



I have stage 2 fibrosis hepatitis C and memory problems. Can hep C cause this?

September 25, 2018 By [Lucinda K. Porter RN](#)

Perhaps. Let's start with something reassuring. This isn't caused by the hepatitis C-related condition known as hepatic encephalopathy (HE). HE is a form of dementia that may occur in advanced cases of [cirrhosis](#), which your liver damage is not.

Studies show that hep C can cause mild cognitive decline in some people. It may also cause depression and sleep disturbance, which can impair memory and the ability to concentrate. Living with a chronic illness can be stressful, which may affect memory.

You didn't state your age, but some types of memory loss are a part of normal aging. Many factors affect memory. Your medical provider can help you find out if your memory problems are normal, hep C-related, or caused by another condition. If hepatitis C is the cause, studies show cognitive ability is usually restored after successful treatment.

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<http://beta.docker.hepmag.com/article/stage-2-fibrosis-hepatitis-c-memory-problems-can-hep-c-cause>