



Health Tribune

Thinking about your health in Portage County
Provided by the Portage County Health Department



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May is...

Hepatitis Awareness Month

The Hepatitis Virus

Most liver damage is caused by 3 hepatitis viruses, called hepatitis A, B and C. However, hepatitis can also be caused by alcohol and some other toxins and infections, as well as from our own immune system, where the body attacks itself. About 250 million people globally are thought to be affected by hepatitis C, while 300 million people are thought to be carriers of hepatitis B.

Not all forms of hepatitis are infectious. Alcohol, medicines, and chemicals may be bad for the liver and cause inflammation. A person may have a genetic problem, a metabolic disorder, or an immune related injury.



Common Hepatitis Symptoms:

- fatigue
- flu-like symptoms
- dark urine
- pale-colored stool
- abdominal pain
- loss of appetite
- unexplained weight loss
- yellow skin and eyes (may be signs of jaundice)

For more information: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/145869.php>

Did you know?

Hepatitis A: virus transmitted through the feces of infected individuals. People usually get hepatitis A by eating food or drinking water that's been contaminated with feces.

Hepatitis B: is a more serious infection. It may lead to a condition called cirrhosis which is permanent scarring of the liver, or liver cancer, both of which cause severe illness and even death. Hepatitis B virus is transmitted from person to person through blood or other body fluids.

Hepatitis C: Transmitted from person to person through blood or other body fluids. Like hepatitis B, hepatitis C can lead to cirrhosis or liver cancer. Hepatitis C is the most serious type of hepatitis. It's now one of the most common reasons for liver transplants in adults. Every year, thousands of people in the United States die from Hepatitis C. There's no cure and no vaccine.

The Portage County Health Department Holds Childhood Immunization Clinics

When: Every Wednesday 8:00am-12:00pm

Where: Portage County Health Department
705 Oakwood Street, Ravenna

Who: All children, 2 months- age 18 years

Cost: \$10 per shot, FREE to those who can't pay!

For more information: http://kidshealth.org/teen/sexual_health/stds/hepatitis.html#

Questions or Comments?

Contact Us!

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