I am first generation Asian-American. Should I be tested for hepatitis?

May 22, 2018 By Lucinda K. Porter RN

First generation Asian-Americans are not necessarily at risk for hepatitis B or C. However, without knowing your age or family history, it is impossible to say if you are at risk. For instance, if you were born in the United Stated after 1982, you may have been screened for hepatitis B, and/or vaccinated for it.

Talk to your doctor about your risk for viral hepatitis. He or she will need to know if your mother might have had hepatitis B at the time of your birth. You may be at risk if you lived with or had sex with anyone who had chronic hepatitis B. Travel to countries with moderate to high rates of hepatitis B is another factor. Although these are also risk factors for hepatitis C, the risk is much lower than it is for hep B.

Click here to learn who is at risk for hepatitis B, and here for who is at risk for hepatitis C.

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