

Acute Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) Enhanced Surveillance Case Report Form

Script to facilitate conversation and form completion

This script is not mandatory for use when completing the Acute Hepatitis B Enhanced Surveillance Form but may facilitate conversation around stigmatized practices, such as sex and drug use.

Hello, my name is ___ and I'm a Public Health Nurse. I wanted to talk with you about a private matter, is now an okay time?

I'd like to confirm that I have the right person on the phone before we discuss any personal health information, can I get your date of birth. Other identifier if possible – last visit with a health care provider.

So you recently tested positive for acute hepatitis B, and we are experiencing an outbreak of hepatitis B in Winnipeg and are hoping to learn something about how we can help prevent it. First of all, do you have any questions or concerns about hepatitis B?

The reason public health follows up with this is because it is fairly easy to pass on hepatitis B, and we want to help prevent people from getting it. We also need to understand more about the experience of people who got hepatitis B to understand how it is spreading, so this conversation really focuses on the last 6 months before you started getting symptoms (if you had symptoms).

Start with questions around less stigmatized practices: travel, tattoos, shared toothbrushes or razors before sexual partners and drug use.

There are some places where hepatitis B is more prevalent, have you travelled anywhere in the last 6 months?

Hepatitis B can also spread through blood, even very small amounts of blood – so things like tattoos with used equipment, shared razors, shared drug use equipment, particularly injection drug equipment are often a factor.

Have you had any tattoos in the last 6 months? Were they professionally done in a shop?

Hepatitis B can be transmitted sexually, have you had any sexual partners in the last 6 months? How many?

Drug Use:

I'd like to ask you about drug use, and please understand this is confidential and focused on your health, not the law. Have you used any drugs other than cannabis in the last 6 months? How did you use that drug? By smoking, inhaling, injecting?

If inhaled or smoked: did you share pipes, straws or other equipment?

If injected: Do you use cookers, water, or filters to prepare your drug for injection?

Was any of that equipment shared?

How about the syringes/needles?

Is there any other drug equipment that might have been shared with anyone?

If you have shared with anyone it would be important for them to know they may be at risk for Hepatitis B?

What would be the best way to contact them so we could speak with them to arrange for them to get tested and treatment if necessary? This would be done confidentially.

Social network contacts (optional):

Now that you have a good idea of how hepatitis B is transmitted. If there is anyone that you know, who you think has been at risk of hepatitis B and could benefit from testing. What we can do is follow up with them and encourage them to be tested and immunized for hepatitis B. would this be of interest to you? Ask for names or places