## HEPATITIS &

Hepatitis prevention and care services are essential even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you have chronic hepatitis and advanced liver disease or have been cured of hepatitis C but have ongoing liver sequelae, you may be at increased risk for more severe COVID-19 complications.\*



## **HOW TO PREVENT VIRAL HEPATITIS**



**During the COVID-19 pandemic**, vaccination of newborns and infants against hepatitis B should be a priority. Hepatitis B vaccination with at least three doses protects in more than 95% of cases.



All newborns must be vaccinated against hepatitis B within the first 24 hours of life and receive at least two additional doses.



If you are pregnant, get tested for hepatitis B. If you live with hepatitis B, there are measures you can take to protect your baby, such as using antivirals during pregnancy and vaccinating your newborn within the first 24 hours of life.



Early diagnosis of hepatitis B or C allows early treatment. Curing hepatitis C or controlling hepatitis B prevents liver damage such as cirrhosis and cancer. Get tested for hepatitis.

## HOW TO STAY HEALTHY IF YOU ARE LIVING WITH HEPATITIS



People living with chronic liver disease should take the same general COVID-19 prevention measures recommended for the general population and should also be vaccinated against influenza and pneumococcus.



Talk to your healthcare provider about continuing treatment or consultation remotely, especially if you have advanced liver disease (cirrhosis or cancer).



If you're being treated for hepatitis B or C, make sure you have a supply of treatment for at least 3 to 6 months, reducing visits to the health services.

\*If you are living with chronic hepatitis B or C and have no advanced liver disease, there is no evidence, so far, that you are at a higher risk of more severe complications of COVID-19 than other people.



**#HepatitisFreeFuture** https://www.paho.org/en/topics/hepatitis