

**Leeds, Grenville & Lanark
District Health Unit
Media Release**
July 22, 2016



World Hepatitis Day

July 28th is World Hepatitis Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about viral hepatitis. This year, Canada's World Hepatitis Day slogan is: Know your status? Get tested – Learn your options.

Viral hepatitis affects more than half a million Canadians and more than 500 million people worldwide. Many Canadians are unaware that they have hepatitis and unknowingly spread the virus to other people. Hepatitis B and C can be spread by exposure to contaminated blood or bodily fluids containing blood through the sharing of: needles, pipes, unsterile body piercing and tattoo equipment, and personal hygiene items, such as razors. If you think you may be at risk, ask to be tested. Treatment is available. This World Hepatitis Day: *Know your status? Get tested – Learn your options.*

For more information visit our website <http://www.healthunit.org/infectious/hepc.html> or call the Health Action Line at 1-800-660-5853.

