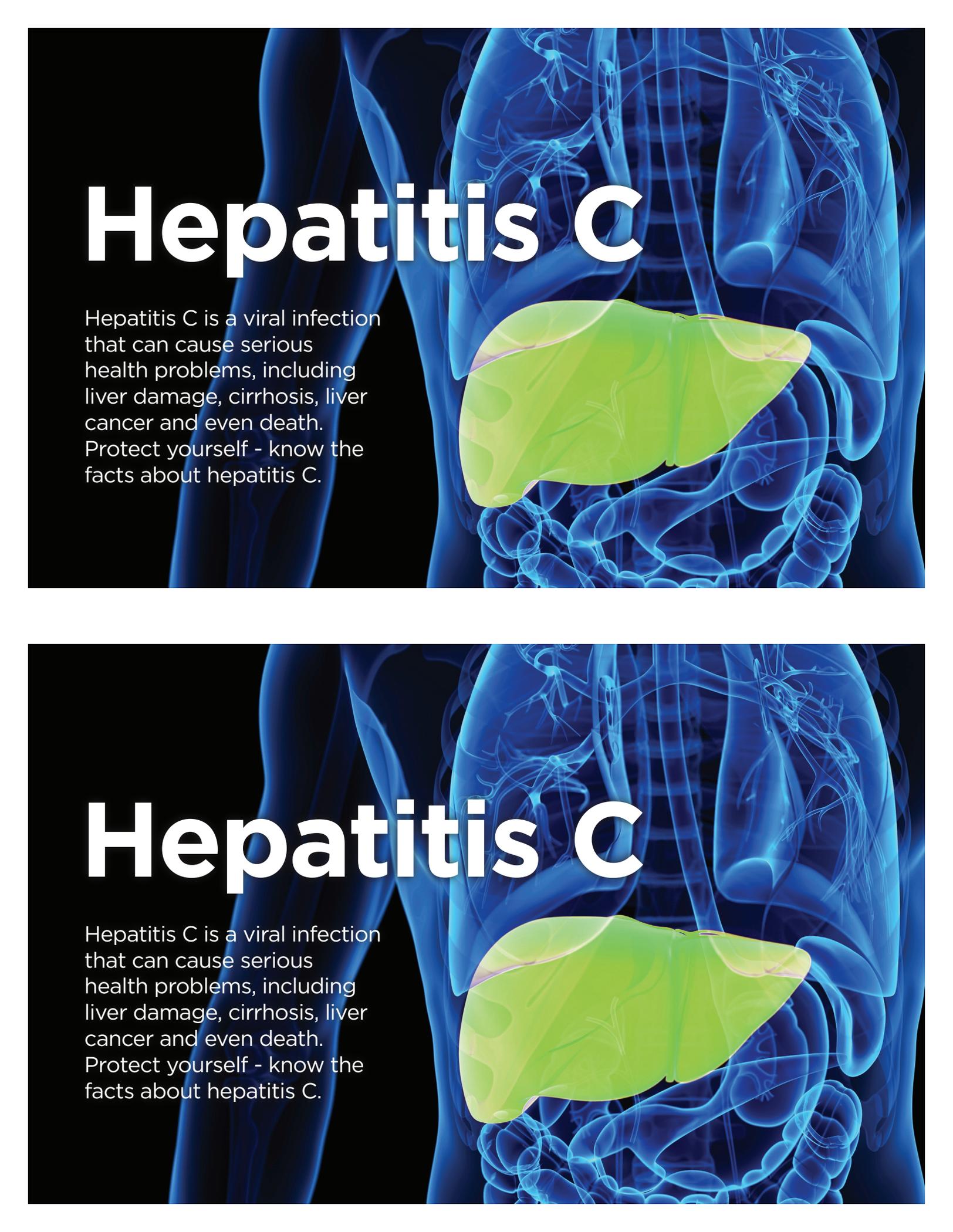
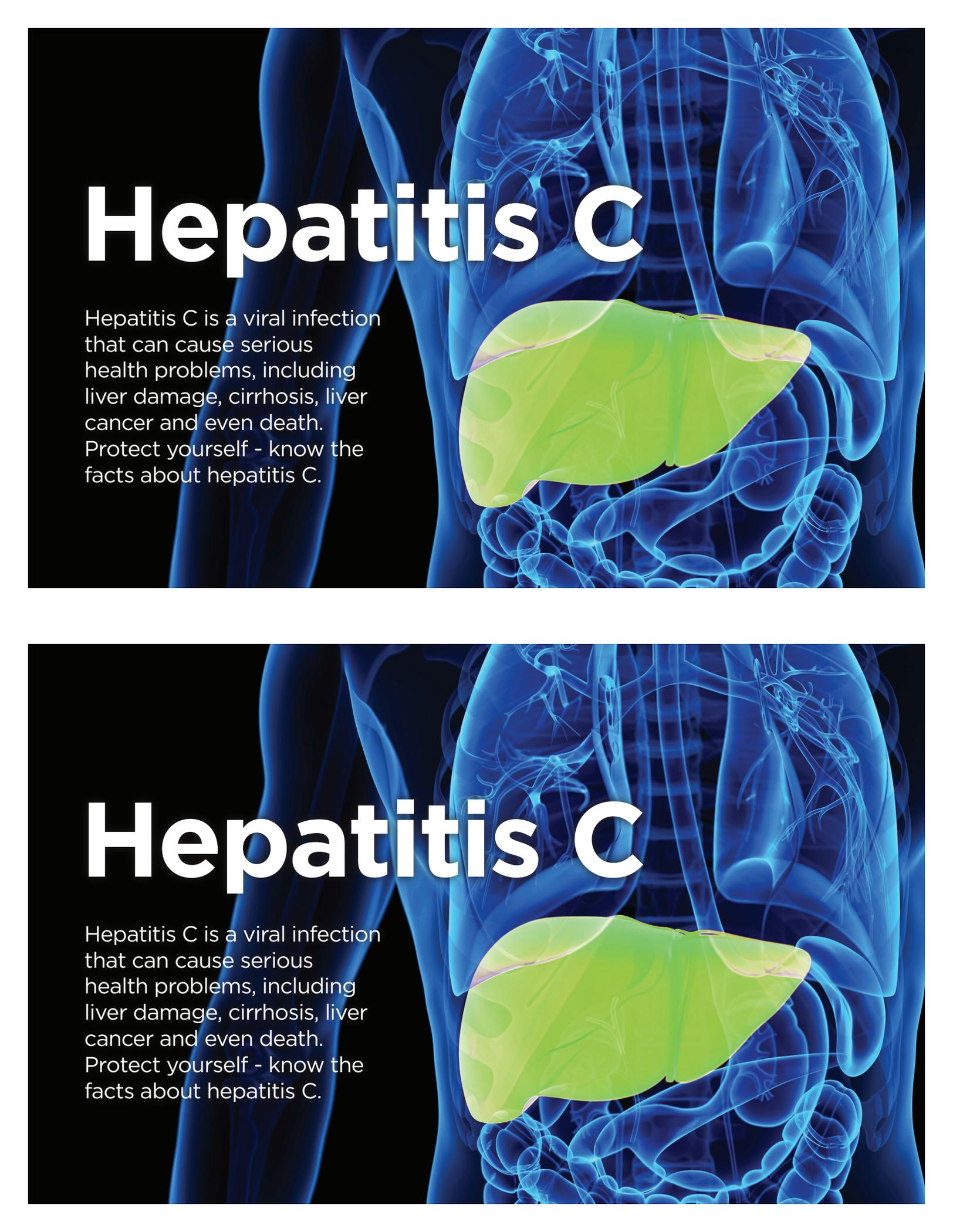


