

# Hepatitis C: Information for pregnant and post-partum people



Hepatitis C can be passed to your baby during pregnancy or birth. It occurs in only 1 in 20 infants born to pregnant people with hepatitis C. However, the mother and baby can live long and healthy lives with treatment.



Hepatitis C is spread through blood-to-blood contact.



It's safe to hug, kiss, and play with your baby if you have hepatitis C.



Use condoms during pregnancy and have your partners tested.



Tell a doctor if you have hepatitis C.

**Everyone should be tested for hepatitis C during each pregnancy.** It may be important to be tested several times during your pregnancy if you have certain risk factors like regular exposure to blood at work or through drug use.

## Testing and treatment for your baby

- Your baby can be tested at 2 months with an RNA confirmatory test or at 18 months with an antibody test. **Your pediatrician can determine which test is right for your baby.**
- Children can be treated for hepatitis C when they are 36 months of age or older. More than 95% of patients are cured with treatment.
- For more information, [check out our website!](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/viral-hepatitis/hcv-program.htm) ([www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/viral-hepatitis/hcv-program.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/viral-hepatitis/hcv-program.htm))

**You can be treated for hepatitis C after giving birth.**

**If you are taking medication, talk with your doctor about the safest ways to provide human milk to your baby.**

