



# Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



## World Hepatitis Day - July 28, 2023

### "We're Not Waiting" | "One Life One Liver"

**World Hepatitis Day** is a global call to action to accelerate elimination efforts and raise awareness of viral hepatitis. Approximately 354 million people in the world today live with viral hepatitis. This year's campaign themes are "We're Not Waiting" (World Hepatitis Alliance, 2023) and "One Life One Liver" (World Health Organization, 2023), with a focus on actions needed to achieve the ambitious targets of eliminating hepatitis by 2030, including promoting testing and treatment for individuals who need it.

Hepatitis A, B, and C viruses cause 90% of acute hepatitis infections in Canada, and they are reportable to Durham Region Health Department.

**Hepatitis A and B are vaccine preventable. Chronic hepatitis B infection is treatable. Hepatitis C is considered a curable infection.**

Screening for **early diagnosis** and promoting **access to care** are important steps in reducing the burden of viral hepatitis. For example, the Canadian Liver Foundation recommends [risk-based screening and birth-cohort screening](#) which increase the probability of identifying undiagnosed hepatitis C infections.

## Resources

High-risk individuals may be eligible to receive free vaccines for hepatitis A and B. For more information and for the vaccine Special Release order forms, visit Resources for [Health Care Providers - Region of Durham](#) (or [durham.ca/hcp](http://durham.ca/hcp) Forms>Order).

For current information on **testing** for hepatitis and **interpretation** of test results, refer to [Public Health Ontario](#) and [Canadian Liver Foundation](#).

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905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | [durham.ca/health](http://durham.ca/health)

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

