## Hepatitis help, care and support

9

The Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand is a not-forprofit organisation that supports people living with hepatitis B.

## What do we do?

We operate a national monitoring programme for people living with hepatitis B to help improve health outcomes. People enrolled in this programme receive regular monitoring, education, support and referral to secondary care (if required). We work in partnership with GP clinics and other health providers to support patient management and ensure positive health outcomes for people living with hepatitis B.

## Who is at risk?

You are at risk of contracting hepatitis B if you:

- Are over 25 and of Māori, Pacific Island or Asian ethnicity
- Were born outside New Zealand
- Have a mother or close family member with hepatitis B
- Live with someone who has hepatitis
- Have ever had unprotected sexual contact with and HBV person
- Have ever injected drugs
- Have received a tattoo using unsterile equipment.

## Screening tests for Hepatitis B:

- HBsAG Tests whether someone has ever been in contact with the virus
- Anti-HBc Indicates current/past infection
- Anti-Hbs Indicates immunity >10. If HBsAg is positive, complete LFT (liver function) and AFP (alpha-fetoprotein) tests.
- HBeAG The hepatitis B envelope antigen tests whether the virus is multiplying at a high rate.

