis C

ōma pimācihowin, miyo pimātisiwin  
kiyānow ōma, kasītoskamahk,  
ka-kiskinohtahīyak, māka cīhkēyihtākwan  
isiyiniw ka yōhtēnamahaht iskwāhtēm,  
ēkosi ōma ka-māmawi-atoskātamahk,  
kā-wīcihiyak isiyiniwak.

## paskwāwiyiniw

- oskonāhpīnēwin ōma manicōs kā-nōcihetaht miskon.  
oskonāhpīnēwin isiyihkātēw.
- kīspin namōya kinākāhtōhkan, kotakak āhkosiwin ka-nātihkwan, tāpiskōc, pōni-ātoskēwmakan miskon, miskon manicōs, ahpō wīpac ta-pōni-pimātisin.
- maskihkiy itihtākwan ka-nanātawihēwin.
- oskonāhpīnēwin kakē āsōnāmākan ki-mihko ohci, kakē āsōnamākēw ayisinīwiw ka-ayāht oskonāhpīnēwin. maskihkiya itihtākwan ka-nanātawihtāw maskihkiy iýiniw ekwa maskihkiy atoskahākan.
- kīspin nōhtē kiskēyihten, kīspin kitāhkosin, maskihkiy iýiniw ahpō maskihkiy atoskahākan ta-wāpamaht.

ayamihcikē kisipin nōhtē kiskēyit en kwā

This life, a good life, is our responsibility, to support, to provide guidance, most importantly to open the doorway that is collectively working together in helping our people.

## Introduction

- Hepatitis C is a virus that attacks the liver. When left untreated, hepatitis C can lead to serious health problems such as liver failure, be cured!
- Hepatitis C is passed when blood from a person with hepatitis C gets into the blood of someone without hepatitis C. There are many ways to prevent getting or passing hepatitis C.
- The only way to know if you have hepatitis C is to get tested.

Read on for answers to common questions about hepatitis C.

## What is hepatitis C?

Hepatitis C is a virus that attacks the liver, an organ that performs many important functions for the body. The

nōhtē kakwēcihkēmowin kikway oma oskonāhpīnēwin.

## kīkway oma oskonāhpīnēwin?

oskonāhpīnēwin awa mincōs, ka-nōtināhk ekwa ka-misiwanāchitāht miskon. miskon awa mistahi āpacisōw miyaw kwayask kisi-atoskēmakahk. miskon poko kwayask ka-nākāhtōhkēn kīspin nōhtē miyo-ayān.

kīspin, nāmoya kinākāhtōhkan, oskonāhpīnēwin awa misiwanācihtāw miskon. sōhki āhkosowin tāpiskōc: ka-pōni-ātoskēwmakan miskon, miskon manicōs ēkwa wīpac ka-pōni-pimātisin. māka, **maskihikiy itihtākwan ka-nanātawihkwēn**.

## tānisi kakē katinēn oskonāhpīnēwin ēkwa tānisi kakwē nākinēn?

oskonāhpīnēwin kakē āsōnāmākan mihko ohci. iýisinīw ka-ayāht oskonāhpīnēwin, kakē āsōnamākēw mihko ohci.

ōta askiy, oskonāhpīnēwin  
āsōnamākēwak ka-āpacīhtācik  
cīstahikana, ka-cīstowsochīk ēkwa  
ka-māmawi āpacīhtācik cīstahikana.

oskonāhpīnēwin kakē āsōnāmākan:

- ka-kīhtwām āpacīhcikana tapiskoc  
asāsowin ahpō sāpastahikēwina

liver is essential to good health.

If left untreated, hepatitis C injures the liver over time. This can lead to serious health problems such as liver failure, liver cancer and early death. **However, hepatitis C can be cured.**

## How does someone get hepatitis C and how can this be prevented?

Hepatitis C is passed when blood from a person with hepatitis C gets into the blood of someone without hepatitis C.

In Canada, hepatitis C is commonly passed through sharing drug use equipment, especially injection drug use equipment.

