# **Infection Control** *Pathogen Primer*

# Hepatitis C

## **Hepatitis C explained**

Hepatitis C is liver disease, or more appropriately the inflammation of the liver, that is caused by a virus in humans.

# How you get sick from Hepatitis C

Hepatitis C is contagious and can be transmitted through sharing contaminated needles, syringes, razors, and toothbrushes. A mother who has Hepatitis C can transmit the virus to her newborn.

## Information about Hepatitis C

- Currently there is no vaccine for Hepatitis C, however, 15%-25% of infected people will naturally recover from this virus.
- 75%-80% of people who are infected with Hepatitis C will develop chronic liver problems.
- 50%-90% of people who have HIV and use injection drugs also have Hepatitis C.

#### **Other Information**

The most common way Hepatitis C is spread is through sharing needles or other injection equipment. Blood-to-blood contact is the only way a person can get Hepatitis C. The Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act and OHSA's Bloodborne Pathogen Standard were created to regulate and mitigate the spread of bloodborne pathogens.

#### **Infection Control Strategies**

Proper sanitation of surfaces and medical equipment. More info on the CDC Hepatitis C Webpage.

Multi-Clean Disinfectants:

All Multi-Clean disinfectants have claims for Hepatitis C.

#### **Multi-Clean Disinfectant Products**

- Millennium Q 64
- E-Fecticide 128
- Century Q 256
- MC Disinfecting Wipes
- Microcide TB
- Peroxi-Cide

















