



I was just diagnosed with hepatitis C. My doctor said I need a genotype test before she will know which treatment to use. Why is that?

May 1, 2017 By [Lucinda K. Porter RN](#)

There are seven distinct genetic variations in hepatitis C, and these are called genotypes. Your medical provider uses genotype information in order to prescribe the [hepatitis C treatment](#) that is most likely to cure you. About 5 to 10 percent of people with hepatitis C have [more than one genotype](#).

In the United States, 75 percent of all hepatitis C infections are genotype 1; genotypes 2, 3 and 4 are less common in the United States, and other genotypes are rare. Genotype 7 was discovered in 2013 and there are only a few cases.

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