Hepatitis C

An anatomical illustration of a human torso in a blue, semi-transparent style. The liver is highlighted in a bright green color, positioned in the upper right quadrant of the abdomen. The background is black, making the blue and green elements stand out.

Hepatitis C is a viral infection that can cause serious health problems, including liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer and even death. Protect yourself - know the facts about hepatitis C.

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Hepatitis C Basics



What is hepatitis C?

Hepatitis C is a viral infection that can cause serious health problems, including liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer and even death.



How can hepatitis C spread?

- Through contact with blood of an infected person (can occur if sharing needles or from unsterilized tattoo/body piercing tools)
- Through sex with an infected partner (this is less common)



What are the symptoms of hepatitis C?

Some people will have symptoms when they first become infected that can include:

- Jaundice (yellow eyes and skin)
- Abdominal pain
- Fatigue (feeling tired)



Most people with hepatitis C will have no symptoms.

How do people know if they have hepatitis C?

A simple blood test is used to test for hepatitis C.

People who are at risk and should get tested include:

- All baby boomers born 1945-1965
- Sexual partners of people with hepatitis C
- Anyone who has ever had contact with another person's blood such as through injecting drugs or an accidental needle stick

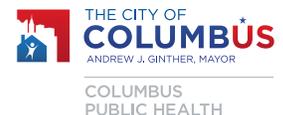
How can you help prevent hepatitis C?

- Get tested if you are at risk
- Never share drug supplies (needles, syringes, etc)
- Practice safe sex

What is the treatment for hepatitis C?

Several new medications are available to cure hepatitis C infection. The first step to getting treatment is to see a doctor who specializes in gastroenterology or infectious diseases.

For more information, call 614-645-1474 (option 2) or visit columbus.gov/hepatitis.



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