



Hepatitis Awareness and Prevention in Black Communities

Hepatitis affects thousands of lives, but not all communities are impacted equally. Black Americans face higher rates of hepatitis B and C, along with more severe health outcomes. Early testing, education, and prevention efforts can change this reality. The sooner we act, the stronger our communities become.

The world needs hepatitis care that informs, protects, and prioritizes equity.

Black adults are more likely to be diagnosed with chronic hepatitis B and to experience serious complications from hepatitis C. Yet awareness, testing, and vaccination rates remain low.

This is not just a medical issue. It's about equity, access, and trust. When people don't know they're at risk or don't feel safe seeking care, the virus continues to spread. The good news is that hepatitis can often be prevented, treated, or cured. The tools exist. Now it's about taking action.

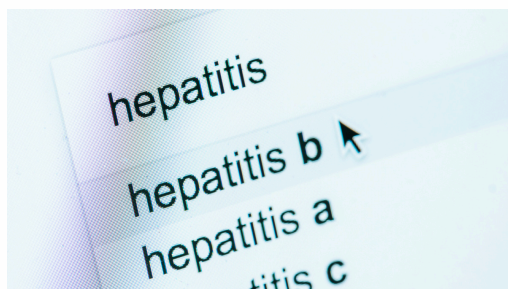
Why It Matters

- Hepatitis C causes more severe outcomes in Black adults compared to white adults
- Chronic hepatitis B is diagnosed over four times more often in Black communities
- Adult vaccination rates for hepatitis B remain significantly lower

Without awareness and regular testing, many people live with hepatitis for years without knowing. That delay puts lives at risk.

What Can You Do

- Talk to your provider about hepatitis B and C testing.
- Get vaccinated if you haven't already.
- Encourage loved ones to get screened.
- Learn the symptoms and risk factors for hepatitis.
- Support local clinics and health programs that offer care and education.



For more Information, www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov



The mission of **The Balm In Gilead, Inc.** is to improve the health of individuals who are most at risk for chronic and acute diseases by supporting faith and community organizations in areas that mobilize and strengthen their capacity to increase awareness in areas of prevention, treatment, and access to care through education, programming and advocacy. Learn more at balmingilead.org.

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