

HEPATITIS "C"

THE FACTS:

- HEPATITIS C IS A VIRUS THAT CAN DAMAGE THE LIVER AND CAUSE LIVER DISEASE (CIRRHOSIS)
- HEPATITIS C IS A DISEASE THAT FRENCHESILY AFFECTS IN MANY PEOPLE
- THE VIRUS IS CARRIED IN THE BLOOD
- THE VIRUS IS PASSED ON WHEN INFECTED BLOOD FROM ONE PERSON REACHES THE BLOODSTREAM OF ANOTHER PERSON
- SOME WAYS PEOPLE CAN GET HEPATITIS C ARE:
 - SHARING DRUG INJECTION EQUIPMENT
 - TATTOOING AND BODY PIERCING USING REUSABLE EQUIPMENT
 - SHARING PERSONAL ITEMS SUCH AS RAZORS, NAIL CLIPPERS AND TOOTHBRUSHES
- HEPATITIS C IS NOT A SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE - THERE MUST BE BLOOD TO BLOOD CONTACT
- HEPATITIS C TESTING IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY MIGHT BE AT RISK
- TREATMENT IS AVAILABLE AND WORKS FOR SOME PEOPLE - ASK YOUR GP



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THE STORY:

THIS PAINFUL STORY WENT THE OTHER WAY. HEAVY BLOOD THAT IS FLOWING THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY CAN BE PROTECTED FROM THE RISK OF BLOOD BEING INFECTED WITH THE HEPATITIS "C" VIRUS.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERY PERSON TO BE AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF MIXING BLOOD AND TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AND EACH OTHER AGAINST INFECTION.

THIS HEALTH ISSUE NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED IN A CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE MANNER BY:

- THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE
- WOMEN AND DAUGHTERS
- MEN AND BOYS

PRECAUTIONS:

AVOID BLOOD TO BLOOD CONTACT

IF YOU INJECT DRUGS:

- NEVER SHARE OR REUSE SYRINGES AND NEEDLES
- NEVER SHARE DRUGS/DRUGS LINES (SPRING, WATER, THERMOMETERS, PISTOLS, SCALDS OR J-SHOTS)
- WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE AND AFTER INJECTING TO REMOVE ANY TRACES OF BLOOD

ONLY GET BODY PIERCING AND TATTOOING DONE IN SHOPS THAT USE PROPER STERILIZATION METHODS

AVOID SHARING RAZORS, TOOTHBRUSHES, NAIL CLIPPERS OR ANY OTHER EQUIPMENT THAT COULD TRANSMIT BLOOD FROM ONE PERSON TO ANOTHER

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	HEALTHY YOU	ACT	HEALTHY YOU
VICTORIA	HEALTHY YOU	QUEENSLAND	HEALTHY YOU
NORTHERN TERRITORY	HEALTHY YOU	TASMANIA	HEALTHY YOU
NEW SOUTH WALES	HEALTHY YOU		
QUEENSLAND	HEALTHY YOU		
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	HEALTHY YOU		
TASMANIA	HEALTHY YOU		
VICTORIA	HEALTHY YOU		

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: