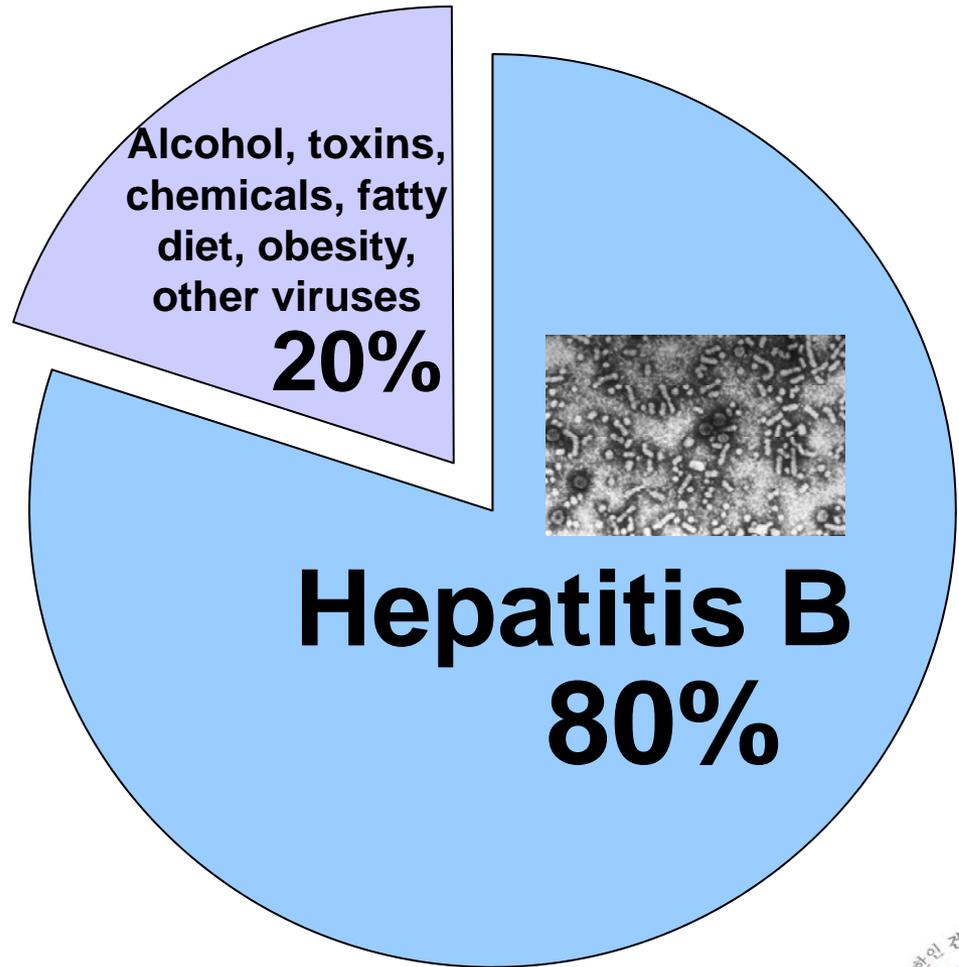




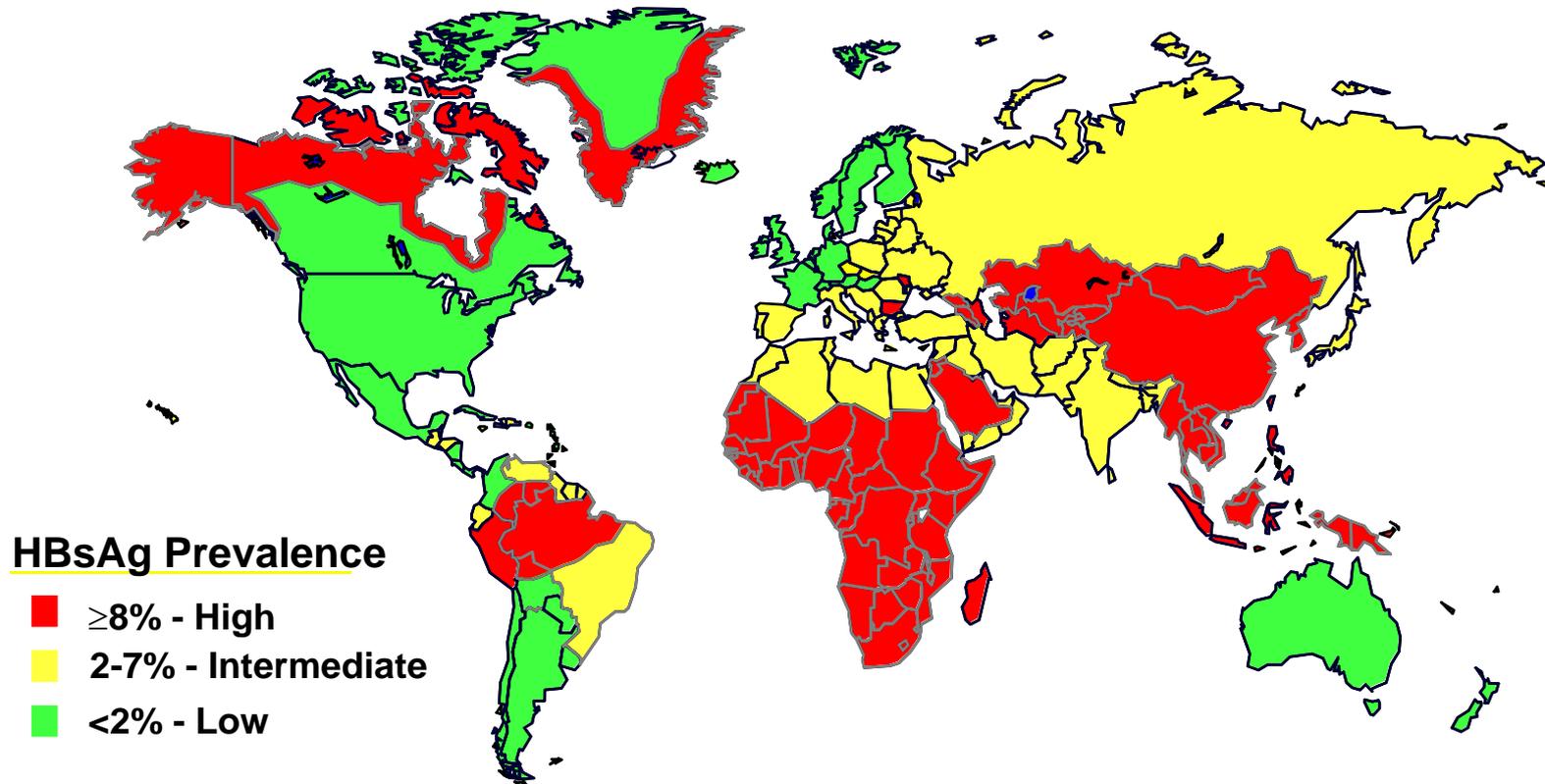
# Why are we talking about liver cancer?

- It is deadly
- It affects Koreans much more than the general population
- It can be prevented
- Few programs are focused on it

# What causes liver cancer?



# Hepatitis B Worldwide



World Health Organization. Geographic Prevalence of HBsAg. Data from 1996 (unpublished).  
<http://www.who.int/vaccines-surveillance/graphics/htmls/hepbprev.htm>. Accessed: September 13, 2004.

# How common is hepatitis B?

**12 times**



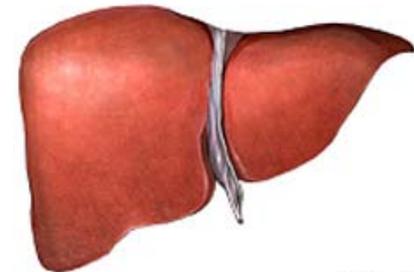
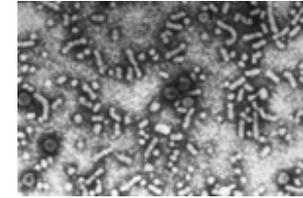
Americans



Koreans

# What is the hepatitis B Virus?

- A disease that is **100 times** more infectious than the AIDS virus
- It lives in blood and other bodily fluids (saliva, pus, semen & vaginal fluids)
- It could cause liver disease and lead to cancer



# How does hepatitis B spread?



**Mother to baby during birth**



**Sharing toothbrushes with an infected person**



**Sharing razors with an infected person**



**Exposure to infected blood**



**Using contaminated needles**



**Unprotected sex with an infected person**

# How do I know if I have hepatitis B?

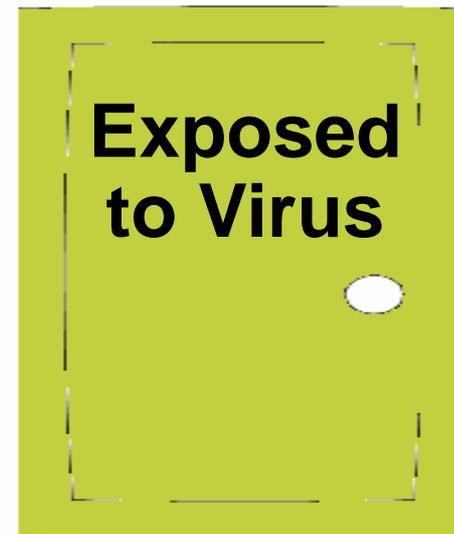
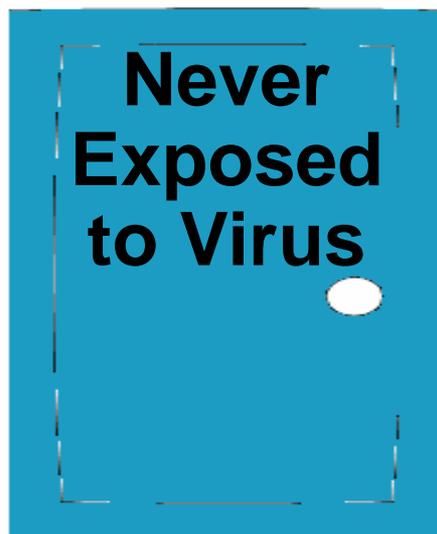
To know for sure, **you have to get tested.**

- Most infected people don't have any symptoms.
- Usually symptoms show when the disease is very advanced.



# What is a hepatitis B test?

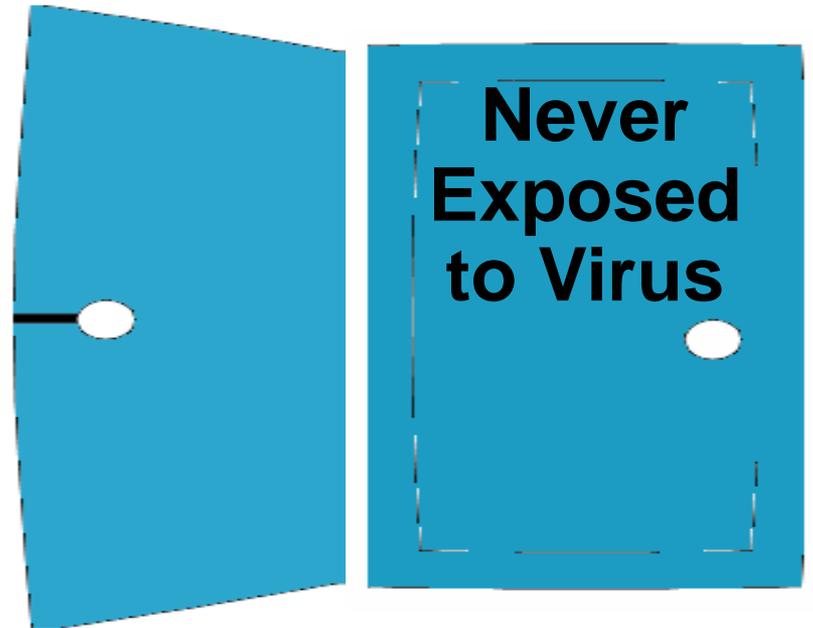
- A simple blood test that is ordered by your doctor.
- It is not included in a regular check-up, you need to ask your doctor for this test.
- The test can tell you:



# What if I have never been exposed to the hepatitis B virus?

You could still get infected with the virus.