Hepatitis C can also be passed:

- through reusing unsterilized tattooing or body piercing equipment
- from a pregnant parent to a child during pregnancy or childbirth
- during sex (while the risk is very low, it is possible; this is more common among men who have sex with men)
- through sharing personal care items like razors, nail clippers and toothbrushes

Hepatitis C can no longer be passed through donated blood or tissue in

āpacihcikana

- onīkihikomāw ka-ayāwāwasow ka-āsōnamawēw ocawāsimisa
- ka-wīcēwtoht, ka-wihpēmitocik iskwēw ēkwa nāpēw, wāwēs nāpēwak ka-wīcēwaht kotak nāpēwa
- ēkāwiya āpacihcikana māmawi-āpacichtāhk, tapiskoc kāskipāson, maskasiy manisohikan, ēkwa kisipēkāpitēwākan

oskonāhpinēwin nāmoya ayiwāk kakē  
āsōnāmahtohk mihko ohci ōta askiy,  
Canada. Canada kwayask nakātōhtāhtam  
ēkwa mihko ka-mihkihk ispi ōhci 1992.

nāmoya kakē āsōnākān oskonāhpinēwin  
ka-ākwaskitinikēwin, ocēhtowin, ahpō  
tēpiyāhk awiyak ka-sāminaht kīspin  
kitayān oskonāhpinēwin.

nama kīkway itihtākwan maskihkiy  
cīstahowin ohci oskonāhpinēwin. pokō  
ka-nātatēyihtaman, nāmoya  
ka-kahtinaman oskonāhpinēwin.

mistahi-kīkway itihtākwan kakwē  
nakīnaman oskonāhpinēwin:

- kīspin kičīstowson, kāwiya māmawi-āpacichtāhk ēkwa osk-āyi  
āpacihcikana āpacichtahk
- kīspin kipīhtwān, kihtōhtaten nāmoya ka-miyōsik maskihkiya  
(drugs); ēkā māmawi āpacichtāhk

Canada. Canada started testing donated blood and tissue for hepatitis C in 1992.

Hepatitis C is never passed by hugging, kissing or touching someone who has the virus.

There is no vaccine for hepatitis C, so it's important to do what you can to prevent getting hepatitis C.

There are many ways to prevent hepatitis C:

- If you inject drugs, avoid sharing by using new equipment every time you inject drugs.
- If you smoke or snort drugs, avoid sharing by using your own equipment every time you smoke or snort.
- Use condoms the right way each time you have sex.
- Get tested, treated and cured before becoming pregnant. This will prevent passing hepatitis C to your baby.

## How do I know if I have hepatitis C?

Most people who have hepatitis C do not have any symptoms for many years, even though the virus is active and injuring their liver.

ohki āpacihcikana.

- aspimōchikan kwayask āpacihtha tāpitaw kāwi-wīhpēmaht awiyak
- kīspin ayāwāwasow iskwēw, poko ta-wāpamaht maskihkiy iýiniw ahpō atoskahākan, ekāwiya āsōnamowat ocawāsimisa.

## tānisi kiskēyihten kīspin kitayān oskonāhpinēwin?

mowac kiskēyihtam isiýiniw kīspin ayāw oma āhkosiwin. nama kīkway mōsihtāw tahto-kīsikaw ahpō tahto-askīwin. āhkosiwin kā-misiwanācitāw miskon.

ka-ayān āhkosiwin ēkwa namōya ta-kiskēyihten.

maskihkiy iýiniw ka-wāpamiht, ka-nanātawihow kīspin kitāhkasin.

kakwēcimāw maskihkiy iýiniw ka-ōtēnahk ki-mihkom kīspin kimāwēyihtēn ākkosin, ōki kotak ākkosowina: maci āhpinēwin ekwa iýiniw wahkēhpinēwin manicōs, mina ka-nitōnamowak

## kakē nanātawihewitan cī oskonāhpinēwin?

oskonāhpinēwin kakē nanātawihewitan! ātiht ayisinīwiw sēmak miyo-ayāw, nama kīkway āhkosiwin miskam, sēmak maskihkiya poko kotinaman. pīhci

## You can have hepatitis C and not know it.

The only way to know if you have hepatitis C is to get tested.

Ask a healthcare provider for a hepatitis C test. You may want to also get tested for other infections at the same time, like gonorrhea, chlamydia, hepatitis B, HIV and syphilis.

## Can hepatitis C be cured?

Hepatitis C can be cured! For some people, the virus will go away on its own within the first six months, but most people need treatment to cure the infection.

Hepatitis C treatment has come a long way. It involves taking treatment for eight or 12 weeks and cures almost everyone with hepatitis C with few, if any, side effects.

If you have hepatitis C, speak to a healthcare provider about your treatment options. **The earlier treatment is started, the better it is for your health.**

## Can I get hepatitis C again?

Having had hepatitis C does not make you immune. You can get hepatitis C again if you come into contact with blood containing hepatitis C again.

