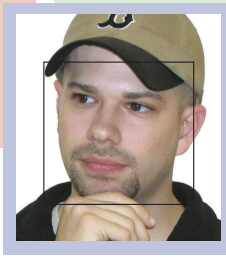


Some risks I'm willing to take. Hepatitis B isn't one of them. That's why I got immunized. Do you want to leave yourself at risk?

You decide.

Check out the facts by visiting:

www.hepBfacts.org
www.immunize.org
www.cdc.gov/hepatitis
or contact your doctor, clinic, or local health department.

California Department of Health Services

Gray Davis, Governor
State of California

Grantland Johnson, Secretary
Health and Human Services Agency

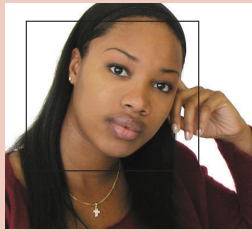
Diana M. Bontá, R.N., Dr.P.H., Director
Department of Health Services

Immunization Branch
2151 Berkeley Way • Berkeley, CA 94704

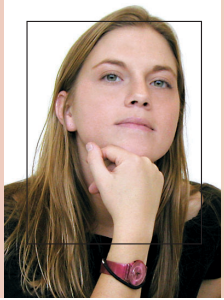
Upon request, this document will be made available in Braille, large print, and audiocassette or computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please call the Materials Manager at (510)540-2065

IMM-747 (3/03)

Anyone can get Hepatitis B.



A few simple shots can prevent it.



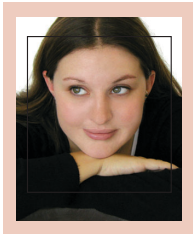
Hepatitis B is a very serious disease.

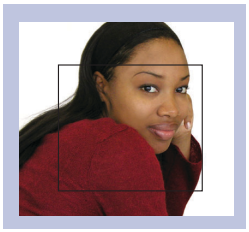
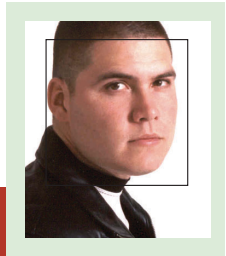
- The hepatitis B virus attacks the liver and can lead to severe illness, liver cancer, and even death.
- Each year in the U.S., about 80,000 people, mostly young adults, get infected with the hepatitis B virus.
- 1 in 3 people who get hepatitis B don't know how they got it. Some don't even know they have it. Any of them can spread it to you.
- **Hepatitis B is very contagious.** It is spread through contact with blood and body fluids of an infected person. You can get it by:
  - having unprotected sex,
  - sharing needles when injecting drugs,
  - using unsterilized needles for piercing and tattooing, and
  - sharing razors or toothbrushes.

A few simple shots can prevent it.

Hepatitis B can be prevented.

- The hepatitis B vaccine is one of the safest and most effective vaccines in the world.
- A simple 3-shot series can protect you.
- Some STD clinics provide hepatitis B vaccine for free or low-cost. The shots also may be covered by some types of health insurance, or you may have to pay for them.
- Ask your doctor, health care provider, or clinic about getting the hepatitis B shot series.



You decide.

Why risk it?