**Get vaccinated** to protect yourself from ever getting hepatitis B.



# What is a hepatitis B vaccination?

- Safe & effective
- 3 shots, over 6 months
- Works **ONLY** if you have never been exposed



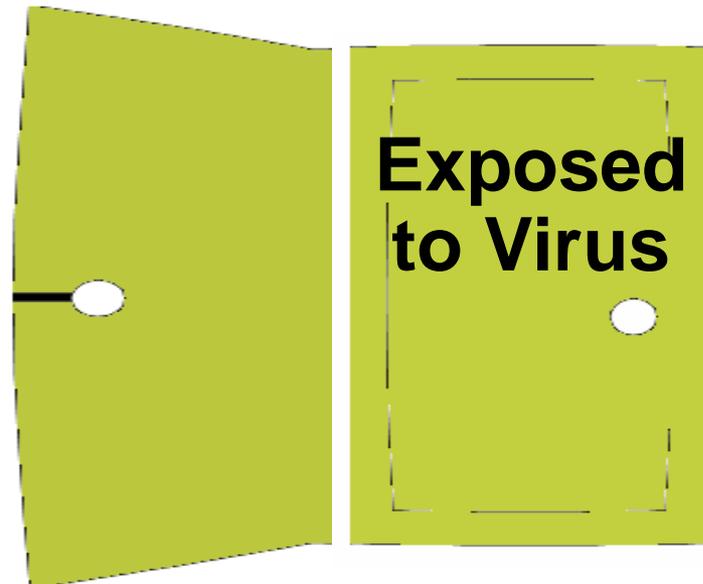
➤ **You need to get tested first!**

# What if I have been exposed to the hepatitis B virus?

There are two possibilities:

1. Immune

2. A chronic carrier



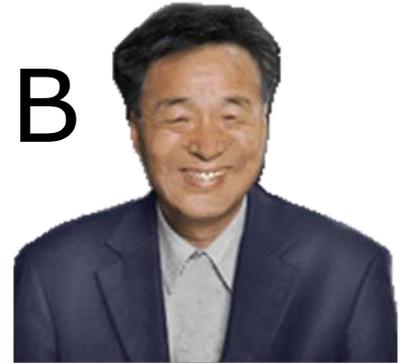
# Immune

Your body has successfully fought off the hepatitis B virus and you will never get it again.



