



# I recently contracted hepatitis C. Does hep C always become chronic?

October 9, 2018 By [Lucinda K. Porter RN](#)

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It sounds like you know what many are unaware of, and that is that some hepatitis C infections resolve without treatment. This occurs about 15 to 25 percent of the time. Infants and young women are more likely to clear hepatitis C spontaneously. Roughly, 40 percent of women under age 40 are able to resolve hep C without medication.

The [initial phase](#) of a hep C infection is called acute. If the virus remains after 6 months, it's a chronic infection. After that point, [hepatitis C treatment](#) is necessary for clearing the virus. Fortunately, the latest hep C medicines are able to cure nearly everyone. Typically, hep C treatment lasts about 12 weeks and has few side effects.

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<http://beta.docker.hepmag.com/article/recently-infected-hepatitis-c-hep-c-always-become-chronic>