Viral Hepatitis – from A to E

Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver. Infections with the hepatitis viruses A to E are often the cause of hepatitis. The viral infection can be chronic.

354 MILLION people worldwide are living with hepatitis B or C.*

20 MILLION hepatitis E infections occur annually worldwide.*

1.1 MILLION people worldwide die of hepatitis B or C every year.*

9.4 MILLION people worldwide are treated for chronic hepatitis C virus infection.*

* source: WHO (www.who.int/health-topics/hepatitis)

28.7.
WORLD HEPATITIS DAY
Birthday of Dr. Blumberg, discoverer of the hepatitis B virus

- Effective vaccines are available
- Never chronic, usually heals without serious complications
- Specific treatment is not possible

- Vaccination against hepatitis B also protects against hepatitis D
- Requires the hepatitis B virus to multiply – in this combination leads to the most severe forms of progression
- A medicine has been authorised since 2020

- There is no vaccine
- Usually asymptomatic, but often becomes chronic
- Medicines are available

- There is no vaccine authorised in the EU
- Usually cures without consequences, but severe and lethal courses are possible, especially for pregnant women
- No specific therapy possible

- Effective vaccines are available
- Can be severe and chronic, especially in young children and babies
- Medicines cannot cure, but can reduce the viral load

BLOOD DONATIONS are tested in Germany for the hepatitis viruses B and C, and since 2020 for E, in order to prevent transmission via blood products.

SPREAD OF HEPATITIS VIRUSES:

A  Lack of food hygiene, polluted water, lack of sanitary facilities
B,C,D  Blood, sperm and other body fluids
E  In Germany mostly zoonotic, worldwide through contaminated drinking water, blood

Find out more about the vaccines authorised in Germany: www.pei.de/vaccines