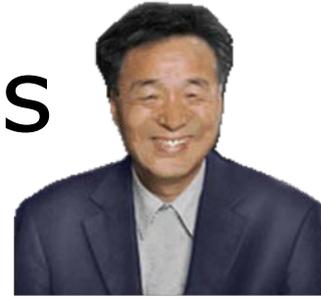
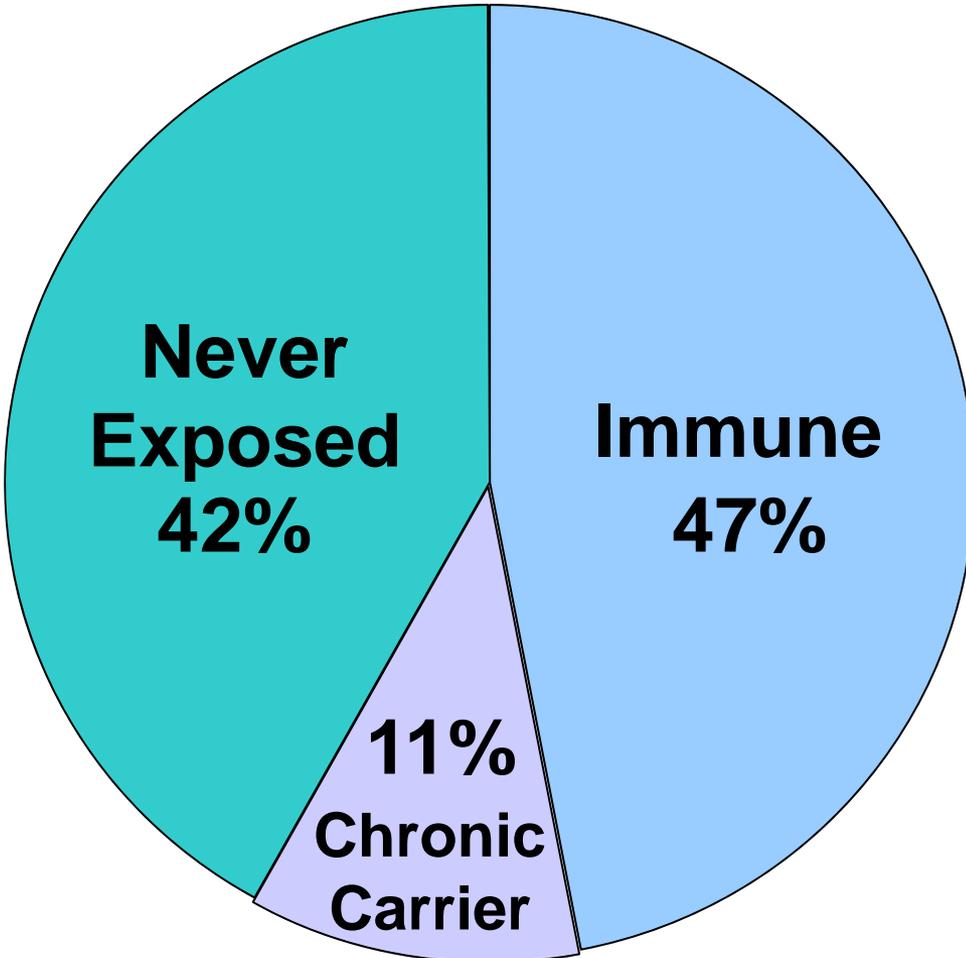
You can rest assured.

# Chronic carrier of hepatitis B



- The virus stays with you for life
- You can spread it to other people
- The virus **CAN BE CONTROLLED**
- Medications are now available
- Early detection can help you stay healthy and prevent cancer
- You can also take steps to prevent spreading the disease

# Possible Test Results



**Chronic Carrier**

The virus can cause liver diseases and cancer



**Immune**

Your body has fought off the virus completely



**Never Exposed**

You are at risk of getting hepatitis B

Steven Y. Lin, Ellen T. Chang, Samuel K. So, "Why we should routinely screen Asian American adults for hepatitis B: A cross-sectional study of Asians in California" Copyright © 2007 American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/hep.21784>, Accessed: August 9, 2007



