Introduction: Hepatitis means inflammation of the liver and also refers to a group of viral infections that affect the liver. The most common types are Hepatitis A, B & C.

**SYMPTOMS FOR ALL TYPES CAN INCLUDE:** Fever, Fatigue, Loss of appetite, Nausea, Vomiting, Abdominal pain, Gray-colored bowel movements, Joint pain and Jaundice.

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**IMPORTANT to KNOW ABOUT the MAIN THREE TYPES of HEPATITIS**

**A**

**Hepatitis A (HAV)**

**How it’s contracted and spread?**

- Contact with: Ingesting contaminated food or water, or coming into contact with contaminated fecal matter.
- Severity: Most persons with acute disease recover with no lasting liver damage; rarely fatal.

**Vaccinations:** Available

**Duration:** A few weeks

**Treatment:**

HAV usually gets better in a few weeks without treatment.

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**B**

**Hepatitis B (HBV)**

**How it’s contracted and spread?**

- Contact with: Birth to an infected mother.
- Sexual contact with an infected person.
- Sharing of contaminated needles, syringes or other injection drug equipment.

**Vaccinations:** Available

**Duration:** A few week to a lifelong illness

**Treatment:**

Since HBV can be acute or chronic, treatments vary including monitoring for signs of liver disease progression and antiviral drug therapy.

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**C**

**Hepatitis C (HCV)**

**How it's contracted and spread?**

- Contact with: Birth to an infected mother, sexual contact with an infected person, sharing of contaminated needles, syringes or other injection drug equipment. Being tattooed or pierced with unsterilized equipment used on an infected person. Using an infected person's razor, toothbrush or nail clippers.

**Vaccinations:** Not Available

**Duration:** A few weeks to a lifelong illness

**Treatment:** For HCV may vary including monitoring for signs of liver disease progression and antiviral drug therapy.