



## Hepatitis E virus infection

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Abstract  
Hepatitis E virus (HEV) is a non-enveloped, icosahedral virus with a genome of approximately 7 kb. It is a member of the Hepeviridae family. HEV is primarily transmitted via the fecal-oral route, although recent studies have shown that it can also be transmitted via wild boar and wild birds. The virus is highly infectious and can cause acute hepatitis E, which is usually self-limiting and resolves within 6 weeks. However, in immunocompromised individuals, HEV infection can become chronic and lead to liver failure. The diagnosis of HEV infection is based on the detection of HEV RNA in serum or stool, or the presence of HEV-specific antibodies. Treatment is supportive, and there is no specific antiviral therapy available. Prevention of HEV infection is achieved through improved sanitation and food safety measures.

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