What baby boomers need to know about hepatitis C
Ask your doctor about getting tested for the hepatitis C virus today

Hepatitis C (Hep C) is a life-threatening liver disease that could be affecting your health right now

75% of adults infected with Hep C are baby boomers, yet most don’t know they have it. That’s because Hep C can show no symptoms for decades. Getting tested is the only way to know for sure if you have it.

What you need to know about Hep C

Because people can be infected for years or even decades before symptoms show up, serious liver damage could already have occurred. When symptoms do appear, they can be similar to those associated with other illnesses. These symptoms include:

- Fever
- Tiredness
- Stomach pain
- Joint pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Loss of appetite
- Dark urine
- Jaundice (yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes)

In chronic hepatitis C infection, the virus damages liver cells. This can lead to scarring of the liver (cirrhosis), liver cancer, or even liver failure. More than half the people infected with Hep C develop chronic liver disease, 5% to 20% develop cirrhosis, and 1% to 5% will die of cirrhosis or liver cancer. These statistics could be changed for the better if more people knew they were infected.

Hep C is serious business

- Hep C is the leading cause of liver cancer and liver transplants
- It can lead to cirrhosis of the liver and liver failure
- Left untreated, it can lead to death
Knowing is the first step
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) now recommends that everyone born between 1945 and 1965 get tested. It’s a simple, one-time blood test that may be covered by insurance. If you test negative, then you know you don’t have the virus. A positive test result means that you have been infected. But other tests are needed to find out if you still have the infection.

If caught in time, Hep C is curable
If you are infected, treatments are available that may be able to slow or stop the damage to your liver. Many people can even be cured—and the treatment is simple. Your doctor can give you more information.

Did you know?
- The CDC urges everyone born between 1945 and 1965 (baby boomers) to get a one-time blood test to see if they have the hepatitis C virus
- Anyone can get Hep C, regardless of race or sex
- Baby boomers make up 27% of the US population, yet they account for 75% of hepatitis C cases
- Close to 3 million baby boomers are living with Hep C
- In 2013, the number of deaths attributed to Hep C was 19,368. The CDC estimates that the actual number may be far higher

Take this brochure and talk to your doctor about getting tested for Hep C.
Resources

• Choose from 2,200 Patient Service Center (PSC) locations nationwide when your doctor orders hepatitis C testing

• Get your test results delivered directly to your computer, tablet, or smartphone. You can view, access, and securely share your health information wherever you go. Visit QuestDiagnostics.com/MyQuest to sign up

For more information about hepatitis C screening, speak to your doctor or visit KnowAboutHepC.com