



# Viral hepatitis A, B, C

HAV = Hepatitis A virus, HBV = Hepatitis B virus and HCV = Hepatitis C virus **cause infections to the liver** that can manifest with symptoms or even be asymptomatic.

**The Hepatitis A virus** is present in the faeces and blood of infected people. Transmission occurs mainly through food, but also during oral-anal intercourse or by bringing fingers or objects contaminated by faeces to the mouth.

**The Hepatitis B virus**, in addition to sexual life, is transmitted through blood and other biological fluids of infected people and from an infected mother to her baby at the time of childbirth.

**The Hepatitis A virus** is mostly transmitted through blood; sexual transmission, though documented, is less likely.

**Jaundice, i.e. the yellowish coloration of the skin and sclera of the eye is the most characteristic symptom** of acute forms of hepatitis; it is accompanied a marsala- coloured urine and whitish faeces.



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