**The good news is that it can be treated**

nikotwāsik pīsim, ātiht sēmak pokō  
ka-nanātawihit.

mistahi āsay oskonāhpinēwin maskihkiya  
kitayānāw. pokō ka-nanātawihewitan  
ayinānēw ahpō nīsosāp kīsīkaw  
kā-ispayik, kēkāc kahkiyaw miyo-ayāw  
sēmak.

kīspin kiskēyihten ayān oskonāhpinēwin,  
pīkiskwās maskihkiy iýiniw. **kīspin sēmak  
nanātawihēw, kwayask sēmak kati-miyo  
ayān.**

## **kīhtwām cī āhkosowin kakē kāhcitizen?**

kīspin pēyakwāw kāhcitizen  
oskonāhpinēwin, kīhtwām kakē  
kāhcitizen kīspin awiyak oh mihko ohci  
āsōnamāk ekwa āsay ka-ayāht  
oskonāhpinēwin

**poko kīhtwām maskihkiy iýiniw  
ka-natāwihisk, ekwa kīhtwām kakē miyo  
ayān!**

## **kīkway oma oskonāhpinēwin Hep A ekwa B?**

oma Hepatitis A ekwa Hepatitis B ekwa  
Hepatitis C- pītos ōhki āhkosiwinia.

oskonāhpinēwin Hepatitis A: kakē  
āsōnamakān nipyihk ohci, mīcowin  
apischi mēyi takonikātēk. ekwa kakē  
āsōnamakān kīspin awiyak kēhci  
sāminaw, ta-iyāht āhkosiwin oma

and cured again!

## **What are hepatitis A and B?**

Hepatitis A and B are different from  
hepatitis C.

Hepatitis A is usually passed through  
water or food contaminated with fecal  
matter (poo). It can also be passed  
through close contact with someone who  
has hepatitis A.

Most people who get hepatitis A recover  
from it on their own. When this happens,  
they are immune to the virus and cannot  
get hepatitis A again.

Hepatitis B can be passed from one  
person to another through blood, semen  
or vaginal fluid. Hepatitis B can also be  
passed to a baby during childbirth.

Most people who get hepatitis B recover  
on their own; after this, they cannot get  
hepatitis B again. However, some people  
with hepatitis B develop a chronic  
hepatitis B infection. This is more  
common in people who get hepatitis B  
when young. Chronic hepatitis B can lead  
to long-term liver problems. There is no  
cure for hepatitis B.

**Vaccination is the best way to prevent  
both hepatitis A and hepatitis B.**

hepatitis A.

āhtiht isiýiniw miyo ayāw sēhkē, namōya kīhtwām ka-āhkosew, namōya kihtwam kāhcitinam hepatitis A. kīspin omisi ispiyan, nāmoya kīhtwām kakē katinēn oskanapinēwin hepatitis A.

oskonāhpinēwin Hepatitis B:

oskonāhpinēwin kakē āsōnamahtowak ayisiýiniw, oh-mihkom ohci, nāpēw ahpō iskwēw pāskisikēwin. oma hepatitis B kakē āsōnamowēw iskwēw nihtāwikhāwsowin ohci.

ayisiniw kakē miyo-ayāw sēhkē, namōya ka-kīhtwām kitāhkosiñ. āhtiht, kīhtwām ka-katinahk āhkosiwin, itāspinēw kakētwām katinam. āhtiht, isiýiniw kiyāht Hepatitis B nawac sohki āhkoswin kāhcitinam. maka, ātiht sohki āhkosowak, wawēs ohki oski-awāsisak ka-katinakihk wēpac oma āhkosiwin. kihtwam ohki ka-āhowsihcik misi-wānachitawak miskon. nama kīkway itihtākwan maskihkiy ohci hepatitis B.

cīstahikāsowin pokō, ka-nakīnaman ohki ākoswina, hepatitis A ekwa hepatitis B.

## tānitē ka-nanātawihimsōwin ohci oskonāhpinēwin?

- pīkiskwās maskihkiy atoskahākan, ohci maci āhpinēwin.
- ka-miskawāwak ka-nākatēyohcik, ka-kiskinwahmākēcik oma maci āhpinēwin ōta,

## Where can I get hepatitis C services?

- Speak to a healthcare provider about hepatitis C testing or to receive treatment and care for hepatitis C.
- Find hepatitis C services in your area at <https://whereto.catie.ca>.

<https://whereto.catie.ca>