# Which person do you relate to the most?



28 years old  
Marketing  
Assistant



62 years old  
Church Elder



45 years old  
Church Deacon

# Why not get tested now?



**Too expensive  
or no insurance**



**Belief that traditional  
medicine prevents  
hepatitis B & liver cancer**



**No time**



**No symptoms**



**No recommendation  
from doctor**



**Afraid to shame  
or burden family**

# The results...



Never been  
exposed



Immune



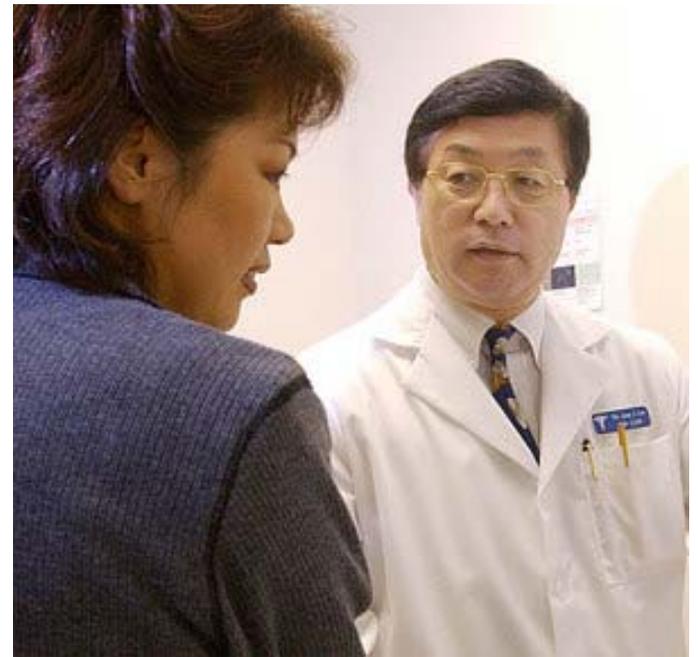
Chronic  
carrier

## What should they do now?

# How do I talk to my doctor?

Most doctors will order the test if you ask for it

It may help if you give him/her the “*Hepatitis B Information for Physicians*” brochure



# Why should I get tested?

- Testing is the first step towards preventing the spread of hepatitis B.
- A hepatitis B test is a simple blood test.
- Your family deserves a healthy you.
- You can help reduce liver disease in your community.
- You can be an example to your family and peers by taking this step to take care of your health.

# Let's summarize what we've covered...

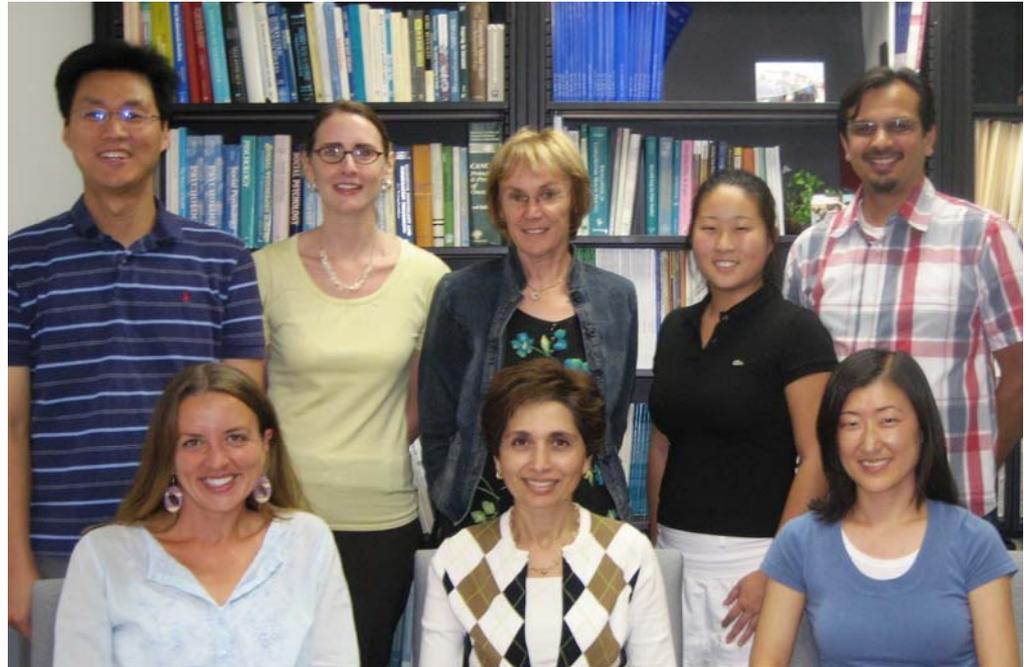
- Hepatitis B is a serious and a very common disease among Koreans that can cause liver diseases like cancer
- The first step is to **GET TESTED!**
- It is worth spending the time and money to protect yourself and your family.
- **Make an appointment to get tested today!**



How many of you will get tested in the near future?



# We wish you health!



UCLA Hepatitis B Research Team