

HEPATITIS B & C DISCLOSURE:

Who do you tell?

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Practices with ethical guidelines

You are not bound by law to disclose your hepatitis status in certain situations. However, ethical guidelines surrounding the following practices mean that they will test for hepatitis B and C:

Donating organs

If you have hepatitis B or C, you may still be able to donate. However, this is determined on a case-by-case basis.

Donating Sperm

You cannot donate sperm if you have hepatitis B or C unless it is to be used in artificial insemination for your spouse.

Partners and family members

It is your choice which friends and family you tell, but you should consider telling people who may have been exposed to the virus so they can get tested.

Who do you tell?

In most situations it is your choice whether you tell someone you have hepatitis B or C. However there are times you must disclose if you have, or previously had, hepatitis. These are:

The blood bank - you cannot donate blood if you have hepatitis B or C or if you previously had hepatitis C.

Some insurance policies - life insurance or other types of insurance where your health may impact on their decision about insuring you.

Members of the Australian Defence Force - you must disclose your hepatitis B or C status, you may be required to leave the ADF. This is decided case-by-case depending on your role.

Health care workers who perform exposure prone procedures (EEPs) - health care workers who perform EEPs must be tested regularly.

People applying for a visa to live in Australia - you may be required to have a hepatitis B or C test. For more information visit: www.homeaffairs.gov.au

Reference: Hepatitis Australia - <https://www.hepatitisaustralia.com/your-rights-and-responsibilities>

